

## BELFAST OUTCOMES GROUP MEETING

Via MS Teams

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 2.00 p.m. via MST**

Name	Organisation	Present	Apology
Ms. Kerrylee Weatherall (Chair)	Belfast HSC Trust	✓	
<b>Statutory Sector</b>			
Mr. Paul O'Neill	Early Years, Belfast HSC Trust	✓	
Ms. Edel McKenna	Safeguarding, Belfast HSC Trust		✓
Mr. Gerry Largey	Hub Lead, Belfast HSC Trust	✓	
Ms. Charlene Mitchell	LPG Coordinator	✓	
Mr. Brian O'Kane	NIHE, Belfast Area		✓
Ms. Katherine Calvert	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. Marie McAuley	Health Improvement Team, BHSCT		✓
Ms. Wendy Pollock	Chief Inspector, PSNI		✓
<b>Community Sector</b>			
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.	✓	
<b>LPG Chairs</b>			
Ms. Barbara Wallace	East Belfast LPG		✓
Ms. Deirdre Walsh	West Belfast LPG	✓	
Ms. Natasha Brennan	South Belfast LPG		✓
Ms. Claire Allen	North Belfast LPG	✓	
<b>Voluntary Sector</b>			
Mr. Peter Bryson	Save the Children		✓
Ms. Caroline Rutherford	Extern	✓	
Mr. Martin Walls	Guide Dogs	✓	
Mr. Avery Bowser	AFC	✓	
<b>Partnership Sector</b>			
Ms. Roisin McCooey	Belfast Childcare Partnership		✓
Mr. Jackie Redpath	Belfast Strategic Partnership	✓	
<b>In Attendance</b>			
Ms. Una Casey	CYPSP Support	✓	
Ms. Maxine Gibson	CYPSP		✓
Ms. Nichola Creagh	Department for Communities		✓
Ms. Bronwyn Campbell	Regional FSH Lead	✓	
Ms. Laura Feeney	BCC	✓	
Ms. Kathy Watters	BCC	✓	

## **Summary of Actions:**

	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
1.	Dentist Referrals for Newcomers / Refugees	Ms. Diffin to raise with Louise McMahon.	Ms. Diffin
2.	Interpreting issues / SCIE Learning Sets	- Learning Sets to be shared once finalised. - Carol Diffin to write to SPPG and raise this matter.	Ms. Campbell Carol Diffin
3.1	EHWB Framework	- Deferred to next meeting. Bronwyn Campbell to update. - Mark Conachy and Kris McKeever to be invited to future meetings.	Bronwyn Campbell Trisha McDonald / Carol Diffin
3.2	ASD / Autism Referrals	- Mr. Largey continues to liaise with Ms. Killough and colleagues, to scope out the figures and get more up to date information. - LPG data to be available by September - Ms. Diffin to liaise with Dr. Sarah Meekin initially. She will then organise a one-off focussed joint meeting re: EHWB Framework and interface to services. This meeting is deferred to a later date.	Mr. Largey  Mr. Largey Carol Diffin
4.	Integrated Working	- Ms. Taggart will provide feedback to the Committee Paper - Ms. Diffin will raise with the Chair of the South Eastern Outcomes Group, Barbara Campbell re: linking to this work for areas such as Colin. - Barbara Campbell is also now leaving post. Ms. Diffin will liaise with Ms. Weatherall and Ms. Taggart and the new SE Director, Lyn Preece, and this can be picked up at a later date.	Cate Taggart Carol Diffin Kerrylee Weatherall
5.	Mandatory Medical Examinations for recruitment (C&V)	Ms. Diffin and Mr. O'Neill to raise again with SPPG, the issues regards the mandatory medicals and lack of GPs to complete same.	Carol Diffin Paul O'Neill
6.	Integrated Working Paper	Paper to be amended following all feedback today and title changed.	Gerry Largey
7.	Community Planning / Action Plan	- Ms. Taggart agreed to feedback to Community Planning colleagues, re: our challenges and other high level pieces of work are ongoing (e.g. CS Review etc.) and to advise that work is progressing, workshop is planned and something will be produced. - Workshop to be convened with external facilitator. - Draft SPOC re: facilitation work to be shared for comment.	Cate Taggart  Gerry Largey Cate Taggart
8.	Minutes	Minutes of 5 <sup>th</sup> August and Matters Arising to be discussed at next, full meeting.	Chair
9.	SAOG	Ms. Campbell to provide an update at the next meeting re: SAOG piece of work and any relevant information re: same to be shared by Ms. Campbell / Ms. Casey with the group	Bronwyn Campbell / Una Casey
10.	Winter Pressure	Meeting to be set up mid-October re: Winter Pressures and Support – confirmed for 25.10.22 at 2pm	Trisha McDonald
11.	Pilot	Mr. Largey to draft correspondence to National Lottery re: Happy, Healthy Mind Therapy Pilot	Gerry Largey

<b><u>Action by:</u></b>	
	<p><b>1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies</b></p> <p>Ms. Weatherall welcomed everyone to today's meeting, introduced herself and explained the context of today's meeting and going forward. She hopes to see everyone in person at the upcoming workshop.</p>
	<p><b>2. Minutes and Matters Arising from last meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022</b></p> <p>Due to late circulation of the minutes and time constraints on the day, it was agreed that previous minutes and matters arising would be discussed at the next, full meeting.</p> <p>Action: Minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> August and Matters Arising to be discussed at next, full meeting.</p>
	<p><b>3. Winter Planning – Practical Supports</b></p> <p>There are a lot of concerns on the ground re: practical support and availability. It would be an opportunity to have a fuller discussion / meeting re: this.</p>
	<p><b>4. LPG Report</b></p> <p>An update report was shared by Charlene Mitchell in advance of today's meeting. This is Ms. Mitchell's first attendance at this meeting. Ms. Mitchell provided an overview of her report, highlighting the current and ongoing issues, such as poverty and food poverty across all 4 areas; high numbers of practical support requests; winter clothing concerns; concerns re: rising costs; concerns re: capacity within organisations; foodbank protocol re: usage now in place due to demand; significant increase re: school uniform support; rising costs for services; reduced timetables – initially in North and now emerging across the city, and the impact of same on children's education and parental employment and income; anti-social behaviour; lack of counselling services; ASD and lack of related services / waiting lists.</p> <p>Another significant issue raised was with regards the Asylum Seekers housed by Mears Association who are presenting as seeking support in relation to access to services, transport to school, missing meals, hotel timetables, lack of appropriate food for weaning children, lack of appropriate changing facilities, lack of amenities such as nappies and sanitary products. Guidance information has been received from Red Cross to contact 'Migrant Help' but issues were also highlighted with regards this protracted service.</p> <p>The new Education Authority Pilot 'Happy, Health Mind Therapy' was mentioned, aimed at providing a broad range of intervention to primary school age children. There was lack of clarity with regards funding for same, gaps in provision, availability in school and how it will be managed and if parents are aware. Also highlighted was the fact this could be creating a deficit in the Community with it moving into schools. Update was received that National Lottery funding was received for this. Huge impact for community and voluntary sector services.</p>

	<p><b>5. Family Support Hubs Update</b></p> <p>Mr. Largey provided a verbal update. He advised that during the Summer months, all of the Family Support Hubs had sustained an increase in referral numbers for practical support, i.e. food, fuel etc. There is evidence emerging re: considerable numbers of families who will have significant issues coming into the Winter period – month by month there is a steady, upward trajectory.</p> <p>With regards ASD figures, the team are currently mapping these in respect of Family Support Hubs and Locality Planning Group level and this remains a continuing concern.</p> <p>Considerable discussion ensued with members commenting on the 2 updates and highlighting their own concerns, e.g. cost of living crisis; voucher provision and challenges connected to this for co-ordinators and staff; need for additional resources; opportunity to use this information to lobby for resources; bigger piece of work required; discussion around the Therapy Pilot – how offered, criteria, how managed, gaps, reduced resource to other provided, who informing National lottery etc.; similar issues regionally – SAOG scoping exercises underway – we could use this information / methodology instead of duplicating work; need to look at creative solutions; good mechanisms in this group to share information / good co-production; need more flexibility re: funding; need for local, joint-statutory, voluntary and community sector responses; critical situation. Members agreed that an additional one-agenda item meeting would be beneficial before next meeting, mid-October, re: winter pressures and support.</p> <p>Action: Ms. Campbell to provide an update at the next meeting re: SAOG piece of work and any relevant information re: same to be shared by Ms. Campbell / Ms. Casey with the group.</p> <p>Action: Meeting to be set up mid-October re: Winter Pressures and Support.</p>
	<p><b>6. Workshop on BAOG Priority Area one</b></p> <p>Mr. Largey recapped the discussions from previous meeting and sub-group meeting. Workshop is scheduled for next Friday afternoon and will be facilitated by Louise O'Meara. The aim will be to put all thoughts into vision piece re: concepts for our Action Plan going forward – to re-visit the language issues, ensure we are all on the same page, to re-visit the 4 key actions, to scope out stretched goals and outcomes, to be shared as part of the refreshed Belfast Agenda.</p>
	<p><b>7. Any Other Business</b></p> <p><b>(a) Emerging Pressures re: supports for newcomer families</b> – some information highlighted at earlier section. Ms. Weatherall advised that BHSC has Health Visitors in these hotels who can raise any safeguarding concerns. Barnardo's are also involved with these families with regards 'Play' services. Mr. Largey and Ms. Mitchell are meeting with Red Cross with regards all of the issues raised via Family Support Hubs, some of which are extremely concerning and they will be trying to clarify the issues. There was conversation with regards Mears Association, the Home Office and Red Cross who are all involved and hold contracts / sub-contracts and the various challenges and problems in</p>

relation to these organisations and their provision of services and who should be contacted in relation to same. Ms. Weatherall advised of a meeting with Safeguarding Board NI yesterday, at which this matter was also discussed, including Ms. Diffin's correspondence to them re: issues raised by the Health Visitors, e.g. hygiene, school attendance, long walks, meal issues. SBNI has liaised with the Home Office re: same who responded that it is the individual areas / departments involved responsibility to address these issues. This is a completely different situation to the Ukrainian response and the UASC approach, which were both delivered by the HSCB/SPPG. There is a lack of information and accountability with regards support for this scheme. Children's Law Centre has produced a report and 200 families a month are expected, 65% of whom are children will urgently need information and profiles of those children and families. Early Help is critical and this group needs to be linked into this work. The Trust has also asked for clarity from SPPG re: ownership as it appears to come under Integrated Care but clarification is required re: children and families. Ms. Taggart advised that there is a NI Assembly Lead re: Asylum Seekers and they should be lobbied also. Education Authority are also now involved in this due to a number of educational issues. Members were asked to share any relevant information for October meeting which can be included in overall response. A lot of these children and families will also have serious trauma, and we will need think re: how to support this and we have the resource to do so.

**(b) Happy, Healthy Mind Therapy** - raised again under AOB and the potential withdrawal of National Lottery funding and it was agreed that Gerry Largey would draft a letter to National Lottery, to explain re: the Pilot and the impact re: withdrawal of funds.

Action: Mr. Largey to draft correspondence to National Lottery re: Happy, Healthy Mind Therapy Pilot

## 8. Dates of Future Meetings

Date:	Time:	Venue:
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2022 - Additional meeting re: Winter Pressures and Supports	2pm	MS Teams
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	2pm	MS Teams