

BELFAST OUTCOMES GROUP MEETING
Via MS Teams
Thursday 15th April 2021 at 1.30 p.m.

Name	Organisation	Present	Apology
Ms. Carol Diffin (Chair)	Belfast HSC Trust	✓	
Statutory Sector			
Mr. Paul O'Neill	Early Years, Belfast HSC Trust	✓	
Ms. Edel McKenna	Safeguarding, Belfast HSC Trust	✓	
Mr. Gerry Largey	Hub Lead, Belfast HSC Trust	✓	
Mr. Brian O'Kane	NIHE, Belfast Area		✓
Ms. Caroline Karayiannis	Education Authority		✓
Ms. Barbara Porter	PHA		✓
Ms. Cate Taggart	Belfast City Council	✓	
Mr. Declan Davey	Youth Justice Agency		✓
Ms. Marie Cavanagh	HSCB Belfast Local Commissioning Group		✓
Ms. Natalie Killough	Parenting Coordinator, BHSCT		✓
Ms. Wendy Pollock	Chief Inspector, PSNI		✓
Community Sector			
Ms. Nicola Verner	West Belfast Community Rep.	✓	
Ms. Natasha Brennan	South Belfast Community Rep.	✓	
Ms. Julie Jamison	North Belfast Community Rep.	✓	
Ms. Tracey Wilson	East Belfast Community Rep.	✓	
LPG Chairs			
VACANT	East Belfast LPG		✓
Ms. Deirdre Walsh	West Belfast LPG		✓
Ms. Natasha Brennan	South Belfast LPG	✓	
Ms. Jenny Potter	North Belfast LPG		✓
Voluntary Sector			
Mr. Peter Bryson	Save the Children		✓
Ms. Caroline Rutherford	Extern	✓	
Mr. Martin Walls	Guide Dogs	✓	
Avery Bowser	AFC	✓	
Partnership Sector			
Ms. Roisin McCooney	Belfast Childcare Partnership	✓	
Mr. Jackie Redpath	Belfast Strategic Partnership	✓	
In Attendance			
Ms. Una Casey	CYPSP Support	✓	
Mr. Martin Sloane	Locality Planning Group Coordinator		✓
Ms. Maxine Gibson	CYPSP		✓
Mr. Israel Hontavilla	BCC	✓	
Ms. Kori Gault		✓	

Summary of Actions:

	Topic	Action	Responsibility
1.	Regional Interpreting Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Information from Hub Coordinators re: issues linked to Interpreting Services will be collated and presented at next meeting.	Gerry Largey
2.	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Focus on Education at next meeting.Nicola Topping to be invited to join meeting.	Carol Diffin
3.	CYPSP Disability Sub-Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ms. Gibson will update at the meeting on whether the sub-group will be re-instated. <i>Update at June meeting.</i>	Maxine Gibson
4.	Anti-Poverty / Survey Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ms. Wilson will collate February and March feedback and send to Mr. Largey for circulation.Mr. Bowser to share feedback re: case studies completed and re: their spend across Belfast – Carried forward to June.	Tracey Wilson Avery Bowser
5.	FSH Discussion Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Further discussion at next meeting.	Carol Diffin / Gerry Largey

<u>Action</u> <u>by:</u>	
	<p>1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies</p> <p>Ms. Diffin welcomed everyone to the meeting, a round of introductions were made and apologies were noted, as above.</p>
	<p>2. Minutes and Matters Arising from last meeting of 12th February 2021</p> <p>The previous minutes were agreed as an accurate record.</p> <p>The following matters arising were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Interpreting Service – this issue is ongoing. There was previous discussion in this group re: pulling information together from Hubs etc. and Ms. Diffin enquired if this work had commenced. Mr. Largey advised that an information request has gone out and update will be available in the next few weeks. <p><i>Action: Information from Hub Coordinators re: issues linked to Interpreting Services will be collated and presented at next meeting.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education – Ms. Karayiannis had circulated information re: ‘Engage’ programme but wider information update would be useful. <p><i>Action: Focus on Education at next meeting.</i> <i>Action: Nicola Topping to be invited to join meeting.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tier 3 Guidance – Complete. Disseminated. • Previous minutes amended and Dr. Meekin’s contact details provided to Mr. Walls. • CYPSP Disability Sub-Group – Maxine Gibson has met with Kieran McShane re: standing up the sub-group again, as well as some of the other sub-groups. Awaiting further update at the next meeting. • EA/Transition Support – as above. Update at next meeting with Nicola Topping. • Disability Paper / Working Group – Mr. Largey provided an update on all 3 working groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Disability – ongoing – meeting will likely be in May and Mr. Largey is currently liaising with Natalie Killough. Invites will be out next week. ~ Integrated Early Help – ongoing – email to go out today confirming 23rd April for meeting. ~ Engagement work re: outworkings of LHB paper – update available at beginning of May. Will cut across community and statutory agencies. • LHB / Working Group – As above.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Poverty: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Ms. Walsh advised that she has spoken with Israel and Joey re: some of information fed back from the surveys. She had agreed to share the content with this group but had been waiting on February's feedback. She will collate February and March feedback and send to Mr. Largey for circulation. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. ~ Mr. Bowser to share the feedback from case studies and Trisha will check if this has been completed. • LPG Coordinator Post – Requisition has been completed and is with BSO going through the process. Once post is out for advert, the group will be notified and will have a wide application remit. Ms. Diffin advised that Mr. Sloane has been off work for a while and due to the pressures in the EIS Team, he will be joining them on his return.
	<p>3. Anti-Poverty Update</p> <p>Mr. Largey provided a summary re: the background and current update in relation to the Anti-Poverty work that has been completed, e.g. co-funded by BCC, BHSCT and WBGP; 3 areas of spend – 'cook it' type programmes, support packs, wifi/internet provision; work supported by Locality Planning Group members; high level of learning re: joint funding / alignment / transferring budgets / partnership working; additional monies raised.</p> <p>Ms. Diffin thanked everyone involved in this huge amount of excellent work. She has feedback to CYPSP who were very impressed with this working model. Members reiterated this positive feedback.</p> <p>With regards the Play Initiative, Mr. Largey and Mr. Hontavilla have had discussions re: same. This work will be separate but linked to previous programmes and play training will be provided to all groups and summer schemes regardless of registration status. There will be a huge amount of resources and the idea is to provide resources re: the impact of play and types of play to summer schemes and organisations provide the required support.</p>
	<p>4. Locality Planning Group Update</p> <p>Mr. O'Neill advised that he has commenced working with the Locality Planning Groups. He has arranged to meet with all of the LPGs re: specific issues. The main issue at the minute is to review the LPGs and Sub-Groups and move to re-establish work in those areas and look at way forward. Ms. Diffin thanked Mr. O'Neill for assisting with this work.</p> <p>Mr. Largey confirmed that himself and Mr. Hontavilla will be working closely with the Locality Planning Groups and alongside existing meetings, with regards the additional monies and work re: play.</p>
	<p>5. Emerging Need – FSH Discussion Paper</p>

Mr. Largey's extensive discussion paper was circulated in advance of the meeting and Mr. Largey provided a detailed overview of same with regards: background/context, emerging issues, impacts of the past year, initial findings, purpose of the exercise, gaps in provision, pressures on FSHs, partnership working, increase in activity, shifts in pattern of demand, added admin pressures, and conclusions.

Three bigger issues were identified and are outlined within the paper and Mr. Largey asked the group to give some thought to these for future discussion re: Hub Framework going forward.

1. Short-term help initiatives;
2. ASD / ADHS related issues;
3. Sustaining Current Commissioning Arrangements.

Mr. Largey provided detail re: each of these points, and asked for a fuller discussion at a future meeting. Ms. Diffin thanked Mr. Largey for the engagement meetings and pulling together this information. Ms. Diffin asked for any questions or comments at this point.

There was considerable discussion at this point and members expressed various opinions: echoing support for the content of the paper, the need for more sustainable planning, bigger discussions required re: ASD/ADHD issues and long-term support for families, issues raised re: short-term annual funding and impact on long-term planning work, need to reflect on improvements which have taken place in past year, to raise some of the issues with Council / DfC, to raise funding issues with DfC, LHB, BCC etc., good learning available, need for a long-term strategy, need to reflect on new ways of working, effect of pandemic on closure of respite / services to families and children with disabilities/ASD etc., knock on effect for community services, different approach needed re: commissioning – departmental discussions needed.

Mr. Largey thanked everyone for their comments today and advised that a second paper is being drafted to sit alongside this one, re: aligned spend. They will begin to produce planned progress in partnership with DfC and others. This paper has captured the pressures and impacts of the past year through the pandemic and we will need to think over, discuss further and come back here for decisions – balanced and achievable.

Action: Further discussion at next meeting.

6. Educational Underachievement Update

Mr. Redpath sits on the Educational Underachievement Working Group and a paper was shared for information in advance of the meeting. Ms. Diffin asked Mr. Redpath to speak to the key messages.

Mr. Redpath explained the background of this Expert Panel, read out the Terms of Reference which have been agreed by all of the political parties as part of the 'New Decade, New Approach', and provided an overview of the paper.

He advised that this Panel is looking at underachievement in respect of all children, though particular issues have arisen with regards working class, young, protestant boys. Along with Mr. Redpath, the Panel is made up of 3 School Leaders and 2

	<p>Academic Professionals. There have been 24 full days of oral evidence since August 2020 alongside an online survey and a call for written evidence. The majority of responses have been from education professionals and the top recommendation has been to work with families and support children. Two organisations were appointed to liaise with the Children and Young People on the Panel's behalf – NCB for children and Barnardo's for teenagers. Mr. Redpath outlined the recommendations and action plan and highlighted the 8 key themes arising at Section 6. The report will go for approval at the end of May but Mr. Redpath is unsure when it will be published.</p> <p>Ms. Diffin thanked Mr. Redpath for his presentation and noted that the themes highlighted are much wider than Education and asked for any comments. Collaborative working will be needed to address these issues.</p> <p>Members agreed that the highlighted themes reflect issues that this group have been aware of and discussed previously. Suggestion made that this can be discussed further at future meeting / formal response drafted, once final report is published. Ms. Bowser noted that he was happy to see early years and emotional mental health and wellbeing at the top of the list and enquired if children in care were considered. Mr. Redpath agreed that this is a big topic and will be included in the recommendations. The recommendations will go back to the Belfast Community Planning Partnership. He advised that one of the sub-groups of the WL Board had been looking at underachievement and this was suspended while the Expert Panel were undertaking their work.</p> <p>Mr. Redpath noted that some of the sub-groups are re-opening but that WLB is being moved under Economy, but an objection has been lodged re: this and Mr. Redpath will propose for this to be moved under Living Here Board as there seems to be a better fit and could then be aligned with this group's other work.</p>
	<p>7. Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Mr. Largey advised that the budgets are being configured regionally but the final level of funding has not been received yet. Hub enhancement funds will continue at the same level. ~ Mr. Largey has not heard re: availability of resources re: practical response - £60K, i.e. £6k each per Hub. He will write out to Hubs and backdate if received. ~ Ms. Diffin advised that the Children's Services Improvement Board (CSIB) meeting is scheduled for tomorrow and she has asked for an update on funding re: all projects and will let the group know if any update is available.

8. Dates of Future Meetings

Date:	Time:	Venue:
Tuesday 15 th June 2021	2.00 p.m.	MS Teams
Tuesday 31 st August 2021	2.30 p.m.	MS Teams
Tuesday 26 th October 2021	2.30 p.m.	MS Teams

