



Minute of Western Area Outcomes Group
held on 27th February 2019 at 10 am
Strabane Enterprise Agency

Present:

Ms Deirdre Mahon, Director for Women and Children services Western Health and Social Care Trust (*Chair*)
Ms Alison Wallace, Waterside Neighborhood Partnership
Ms Claire Lynch, Derry City & Strabane District Council
Ms Josephine Deehan, Western Local Commission group
Ms Jacqui Meenan, Business Manager Community and Public Health, Western Health and Social Care Trust
Ms Joanne Sweeney, Families Support Manager, MENCAP
Mr Kevin Duffy, Head of Service Family Support, Western Health and Social Care Trust.
Ms Laura Boyle, Graduate Intern Women and Children Services, Western Health and Social care Trust
Ms Lillian Seenoi Barr, Director of Programmes North West Migrants Forum
Ms Linda Watson, Caw/Nelson Drive Community Association
Ms Muriel Bailey, Director for Family Support Services, Parenting NI
Ms Monica McIntyre, Department for Communities
Ms Patricia Devine, Education Welfare Service, Education Authority
Ms Priscilla Magee, Family Support Locality Planning Co-coordinator, Western Health and Social care Trust
Mr Robert Gibson, Director of Community Health and Leisure, Fermanagh & Omagh District Council
Ms Shauna Houston, PHA Lead for Children & Young people
Ms Una Casey, Business Support Manager, CYPSP

In attendance:

Mr Danny Bryson representing Mr Paul Sweeney, Programme Manager Extern
Ms Lisa McGarvey representing Mr Paul Kellagher, Childrens Services Manager Action for Children
Mr Paul Loin representing Ms Colleen Heaney, Assistant Director Youth Justice Agency

Presentations:

10:15am Ms Elizabeth Campbell, Service Manager & Ms Priscilla Magee Family Support

Locality planning coordinator delivering a presentation on the Anti-poverty Practice Framework for Social Work in Northern Ireland

1	<p>Apologies Ms Ann McDuff, Assistant Director Community and Public Health Western Health and Social care Trust Ms Brenda MacQueen, Director Dry Arch Childrens Centre Ms Bronagh Donnelly Family Support Locality Planning coordinator Western Health and Social care Trust Ms Cathy McCloskey Operations Manager Early Years Organisation Ms Colleen Heeney Assistant Direct Youth Justice Agency Ms Helen Dunn CYPSP Regional Hub coordinator Health & Social Care Board Ms Maura Mason, Manager Western Child care Partnership. Mr Maurice Leeson Professional advisor HSCB Mr Paul Kellagher, Children Services Manager, Action for Children Ms Sheena Funston Acting Head of Service for Health Improvement. Equality & Involvement Department</p>
2	<p>Notes of Previous Meeting held on 19 December 2018 Minutes were amended. Ms Laura Boyle agreed to update.</p>
3	<p>Matters Arising Ms Una Casey advised that she would share the Holiday hunger reports in Ms Bronagh Donnelly's absence</p> <p>Ms Deirdre Mahon confirmed the letter to the Education authority to raise awareness of the Period poverty campaign, has been sent to Ms Claire Managan and is awaiting a response.</p> <p><u>Presentation from Priscilla Magee and Elizabeth Campbell about the Anti-poverty Practice Framework:</u></p> <p>Priscilla Magee and Elizabeth Campbell presented the Anti-Poverty Practice Framework for Social Work in Northern Ireland which was launched regionally by the Department of Health in Belfast, in July 2018 and locally, by the Western Trust in L'Derry later in the year.</p> <p>The Framework, which was contributed to by Mr Kieran Downey, highlights that twenty per cent of NI's population live in poverty which has a disproportionate impact on many of the people social workers support, whether it is people with mental health problems, people with a disability, Carers or children and families. Ms Campbell spoke about how this practice framework aims to support social workers in NI to recognise and respond to the impact of poverty on individuals, families and communities.</p> <p>Ms Magee described that the framework dovetails with the on-going work of the</p>

	<p>Fermanagh and Omagh Community Plan which includes an action and work stream regarding poverty and in particular rural poverty which reflects its geographical nature.</p> <p>After the presentation, members were received a recent paper ‘Stripping the Wallpaper of Practice: Empowering Social Workers to Tackle Poverty’ which supports the framework and was written by local academics from QUB. Ms Mahon acknowledged the valuable information delivered by Ms Magee and Ms Campbell.</p> <p>Members discussed possible solutions of breaking down the social stigma of poverty. Many agreed that existing free resources should be explored such as play areas and outdoor gyms. This would improve self-esteem and enhance social interaction.</p> <p>Ms Linda Watson informed members of the mid-term report on the Healthy Kidz Programme. Feedback from the programme was extremely positive.</p> <p><u>Action:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Mahon asked each member within their role to discuss the social work poverty strategy within their organisations.
4	<p>Update from Locality Planning Groups attached (Ms Donnelly and Ms Magee to report)</p> <p>Ms Magee updated members on the current issues and updates within Locality Planning Groups. These included closures within the Fermanagh area, the increase in enquiries from FIS and step-down cases being referred to the Hub. Ms Magee also reported on the newly appointed person for MACE. Refer to document circulated by Ms Magee.</p> <p>It was also reported that Law centre NI delivered training on Universal credit Information and Awareness which targeted the Trust, Locality Planning Groups, Family support Hubs, Social work staff, SUSE 16+ information Hub and South West Collage. Positive feedback was received by attendees.</p> <p>Ms Casey reported on behalf of Ms Donnelly on the Northern Sector LPGs report. The report noted that issues/gaps in service provision throughout each of the 4 localities remain constant with the concern about the lack of targeted early intervention mental health services remaining the main topic and issue of concern. Discussions about the gaps in specific services targeted children and young people experiencing low level mental health issues remain an area of great concern. The solution proposed by localities is that we invest in specific early intervention service that works with those identified with early signs of poor mental health and work more closely to align the services that are already working to tackle this issue. Another topic for concern was the waiting times for those referred to statutory services in particularly CAHMS and ASD services, community organisations are very vocal in</p>

	<p>expressing their wish for statutory services to reach out and use/base there services in local areas, this would enable better collaborative working and could reduce the number of missed appointments. The lack of services for families waiting on an ASD assessment/diagnosis was of great concern throughout all localities. The lack of services available to offer families support and guidance whilst waiting on an assessment or indeed following a diagnosis was discussed greatly.</p> <p>Ms Meenan reported that lower levels are getting referred back into CAMHS with Ms Mahon added that there has been difficulty in recruiting a psychiatrist to CAMHS and asked this information to be reported back to Ms Donnelly.</p> <p>The LPGs also highlighted the rise of children and young people on reduced timetables has once again been raised. Although unconfirmed numbers anecdotally community and voluntaries partners are concerned about the number of children and young people who have been placed on reduced hours, placing added stress on families and the C/V sector.</p> <p>Action: Ms Casey to raise the above issues to the CYPSP.</p>
5	<p>Early Intervention Updates</p> <p>Deferred to next meeting. Maurice Lesson was not in attendance to comment.</p>
6	<p>Feedback from Dr Karen Treisman Workshops in February 2019</p> <p>Ms Casey reported that Karen Treisman workshops were very well attended and feedback was extremely positive and many attending were asking for future workshops. Evaluation reports from the workshops will be shared at the next meeting.</p> <p>Ms Mahon commended this work and asked each member to think about how to influence trauma-awareness within their own organisations and how member organisations could pool budgets to fund more work on this</p>
7	<p>Consideration of Future Workshops by Dr Karen Treisman [attached]</p> <p>Ms Mahon mentioned that future dates have been proposed for Ms Karen Treisman to visit again. Ms Mahon suggested linking with the MACE project as they could possibly help fund future workshops.</p> <p>Mr Kevin Duffy reported that Mr Sean McCrory has left post. Recruitment and shortlisting has taken place for this role, informing members that he will be on the panel.</p>
8	<p>Update on Western Area Outcomes Group Small Grants- Ms Meenan</p>

	<p>Ms Casey reported on the progress of the Small grants applications.</p> <p>The small grants total funding was £37,000 and 38 organisations had applied. Applications were discussed amongst panel members, with decisions being based on the proposals outlined within each application form. 20 out of 38 applicants were successful and offered a specific amount.</p> <p>Letters of offer were issued out to successful applicants. Each letter of offer displayed a cost breakdown which detailed the expenses that would be covered. Activities/classes brochures which could be delivered free through the Trust were also attached in the email.</p> <p>A discussion took place about the need to use the Outcomes Group funding in a more long term way, as the small grants are very time consuming for applicants as well as administration and monitoring of them, with possibly low impact that is hard to measure the outcomes of.</p> <p>Members agreed that earlier conversations regarding small grants need to take place from the 1st April to help utilise and distribute small grants in a better way. This would allow services to deliver valuable projects within a realistic time-frame.</p> <p>Ms Mahon requested a group to link together to discuss how to manage the process better next year and Ms Casey agreed to co-ordinate this group.</p> <p>Action: Ms Claire Lynch agreed to link with Mr Barry O’Hagan regarding a council representative for the group.</p> <p>Ms Mahon mentioned the importance of exploring statutory organisations that have already funded projects.</p>
9	<p>Holiday Hunger-Consideration for Future Funding- Ms Casey [attached]</p> <p>Ms Casey shared the Holiday Hunger feedback reports. Evaluations showed excellent feedback with many valuable skills being developed through the project</p> <p>Members agreed that a discussion needs to take place on how to sustain the skills developed from Holiday Hunger.</p>
10	<p>UNESCO 9TH International Conference- 13 & 14 June 2019 [attached]</p> <p>Members to note.</p>
11	<p>Family Support Hubs Celebration Event [attached]</p> <p>Members to note. This will take place Thursday 7th March 2019.</p>
	<p>Locality Planning Group members survey [attached]-Ms Casey</p>

12	<p>Ms Casey reported on the Regional Locality Planning Groups Member Survey feedback. The circulated handouts displayed reports from the West only. Out of 1028 members 303 responded to the survey giving a response rate of 29.5%; 75 responses were from the West area. A full report can be found on the CYPSP website.</p> <p>Feedback was, on the whole very positive, with respondents agreeing that LPGs helped identify the service gaps in the locality, LPG respondents said there was increased co-operation and collaboration across organisations in the locality. Some points of constructive feedback included issues such as timing of meetings for some members who do community work in addition to full time jobs who are unable to attend meetings and have suggested an evening meetings once a year to accommodate those who cannot attend during office hours. The full reports have been shared with Locality Planners to take forward. This survey will be carried out on an annual basis.</p> <p>Members were advised that any staff in the locality area should be encouraged to attend the locality planning groups.</p>
13	<p>Communities in Transition-Mr Kevin Duffy</p> <p>Mr Duffy discussed the paramilitary and criminal activity and stressed the importance of targeting specific areas in the North and exploring systemic issues such as mental health and education. Mr Duffy also reported that the tendering process is being put forward, advising that there is ongoing information available on the website.</p>
14	<p>Community Planning</p> <p>Ms Claire Lynch advised that Community Planning will be presented in the next meeting in May. This will be presented by herself, Ms Bronagh Donnelly and Mr Stephen Quigley. Ms Lynch advised that the Transformation academy will work out how to jointly commission.</p> <p>Refer to circulated attachment.</p> <p>Ms Lynch advised that the key outcomes will be shared and the allocation of budgets needs to be explored.</p>
15	<p>Safeguarding</p> <p>No comments.</p>
16	<p>CYPSP Think Family Sub Group/Hidden Harm</p> <p>Ms Shauna Houston reported on the Hidden Harm work, reporting that individuals will be trained on the Five Step Method for Steps 2 Cope.</p> <p>Ms Mahon expressed the importance of focusing on parents that have children known to Social services and parents suffering from addiction etc. Motivational work</p>

	<p>may need to be incorporated as many parents avoid traditional based services due to their own adversities. Ms Houston agreed to feedback this back to Hidden Harm.</p> <p>Ms Magee reported that the Family/Nurse partnership has been extended down to Omagh. Ms Mahon advised this may only be on a temporary basis due to funding coming from Transformation.</p>
17	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Ms Muriel Bailey reported on findings from the Parenting survey launch. Handouts were circulated to members. This was the largest survey carried out by Parenting NI with a cohort of 1,191 parents who expressed their worries and concerns for their children. Screen-time was a major worry for parents and many expressed a lack of hope regarding opportunities and prospects in Northern Ireland for their children. Despite many concerns raised, parents reported on the extremely rewarding aspects of parenting.</p> <p>Ms Claire Lynch reported on the launching of the Youth 19 website which contains programs about festivals, support and current activities. Ms Lynch agreed to send the website link for members to access.</p>
18	<p>Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting 1 May 2019 at 10am, Conference room Strabane enterprise agency</p>