



**Notes of Western Area Outcomes Group**  
**held on 30 June 2021**  
**at 10 am via Zoom**

**Present:**

Mr Tom Cassidy, Acting Director of Women & Children's Services, Western Trust [Chair]  
 Mr Kevin Duffy, Assistant Director [Community & Public Health], Western Trust  
 Ms Allison Wallace, Waterside Neighbourhood Partnership  
 Mr Mark Rodgers, Extern, & Chair of Fermanagh Locality Planning Group  
 Mrs Brenda McQueen, Executive Director, Dry Arch Children's Centres  
 Ms Rioghnach Murphy, Assistant Director Children's Services, Barnardos & Chair of Strabane Locality Planning Group  
 Ms Linda Watson, Caw/Nelson Drive Community Association  
 Ms Aileen McGuinness, Chair of Derry Locality Planning Group  
 Ms Debbie Hunter, Assistant Manager, Health Improvement Equality and Involvement Department  
 Mr John Boyle, Director of Community, Health & Leisure, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council  
 Ms Muriel Bailey, Director of Family Support Services, Parenting NI  
 Ms Laura Feeney, Senior Programme Manager, Save the Children  
 Ms Louise McLaughlin, Operations Manager, Early Years Organisation  
 Ms Mairead McGilloway, Head of Service, Western Trust  
 Ms Monica MacIntyre, Department for Communities  
 Ms Elaine Forrest, Personal Assistant, Western Trust

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>Ms Claire Lynch, Derry City &amp; Strabane District Council          Mrs Angela Wade, Directorate Business Manager, Western Trust          Ms Una Casey, Children &amp; Young People's Strategic Partnership          Ms Joanne Sweeney, Families Support Manager, MENCAP          Mrs Priscilla Magee, Fermanagh &amp; Omagh Locality Planning Group Officer</p>
	<p>Mr Cassidy, Acting Director, welcomed members to the meeting.</p>

<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>Notes of Workshop held on 24 February 2021</b></p> <p>Members confirmed they had received notes of the workshop held on 24 February 2021.</p> <p>Mr Cassidy enquired if nominations had been taken forward for the Task and Finish Groups. Ms Hunter said priority group three had met in May and June 2021 and work was ongoing in the background. Other priority groups had not yet had an opportunity to meet.</p> <p>Ms Louise McLaughlin agreed for her name to be added to priority group one.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mr Cassidy to speak with Ms Casey to check on progress of the Task and Finish Groups.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Community Planning</b></p> <p>Mr Boyle reported that Omagh &amp; Fermanagh District Council’s community planning processes had changed since Covid and were now aligned to six outcomes with nineteen actions. He said action leads had developed evidence based comprehensive plans based on Adverse Childhood Experiences. He said Community Planning were looking at the isolation of the elderly and young people, how to integrate/encourage young people into sports groups, art groups etc, fuel poverty, food poverty, rural issues and social resources. Mr Boyle said there was a pilot programme in two areas within the Council area, involving the Trust, PHA, and Healthy Living Centres, to develop meaningful actions for a long term rollout next year. He said Covid had brought partner agencies closer together, which was absolutely vital to focus on tackling multiple morbidities.</p> <p>Mr Duffy said this was very positive to hear. Mr Cassidy noted the good connectiveness, strong inter agency working and findings from our previous workshop which was encouraging.</p> <p>Mr Boyle withdrew from the meeting.</p>
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Membership Update</b></p> <p>Mr Cassidy reported that the new PSNI representative for the Western Area Outcomes Group was Chief Inspector William Calderwood, based at Strand Road.</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Update from Locality Planning Groups</b></p> <p>Ms Watson said they were concentrating on youth provision over the summer period to distract young people from recent disturbances. They were also promoting the programme Minding Mums. She said online work was continuing, but they were hoping to move to face-to-face contact in the near future.</p> <p>Ms Murphy reported on the rollout of period poverty products and the newspaper article in relation to this. She reported on issues in relation to disability and</p>

	<p>gambling.</p> <p>Ms McGuinness also reported on the rollout of period poverty products, ASD waiting list, fuel poverty and digital poverty. She said a workshop to look at these issues was planned for July and she would give an update at the next Outcomes Group meeting. Mr Duffy said it would be useful to have representatives from the ADS team present at the workshop.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ms McGuinness to advise Mr Duffy of the date of the workshop.</li> </ul> <p>Mr Rogers reported on the distribution of period poverty products. He said ongoing issues were food poverty, digital poverty and transport in rural areas. He said the group were missing Mrs Magee’s input who was currently on sick leave.</p> <p>Mr Cassidy thanked members for their updates and the great work that was being done across the Trust. He noted the joined up working, the similar issues of concern across all groups, and the connectedness with the Outcomes Group’s priorities.</p>
6	<p><b>Early Intervention Updates</b> To be brought forward to the next meeting.</p>
7	<p><b>Update on MACE Project Board</b> Mr Cassidy welcomed Ms McGinty, CAWT MACE Project Manager, to the meeting.</p> <p>Ms McGinty advised that the project had been launched in September 2018 and an extension had recently been negotiated to June 2023. She said the project had been awarded contract funding of €5,010,240.11 from the EU Interreg VA Programme to purchase interventions for vulnerable children and young people in the age range 0-3 and 11-13, and their families, who are at risk from multiple adversities in their lives.</p> <p>Ms McGinty shared with members the menu of interventions available within the Western Trust and the relevant providers, and advised that the interventions could be accessed by Social Workers, Nurses, Health Visitors, CAMHS staff etc. She said MACE could offer €780,000 for vulnerable children and young people within the Western Trust area and said there could be special approval to add additions to the range of interventions, if requested by practitioners, before the next procurement period commenced. Ms McGinty advised members to get in touch with her if they wished to run a universal programme within their area and she would be happy to organise.</p> <p>Some members commented that there was a huge amount of work required to submit a tender, with no guarantee of work. Ms McGinty said legal frameworks were in place for the use of public money and, unfortunately, these frameworks could not be deviated from.</p>

	<p>Mr Rogers said it was heart warming to see the wide list of interventions available. Mr Duffy thanked Ms McGinty for her presentation and for overcoming the challenges and hurdles to get to this point. He said it was an exciting opportunity for families and thanked Ms McGinty for her hard work.</p>
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>Our Journey through Disability</b></p> <p>Mrs MacQueen referred to the report “Our Journey Through Disability” which had previously been shared with the Outcomes Group and the CYPSP. She advised of the ongoing work with Mr Peter Quinn, Head of Service, Queen’s University and CINI. Mr Duffy said this was a regional working document and advised that he had responsibility for Children’s Disability, ASD, CAMHS and that demand continually outstripped capacity. He said it could be a task for the Task and Finish Group to plan funding over a three year period instead of being reactive in providing small grants on a yearly basis to groups.</p> <p>Mr Cassidy requested that the report be shared with members again and said it could be looked at in the round of Task and Finish Groups, which could set priorities. This could be a possible option for funding spend, but would require a collective decision from the group.</p> <p>Mrs MacQueen said disability was not specifically referenced in the three priorities and enquired if this could be included. Members agreed that children’s disability across the spectrum had to be absolutely prioritised.</p> <p>Mr Cassidy thanked Mrs MacQueen for tabling this item.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Report “Our Journey through Disability” to be forwarded to members. Ms Forrest to action.</li> </ul>
<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>Safeguarding</b></p> <p>Ms Hunter said safeguarding issues were more complicated due to Covid, but it was on the agenda of Family Nurse Practitioners working with young mums under the age of 19 when on zoom calls. She said Health Visitors continued to report on safeguarding.</p> <p>Ms McGilloway reported that there was a marked increase in referrals to Gateway [domestic violence, poverty, mental health issues], but there was a downward trend in Court Orders. She said the Community Hubs were dealing with an increase in poverty related issues and mental health issues for all age groups. Mr Cassidy said that the Court and PPS were working with the Trust to increase the availability of Orders to protect women and children.</p> <p>Mr Cassidy stressed the importance and need for voluntary and community groups and why they were so vitally needed, particularly moving beyond Covid. He said the Outcomes Group was an excellent, inclusive forum, and thanked members for</p>

	their continued hard work.
<b>10</b>	<b>CYPSP Think Family Sub Group/Hidden Harm</b> To be brought forward to the next meeting.
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p><b>Holiday Hunger</b> Ms Watson raised the continuing issue of holiday hunger and the large upsurge in people using food banks. She stated that school uniforms were being donated as never before. Mr Cassidy said this could be taken forward by the Task and Finish Groups to identify three priority areas.</p> <p>Ms McGuinness said they had previously organised summer schemes for up to 120 children, but due to Covid, they had organised food parcels and activity packs as an alternative. Mr Rogers said people had welcomed period poverty products and other help with open arms. Mrs MacQueen agreed that these were real issues which needed a joined up approach.</p> <p>Mr Cassidy said Social Workers were very much aware of poverty issues and this needed to be looked at within the priority groups.</p> <p><b>Young Person’s Mental Health Guide</b> Ms Hunter advised that the NI Children’s Commissioner, Ms Koulla Yiasouma, had launched the “Young Person’s Mental Health” guide in the Western Trust in June 2021. The Commissioner also launched the new premises for ASD and Children’s Disability Services at Lilac Villa, Gransha Park, during her visit to the West. Mr Cassidy said it was brilliant to have the Commissioner present for these events.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mr Duffy requested that the “Young Person’s Mental Health” be emailed to members. Ms Forrest to action.</li> </ul>
<b>12</b>	<b>Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting</b> 25 August 2021 at 10 am via Zoom.