



Minute of Western Area Outcomes Group
held on 27 June 2018
Strabane Enterprise Agency

Present: Mrs Ann McDuff, Assistant Director WHSCT [Community & Public Health] (Chair)
Ms Monica MacIntyre, Department for Communities
Ms Joanne Sweeney, Families Support Manager, MENCAP
Ms Una Casey, Business Support Manager, CYPSP
Mrs Mary Holmes, Lifestart Foundation
Ms Linda Watson, Caw/Nelson Drive Community Association
Ms Cathy McCloskey, Operations Manager, Early Years
Ms Maura Mason, Western Area Child Care Partnership
Mrs Jacqui Meenan, Business Manager, Western Trust
Ms Bronagh Donnelly, Locality Planner for CYPSP WHSCT
Chief Inspector Jonathan Hunter, PSNI Strabane
Dr Josephine Deehan, Local Commissioning Group
Ms Muriel Bailey, Director for Family Support Services, Parenting NI
Mrs Patricia Devine, Education Welfare Service, Education Authority
Nuala Mangan, Children's Disability, WHSCT
Mr Danny Bryce, Extern
Mrs Priscilla Magee, Locality Planner for CYPSP WHSCT

1	Welcome Mrs McDuff welcomed all for attending the meeting and noted that she was chairing today's meeting as Mr Downey was at the regional launch of the Signs of Safety event.
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	<p>Apologies Mr Kieran Downey, Director of Women & Children’s Services WHSCT[Chair] Ms Brenda MacQueen, Director, Dry Arch Children’s Centre Ms Claire Lynch, Derry City & Strabane District Council Mr Kevin Duffy, Head of Service for Family Support and Safeguarding Dr Pauline McGlenaghan, Executive Director, Lifestart Ms Orla Conway, Omagh Women’s Aid Mr Robert Gibson, Director of Community, Health & Leisure, Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Mrs Bernie Tierney, Action for Children Mr Maurice Leeson, Professional Advisor, HSCB CYPSP</p>
2	<p>Notes of Previous Meeting held on 25 April 2018 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 April 2018 were agreed as an accurate record of the discussion.</p>
3	<p>Matters Arising <u>Holiday Hunger</u> The list of applicants for the Outcomes Group funding set aside for holiday hunger programmes was shared. Ms Donnelly explained that there had been 19 applications, with 15 successfully secured the funding. Ms Casey noted that there the successful applications were very high quality and in order to share the funding no organisation got the full amount that they had applied for. Each of the funded organisations should be working with their local Family Support Hubs for referrals. The applications also highlighted the level of need around holiday hunger and also the spread of this.</p> <p><u>Membership</u> The membership of the OG is due for review, Ms Casey advised that there would be notification out soon calling for applications for all Outcomes Groups, this will be managed through Children in Northern Ireland. Current members are open to reapply if they wish.</p>
4	<p>Update from Locality Planning Groups Northern Sector Ms Donnelly noted that the report was available with the meeting papers. She noted that after the last Outcomes Group meeting where</p>

a discussion had taken place about having discovery groups to identify how the OG funding should be used going forward. Ms Casey had been trying to arrange these, but in the interim Ms Donnelly attended the Unicef training, which advised that to be fully inclusive there needed to be conversations held with Community and Voluntary organisations to help identify what was deliverable and achievable with the available funding. After discussions with Mr Downey it was agreed that this could be done via the Locality Planning Groups. The first of these was held on 18 June. The other LPG meetings will be held on 28 June – Derry LPG, 9 July – Waterside LPG and Strabane – TBC. Ms Casey noted that the discussions will be on the 2 obsessions; Every child has the best start in life and Promote the safety of our children and young people. The third obsession, the voice of children and young people is already covered by the Unicef project and through Ms Donnelly's and Mrs Magee's participation work.

Unicef staff have advised that to be fully true to the involving the voice of children and young people that they(the children & young people) need to also be included in discussions about the funding. Bronagh and Priscilla will facilitate this. When all this information is collected then a tender will be designed. Bronagh noted the DCSDC is also going to carry out engagement discussions about their funding via the 3 relevant LPGs.

Ms Donnelly also noted that the Unicef launch will be held on Thursday 5 July during the Clipper Boat Festival. Unicef will have a boat there and organisations can put forward an expression of interest to be on the boat.

Southern Sector

Mrs Magee noted that a full report was available to members. She highlighted that rural poverty and rural domestic violence was an issue in that area. She noted that there needed to be better communication between organisations. She noted that during IMH week the Resilience documentary was screened for staff in SWAH. Mrs McDuff noted the many events held during that week throughout the Trust, also Trust staff involvement and thanked everyone for their tremendous efforts.

	Mrs Magee will organise LPG meetings to discuss the funding as above.
5	<p>Early Intervention Updates</p> <p>Mrs McDuff spoke to the report cards provided for the EISS project. It was noted that Maurice Meehan and Amanda McLean will give a presentation on the EISS at the October meeting.</p> <p>A discussion took place about the roll out of Outcomes Star by the WHSCT, Ms Mason noted that Surestarts are all now using it too. The Outcomes Group funded 16 places for training on Outcomes Star, there is managers training will be in Derry on 20 July, in Skeoge Business Park – Ms Donnelly to circulate further information.</p>
6	<p>Consultation Launched on Looked After Children’s Strategy</p> <p>Mrs McDuff noted that this strategy was out for consultation and encouraged member organisations to respond to it.</p>
7	<p>Presentation: Lifestart Foundation - Shaping Ourselves and Our Children – Mary Holmes</p> <p>Mary give a very informative presentation about the Peace IV funded project which works with 0-6 year olds using play sessions to break down barriers and improve educational outcomes. There is also 1-1 elements to the project.</p> <p>Ms McGarvey suggested making a link to the Early Years Organisation pre-school children project.</p> <p>Mrs McDuff thanked Mary for a very thought provoking presentation and discussion.</p>
8	<p>Workshop Presentations</p> <p><u>WHSCT Children with Disabilities Service – Nuala Mangan</u> <u>MENCAP – Margaret Kelly</u></p> <p>WHSCT Children with Disabilities Service – Nuala Mangan</p> <p>Nuala detailed the structures for Children with Disabilities Services within the WHSCT. She noted that there is a medical led model driving for the change from Learning Disability to the term Intellectual Disability. Within the Trust sensory disabilities sit in Adult Services. Children’s Services takes a social care, multi-disciplinary team</p>

approach including; Social Workers, Community Nurses, Behavioural therapists, a Consultant Psychiatrist and consultant Psychologist.

The service offers a tiered model of support for families.

Tier 1 includes contracted services, as well as cash based short breaks, and contracted summer schemes. Nuala explained that all SEN schools run summer schemes too.

Tier 2 Medium need – young adolescence into work experiences etc.

There are 2 short break facilities; Avalon in Omagh, has space for 8 children at a time, they can mostly avail of one mid-week break per month and one weekend break, which is usually from Friday to

Tuesday. There are also outreach staff connected to this units offering socialisation programmes targeted at waiting lists for the residential provision.

The Cottages in Derry is a 4 bed unit which at one time offered 6 beds but this has been reduced due to RQIA requirements.

Direct Payments are also available to families at Tier 2 and 3. This is where a family can employ a personal assistant for the child/young person and the Trust will help with employment checks, help with payroll tax etc. There are also community activities through contracted services at this Tier.

Host care is available for children and young people with disabilities (Tier 2 and 3) this is like short term/weekend foster type care. This is a service that the team hope to strengthened. The Trust has approached childminders in the recent past to explore the possibility of them providing childminding and potentially host care.

Tier 3 – Residential Short Breaks.

Self-directed support is available (Tier 1-3) this is where families can be more creative with the support they need, including trips/holidays.

The service is developing a Therapeutic Team – this provides a team around the child working collaboratively with other children/young people's services.

There are high numbers of children with disabilities on the edge of care or Looked After as families struggle to cope. This multi service approach will hope to help families remain together.

Mrs McDuff noted that there are 2 Social Workers working in the hospitals, work with families are around loss and bereavement and coping skills. Hopefully services will expand to include stress management training, behaviour techniques, sleep, CBT. The Trust are exploring the potential use of the Mockingbird fostering model through regional transformation funding. Mrs McDuff also noted the additional support needed through schools to reach the right children and ensuring early intervention at nurseries and playgroups, and that this is already a priority of the HSCB. A discussion took place about the need to support families pre-formal diagnosis.

Mrs McDuff noted the importance of building up a menu of available supports for children with disabilities and their family members; and encouraged member organisations to think of the needs of children with disabilities when they are planning events so that they are inclusive. She also noted that there was an added challenge for rural families.

Dr Deehan noted that there seemed to be a decline in Council run summer schemes and that she is aware that Fermanagh and Omagh Council was investing in upgrading play facilities to be more accessible. She also noted some charities such as SVdP offer families some financial support.

MENCAP – Margaret Kelly

Ms Kelly noted that Children with Learning Disabilities are often missed in policy at Early Intervention and often families struggle to find help and support. Ms Kelly noted risk factors for children with Learning Disabilities and noted the need to consider this when referring to ACE's. She noted that about 2.5% of the child population have a Learning Disability, and that 10% of Looked After Children in NI have Learning Disabilities. 2 children per week are born with Learning Disabilities. Ms Kelly noted that parents with children with Learning Disabilities are 3 times more likely to separate or divorce and mothers often have high levels of mental ill health.

Mencap are currently running a pilot called Heads Bright with parents, this is an early reading skills programme.

Mencap is also offering support to families through E-Pats programme for parents/carers, this is co-facilitated with a parent and Mencap staff. This is part of a feasibility study and it is hoped that there will be a RTC down the line so that the programme will be evidence informed. The retention rate for E-Pats is high (over 90%), parents like the peer support element.

Mencap also offer 1-1 work through home based work, it is hoped that this will be extended beyond Belfast soon.

Ms Kelly noted that it was important to flag up children with Learning Disabilities in all policies impacting on children for example LAC consultation, the new Families Matter Strategy etc.

Dr Deehan noted that she had attended a conference in Ulster University a number of years ago which highlighted that poor health outcomes for people with Learning Disabilities; since then her practice has implemented an annual review of adults with a learning disability e.g. uptake of mammograms, smear tests, cholesterol checks etc. to help address the reduced life span that people with Learning Disabilities might have. A discussion took place about how to find out if other GP practices in the Western Trust are implementing something similar.

It was noted that CYPSP have a regional Task and Finish Group working on the interface between education and health in relation to disability.

It was noted that the NOW group do training on JAM (Just a Minute) cards to help people with additional needs in shops, Council facilities etc.

Ms Holmes noted that SOOC programme included children with disabilities and helps build empathy.

Ms Mason explained that Brightstart funding was support for all forms of childcare to be more accessible for Children with Disabilities. This funding started with after-school provisions and is working down the age brackets to early years.

<p>9</p>	<p>Any Other Business.</p> <p>Parenting NI – have launched a Dads project, to work with Dads in the process of separation, focusing on parenting skills etc.</p> <p>Early Years Organisation – there will be an Early Years Conference focusing on Leadership and Governance on 30 November in Belfast</p> <p>Extern – Third Space programme funded through SEUPB are currently recruiting for participants aged 14-24; he will send through further detail to Ms Forrest for circulation to members.</p> <p>Mrs McDuff – the Reading Rooms of the Verbal Arts Centre are offering digital support to young people, with members agreement they will be invited to a future meeting</p> <p>Mencap – have secured Peace IV funding for children with and without disabilities projects in Derry, Fermanagh and Belfast to do peace and reconciliation work.</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>Date, Time, and Venue of Next Meeting</p> <p>29 August 2018 at 10 am in the Conference Room, Strabane Enterprise Agency.</p>