

Southern Area Outcomes Group
Minutes of Meeting held on Wed 28 September 2022 at 10:00 am
Via Zoom

Agency/Sector	Statutory	Present	Apology
HSCT (Chair)	Colm McCafferty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
HSCT (Family Support; Hub Lead; Safeguarding)	Leanne Spratt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
HSCT (Disability)	Elaine Mooney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
HSCT (Public Health)	Gerard Rocks (Promoting Wellbeing)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HSCT (CAMHS)	Denise Carroll	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
HSCT (CYP – Health Improvement Specialist)	Jacqueline Masterson		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Education Authority	Kieran Shields Sarah Muldoon Aileen O’Callaghan Donna Weir	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NI Housing Executive	VACANT		
Community Planning/Council	Patricia Gibson (PCSP) Gary Scott (ABC/NMDDC) Alison Beattie (ABC) Allison Clenaghan (ABC) Celine O’Neill (MU)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
PSNI	Karen Ross	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Public Health Agency	Collette Rogers Kelly McCartney Laura Taylor Dani Sinclair Dr Amanda McCullough	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parenting Coordinator	Martina McCooley		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Youth Justice Agency	Michael Heaney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Childcare Partnership	Kevin Duggan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
LCG Link	VACANT		
Domestic and Sexual Violence Partnership	Gary Scott Safeguarding Co-ordinator, ABC & NMD Council		
Other Partnerships			
Voluntary Sector			
Early Years Organisation	Anne Rice/Stephanie Elliot		
MENCAP	Mikhaila Woods		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Barnardo’s	Monica McCann Pat McGeough	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

	Gillian McKeown (Chair of Disability Task Group)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
NIACRO	Ciara Corrigan		
Clanrye Group	Dara O'Hagan		
Bolster	Jacinta Linden (Also LPG chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Robbie McCague (Chair of Ethnic Minority Group)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BME Sector			
Craigavon Intercultural Programme	Stephen Smith		
Locality Planning Group Chairs			
Craigavon LPG	Deborah Millar (Home-Start Craigavon)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Armagh LPG	Micheal Mac Cionnaith (Youth Action)		
South Armagh LPG	Taucher McDonald (NMDDC)		
Newry LPG	Jacinta Linden (Bolster) Allison Slater	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Banbridge LPG	Lucinda Love-Teggarty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Dungannon LPG	Loraine Griffin (COSTA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
In Attendance			
Locality Planning Officer	Darren Curtis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Planning & Information Support	Valerie Maxwell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CYPSP	Maxine Gibson Una Casey		
Administrator for Outcomes Group	Ruth Alexander	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Family Support Hub Co-ordinator	Bronwyn Campbell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

1. Introductions & Apologies

Apologies noted as above.

Colm welcomed everyone to the Forum and a round of introductions followed.

2. Minutes of previous meeting (29.06.22)

Agreed as accurate reflection of last meeting. Colm informed members that Prof Jones, who attended the last meeting, has spoken very positively about work undertaken in the Family Support Hubs he visited.

3. Matters Arising

4. Family Support Hubs (FSHs) Update

The Southern Trust report is now available on the CYPSP website. FSHs continue to be very busy. A Regional Referral form has been identified as an action for the FSHs and a nomination has been agreed from the Southern area.

Challenges remain in terms of funding for both the C&V Sector and all involved in the commissioning of services, but commitment continues from the FSHs. This will be kept on the agenda with the objective of contributing to the development of a medium to long term strategy to meet the needs.

Bronwyn referenced Regional Training for Hubs, Coordinators and Locality Planners. A session is taking place this afternoon, looking at fuel poverty and impact on health. Bronwyn is happy to circulate the link for SAOG members if interested. Bronwyn plans to meet with the Education Authority to look at further training/services available for adolescents. Leanne will bring to the Hubs Regional Steering meeting, to look at pooling resources and the way forward.

Services are now starting to see severely traumatised Ukrainian fathers joining their families here, which will be a further stress/pressure on health services. Colm reiterated that Ukrainian families are entitled to have full access to all services, whether health or social care, without any barriers.

5. Locality Planning Groups (LPGs) Update

Darren provided an update on the LPGs, please see reports circulated. Just to note the date on the report should say June – Sept 2022. Following discussion the LPGs agreed to alternate between face to face, and Zoom, meetings, as conscious of time/resources.

The “Can We Talk Conference” is scheduled for October in the Glenavon Hotel, Cookstown. Information has been circulated and a number of registrations received. Darren will send Ruth the link to circulate to the Group.

The School uniform kit was referenced in Darren’s report. The challenge remains on how to liaise better with schools, as there is still a low uptake from schools in the Southern area. Darren will meet with Kieran to identify some EA contacts he could liaise with, to promote and encourage better ‘buy in’ from the schools. Kieran highlighted an issue with asylum seekers moving to the area but having no recourse to public funds. For Ukrainian families, it takes several weeks for uniform grants and benefits to kick in.

ACTION: Kieran and Darren to have some discussion and feedback at the next meeting.

6. Ukrainian Refugee Resettlement (for information)

This remains a standing agenda item. The Assistance Centres are still in place and a new Centre has opened in Dungannon. Colm Chairs a Trust Group seeking to coordinate the Trust response. Numbers continue as predicted in the Southern Trust area. There are a number of applications/emerging multiple occupancies dwellings, which services were asked to be mindful of due to the potential risk this poses to tenants in terms of inappropriate accommodation and exploitation.

Gillian referenced difficulties she had encountered trying to access services for a Ukrainian family. She was advised to escalate any issues faced. Colm reiterated that there should be no barriers. Ukrainian's are entitled to full access to services.

7. Updates from Task & Finish Groups

Emotional Health & Wellbeing

Valerie reported the Group met last week, for the first time in a while, as Jacqueline was off. A scoping exercise is being carried out in relation to the action plan, looking at key messages and how to take forward.

The Youth Wellness Web has been updated and members were invited to go on and view, in relation to training available. Valerie reported there has been significant interest and they've been invited to a number of events to showcase this.

Ethnic Minority

Robbie McCague, is the new Ethnicity Lead for the SHSCT, and he has agreed to Chair this group. Valerie reported the needs assessment was launched over the summer, and endorsed at CYPSP for roll out across all Outcomes Groups. Invites have been issued for a Workshop on 12/10/22. This workshop is specific to ethnic communities and access to services in the SHSCT. Anyone wishing to attend contact Valerie. Helen Gibson has been nominated as the new PHA Rep on the Minority Ethnic Group.

Our Journey Through Disability

The Disability Task Group met on 13/09/22, where Autonomy provided an overview. Gillian advised that "Autonomy" are a support group for families with children with a disability. They hope to join the Subgroup to help develop an information pack for parents.

Two documents have been produced:-

- (1) A list of peer support available across the area, and
- (2) A document to help parents understand acronyms and definitions used by the Health and Education Authorities.

Virtual Disability Awareness Training and PPI Training have taken place and were well received. Further training is being rolled out, please email Gillian or Valerie for details. The Parents Plus Special Needs programme is now being rolled and some parents have enrolled to participate. Gillian advised that information, support and events continue to be shared widely across networks. If members are aware of any information/events pertaining to children with disabilities, please let Gillian or Valerie know, so they can be shared widely.

The Subgroup met in August and an information pack is being designed by parents, which can be made available to all parents of children with a disability, including those who are undiagnosed as yet. When completed the plan is for this pack to be widely available to EA, Health Trusts, GPs, HVs, Family Support Hubs etc. It will also be available for downloading via a number of websites. The Subgroup are due to meet again on 4th October and hope to have something to share at the next Outcomes Meeting.

Poverty & Family Support

This group was set up in June, to identify supports/services to help the most vulnerable families through poverty over the winter months. Membership includes: Lorraine Griffin from Costa, the local Councils, Bolster, Early Years, PHA, Clanrye Group, BCM, Food Banks, SHSCT, St Vincent de Paul, also LPGs. Terms of Reference have been drafted which Valerie will arrange to be shared with Group members.

At the first meeting, discussion took place around what is already in place with the Councils, and making links through their Community Planning Section. The group will keep in touch via email in the first instance, as it is difficult for front line staff/Foodbank staff being released to attend meetings.

Valerie gave a detailed overview of work undertaken and supports identified to date. Meetings have taken place with ABC and MUC Councils, and she is arranging to meet with NMD Council. In relation to ABC Council, they have been able to identify food support through the Foodbanks, and supports available in respect of fuel poverty through SVP and Salvation Army. Other initiatives/supports identified as follows:-

- Emmanuel Church, Lurgan, provide food, clothes and overnight hospital packs;
- The Slow Cooker initiative, in respect of energy efficiency and healthy food;

- Advice Services across Craigavon, Banbridge and Armagh to help families navigate the cost of living crisis in relation to benefits etc;
- A telephone/chat service for older/vulnerable people impacted by isolation;
- Hope to commission Big Buses for health checks running across the area;
- A warm and well connected program, to help us identify where those warm places should be;

A meeting has been arranged for 5th Oct, with Bronwyn and Family Support Hub Co-ordinators from Craigavon, Banbridge and Armagh areas, to meet with those providers to make links and manage pathways to access services across the Council area.

A meeting has also taken place with Mid Ulster Council and a link agreed with the Dungannon/Magherafelt FSHs. Information was shared in relation to a scheme run via Save the Children Fund, for families in relation to food, fuel and white goods. Valerie plans to link in with Jacinta regarding connections in the Newry & Mourne area, and is planning to meet with Alan Beggs to take forward.

Una Casey is undertaking a scoping exercise through the LPGs. A template has been circulated and members were asked to complete for any individual or specific programmes being run. This information will be shared on the CYPSP Website and updated regularly.

NI Libraries are running a number of programmes across NI for warm places. This will include programmes for families, free internet access, story telling, free newspapers.

A new section has been added to the Translation Hub from the National Energy Agency, on how to save energy, and Valerie will share the link through the Outcome Group.

Valerie has spoken to Colm this morning in relation to match funding from the Trust and other statutory agencies which is part dependent on the Department for Communities coming through with funding. Members were asked to share information, in relation to any funding streams they are aware of. Colm acknowledged the huge amount of development work undertaken by the Sub Group in a very short time. This will remain a standing agenda item and should be afforded priority in the current context.

8. SDACT – Michael Heaney (Youth Justice Agency)

Michael spoke about the Southern Drug and Alcohol Coordination Team (SDACT). This Team is involved in the coordination and development of drug and alcohol services for children, adults and families. Recently they have been able to link SDACT up with information systems in Family Support NI Website and the Youth Wellness Website, to avoid duplication of work. This led to further discussions about making connections between other Forums/Groups for sharing information/supports available.

Michael advised that a SDACT Representative is happy to attend a future meeting to share information about services available. Vaping was referenced at the last meeting. It might be useful for SDACT to coordinate an inter-agency response and Michael is happy to feedback to the Group.

Colm reiterated the importance of sharing initiatives from respective agencies, and advised members to forward information to Ruth for circulating to partner agencies.

9. AOB

Karen Ross – PSNI (Community Planning)

Karen has taken over the Community Planning role in Lurgan, at the start of August. She reported a number of calls relating to mental health and substance misuse. Waiting lists for children for CAMHS appointments is long and Karen wondered was there anything else that could be put in place. It was agreed that Karen and Denise would have a discussion to see what supports were available to assist with referrals.

ACTION: Denise agreed to coordinate a meeting with Karen. Bronwyn (FSHs) and Lucinda (Costa) also expressed interest in being a part of this meeting. Valerie is available if needed.

Karen also referenced an increase in domestic incidents as a result of poverty. She also queried SVP assisting with the supply of locks for oil tanks, to help reduce risk of theft. Karen was asked to give consideration to joining the Poverty Subgroup, and is happy to do so, and circulate relevant information.

Kevin Duggan - Surestart

Kevin reported that Surestart are rolling out a series of seminars over the next 6 - 8 months, looking at poverty, early intervention etc. Members were asked to support these events.

Surestart have seen a huge growth in children with additional needs coming into their services and are struggling to meet the needs. Kevin is currently working on bids to secure funding to support these children. Challenges remain in relation to filling posts, and staff are now struggling with poverty issues themselves.

Colm thanked everyone for their input to today's meeting. There are many good initiatives ongoing as outlined here today with the right staff involved!

10. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 14 December 2022 at 10.00 am via zoom