

Northern Area Outcomes Group Meeting held on 12 November 2020 at 2pm on Zoom

Name	Organisation	Present/Apology
Statutory Sector		
Maura Dargan	HSCT (Chair)	Present
Tracy Magill	HSCT (Family Support)	Apology
Sharon Crawford	HSCT (Disability)	Apology
Ciara McKillop	HSCT (Hub Lead)	Present
Susan Gault	HSCT (Public Health Nursing)	Present
Hugh Nelson	HSCT (Planning & Modernisation)	Present
Frances Donnelly	Education Authority	
VACANT	NI Housing Executive	
Nicola McCall	(MEA) Community Planning/Council	Present
Alison Keenan	(A&N) Community Planning/Council	
Elizabeth Beattie	(CCG) Community Planning/Council	
Fiona Surgeon	(MEA) Community Planning/Council	
Martina Totten	(MU) Community Planning/Council	Present
VACANT	PSNI	
Maurice Meehan	Public Health Agency	Present
Kate McDermott	Health and Wellbeing Manager	Present
Grainne Keane	Youth Justice Agency	
Jenny Adair	Childcare Partnership	Apology
VACANT	LCG Link	
Voluntary Sector		
Ruth-Anne Delija	Action for Children	Apology
Pamela Kirk	Barnardo's	Present
Maria Heron	Parenting NI	Apology
Kelly Maxwell	Autism NI	Present
Muriel Bailey	Obo Maria Heron	Present
Pamela Sweeney	Obo Ruth-Anne Delija AfC	Present
Community Sector		
Zoe-Kernohan-Neeley	Early Year Organisation	Apology
Karen Graham	Carrickfergus YMCA	Apology
VACANT		
VACANT		
BME Sector		
VACANT		
VACANT		
Locality Planning Group Chairs		
Mervyn Rea	Antrim LPG	
Gerry McVeigh	Ballymena LPG	
Roy Beggs	Carrickfergus LPG	Apology
David McAllister	Larne LPG	
Ursula Marshall	Magherafelt & Cookstown LPG	Present
Locality Planners		
Represented by Kate McDermott		
In Attendance		
Maxine Gibson	CYPSP (Professional Advisor)	Present
Una Casey	CYPSP (Business Support Manager)	Present

Welcome and Apologies – Maura welcomed members to the meeting and apologies were noted as above

Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 30 September 2020 – Kate’s role to be recorded as health and wellbeing manager – minutes were agreed as accurate

Matters Arising

Maurice Meehan to circulate dates of Northern Area Stakeholder event.

CYPSP Update

Maxine noted that Regional Partnership took place on Monday, new members from community, voluntary and BAME sector members, really good representatives including Youthwork Alliance, NCB, AfC, Barnardo’s etc. Opportunity to revisit governance arrangements which will filter through to OGs, including branding and information. Possibly look at in a future OG meeting. Four key regional priorities for new action planning cycle 2021-2024 were unanimously agreed. These are poverty, mental health, education and children with disabilities. Presentation from parents who co-produced the “our journey through disability” work which NAOG has on agenda and being mindful of recommendations from this work.

Also presentation on the YJA-CAMHS pilot in the Southern Area, looking at developing clearer pathways for children with emotional and mental health and wellbeing issues who are in youth justice, proposed roll-out across NI.

Action: Maxine to find out more about possible regional funding bid in relation to YJA-CAMHS project.

Quarter 4-quarter 1 Family Support Hub monitoring report shared with Partnership with comparative analysis across region, which included additional information on impact of Covid-19, shows significant increase in families seeking support in relation to food, fuel and digital poverty.

Maura reminded members if they had anything they wanted tabled at future Regional CYPSP meetings to table them at NAOG meetings.

Outcome of ongoing work re processes & structures

Agreed at last meeting to finalise operating protocol and clarify roles and responsibilities of LPG support.

Maxine noted good progress. Una and Maxine had workshop with LPG coordinators and Kate to revisit CYPSP requirements, work better moving forward. Signed off operating protocol. Coordinators to take this to LPGs along with CYPSP LPG handbook. Delighted to have good progress. Have number of key actions. Pre-meetings in advance of OG meetings to ensure clear joined approach. Looked at report cards suggested that Kate brings these to OG meetings, will also be available on CYPSP website. In terms of reconfiguration work waiting to get a date to suit chairs in early December to hold a workshop to take forward recommendations from work carried out to date. Will report back at next OG meeting.

Maura noted positivity about this work, and put on record thanks to everyone involved in getting to this stage.

Review of ADHD Post Diagnostic Support Programme – Presentation Susan Gault/Pamela Kirk

Maura noted that this project had 3 year funding and the contracting arrangements are due to come to an end, funded through NAOG. Helpful to get an overview of this project and have a discussion about future funding alongside our priorities.

Susan noted that this OG noted ADHD as a priority in 2012 and identified funding to support children with a diagnosis of ADHD with a clear focus on Early Intervention, funding of £41K was made available from the OG which could deliver across the Trust area and provide equity. Aims were encouraging childhood interventions, supporting families, building resilience, coping strategies and looking at what other supports were available for families. Age group focused 6-15 year olds, particularly focusing on child at the point of diagnosis. Each family received 1-3 home visits within 2 weeks of referral. Barnardo's were successful in getting the tender to deliver the service. Pamela noted that some adaptations had to be made to the delivery of the service including workshops. The presentation outlined the number of referrals the uptake, and the further adaptations needed due to Covid-19 in year 3. Susan gave an outline of the Nurse Lead ADHD clinics in the NHSCT. Less than a year left on the funding of this project up until August 2021. Presenting to this group to get input into taking this forward.

Maurice Meehan queried re: investment from PHA and NHSCT into the Incredible Years ASD programme, which is a powerful support families and if this integrates into this service.

Ciara noted that these are very different, the Incredible Years project is 12 weeks 2 hours per week, intensive programme, at evidence gathering stage as this is first time it has been delivered for children with ASD diagnosis or on waiting list. Feedback very positive but very resource intense compared to the ADHD programme. Clearly gap for post-diagnosis support for ADHD. Ciara explained that consistent findings from Family Support Hubs is the unmet for emotional health and wellbeing of 5-10 year olds. Both pre- and post- diagnosis support for ASD and ADHD is a big gap within this age group too.

Maxine queried reach of the project. Susan explained that there are many referrals with query ADHD from doctors, many aren't diagnosed. Behaviour assessment service reaching all children with diagnoses. Difficulties is that referrals to service might come in without parents knowledge so affects uptake, but since nurse led clinics have been established parents are better informed of service and uptake is better. Susan noted older children referred who have co-morbidity who are not appropriate referrals to this service. Need clearer criteria. Ciara noted that the group intervention followed up with a home visit works well with children with ASD diagnosis. Group of children with dual-diagnosis maybe the unmet need that needs to be looked at.

Kelly Maxwell highlighted the importance of having a menu of options for families, not all families are comfortable in groups, also growing numbers of parents with diagnosis, anxiety due to the pandemic, rurality, families capacity to access a 12 week course. Need to build relationships and empower a family to attend small work groups. Need to look at how we reach out to families. Pamela agreed that there needs to be flexibility within the service to work with families. Kelly also noted need for older age-groups who need longer interventions who have more needs. Muriel noted that parents often panic between assessment and diagnosis so service is helpful. Noted the need to build trust and relationship with parents to help them into appropriate service approach. Susan noted that nurse led service see children and parents before and after the post-diagnosis support service works with them. Kelly noted that the Autism NI home visiting service in the NHSCT area have a very high rates of engagement.

Maura noted learning of the delivery of the service will inform tendering going forward. ADHD has been a significant gap in service provision. Need to make a decision on future funding. Ask members to discuss alternative funding arrangements for ADHD service. Funding has

proven gap and way of meeting this gap. Northern OG could use funding to test something else to address other gaps.

Maurice noted that the Family Support Procurement group met to look at £15M funding baseline against 200 contracts. Relative small investment. Keen to meet to have discussions around PHA priorities and investment. Highlighted Early Intervention Support Service. Also noted HSCB framework for ASD and Service framework and funding for this. Maura noted ADHD not as well recognised and funded.

Action: Ciara McKillop to arrange a meeting with Kelly Maxwell, Maurice Meehan, Susan Gault, Hugh Nelson and Pamela Kirk to have a local discussion on funding and feedback for next meeting.

Review of Action Plan.

Una noted that the current 2017-21 planning cycle is drawing to an end and noted that a number of actions were still outstanding and asked members to take a look at the action plan and forward any progress to her. Also asked if any of the outstanding actions could be brought forward into the 2021-24 action plan. Susan noted that star babies project has increased uptake of SureStart services and also noted work on resilience, LGBTQ, self-esteem, mental health taking place in Abbey College. Evaluation and data will be available soon

Action: Susan to send information to Una when it is available. Members to forward any other updates to Una

Maurice Meehan noted PHE report issued last week on increase on child death and injuries in relation to lockdown and increase in domestic violence. Is there a profile/sense of same in NI, which might raise need to focus on protective factors and focus, and if there is data available here. Susan noted that starting to see evidence of this here, and noted children are becoming hidden as children haven't been getting their usual assessments due to covid restrictions. Ursula noted that Women's Aid have been focusing on the issues raised and should have a wealth of data on this. Ciara noted colleagues who are on the NADVP which include Women's Aid and will get an update from them and ensure NAOG is well connected into that group.

Action: Ciara McKillop to get update from NADVP.

Maurice suggested keeping this issue on next meeting agenda.

Susan noted recent local TV programmes focusing on issues such as poverty and also domestic violence have helped to highlight these issues. Seeing this in local caseloads.

Maurice noted an article he has recently completed which has data on the increase in DV. Maxine noted that CYPSP information system which pulls together number of key data which is useful for looking at turning the curve. Suggested inviting Valerie to present on the available data to the group. Ciara also noted educational underachievement would be significant, and noted Roy Beggs involvement on the Educational Underachievement Working Group.

Action: Maurice to share article and suggested a data update on the issue for the next meeting.

Action: Una to source PSNI data and collate all shared data.

Action: Maxine to invite Valerie Maxwell to present data for planning.

Locality Planning Update

Kate shared the LPG update template, highlighting issues impact of covid-19 and impact on mental health and loneliness in older young people, sense of apathy and hopelessness; concerns about increase of online activity and challenges relating to this. Issues with accessing technology, lack of parental knowledge and lack of devices to support children learning at home. Some organisations delivering face to face services, and working with covid protocols, resulting in poor uptake of some services by schools. Also difficulty engaging with families virtually. Parental awareness of services and apprehension of engaging with services has been highlighted by LPG members. Achievements include LPGs working with NSPCC and NHSCT sexual health promotion on PANTS campaign. Noted that NSPCC have highlighted reports of sexual abuse has increased three-fold since start of lockdown. Emotional Wellbeing boxes for teenagers won a highly commented coronavirus innovation award. Children and young people's survey feedback is now available. High response rate, 127 young people responded and 474 parents; emotional health and wellbeing was highest concern of parents and children and young people, results have been presented to LPG groups and will be concerned in their action planning. Progress on establishing Newtownabbey LPG is going well. Maurice Meehan highlighted training available from Gamecare in relation to young people's online gambling.

Action: Report cards and survey to be shared

Family Support Hub

Pamela Sweeney noted referrals had dipped at the start of lockdown, possibly due to less access to GPs, starting to increase again as are requests for financial assistance for basics like food and fuel. Lot of service promotion has taken place recently, including contacting all GP surgeries and all schools who have been sharing on their social media. Increased Hub membership including a perinatal mental health charity and a play therapy service. Action for Children working with Business in the Community Carers in the Community which will enable access to Christmas supports.

Any Other Business

Kelly Maxwell - noted 2 education legislation out for consultation; SEN regulations and Code of Practice, important if working with young people, both close on 22 December.

Ursula Marshall – mental health is becoming a huge issue. Had a conference in March which will take place when safe to. Very committed members with good attendance. Information sharing is very useful and members very supportive of each other.

Dates for Future Meetings

Julie to circulate dates for 2021 for 5 meetings per year which will give time for working groups in between.