

BELFAST OUTCOMES GROUP MEETING

Thursday 16th November 2023 at 2.00 p.m.

Save the Children, Belfast, BT10 0HB

Name	Organisation	Present	Apology
Ms. Kerrylee Weatherall (Chair)	Belfast HSC Trust	✓	
Statutory Sector			
Dr. Michael Murray	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		✓
Vacant	PHA		✓
Ms Kathy Watters	Belfast City Council	✓	
Mr. Declan Davey	Youth Justice Agency	✓	
Ms. Marie Cavanagh	HSCB Belfast Local Commissioning Group	✓	
Ms. Marie McAuley	Health Improvement Team, BHSC		✓
Mr. Kevin Hawkins	PSNI		✓
Community Sector			
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.	✓	
LPG Chairs			
Ms. Bronagh O'Dwyer	East Belfast LPG	✓	
Ms. Deirdre Walsh	West Belfast LPG	✓	
Ms. Natasha Brennan	South Belfast LPG	✓	
Ms. Claire Allen	North Belfast LPG	✓	
Voluntary Sector			
Mr. Peter Bryson	Save the Children		✓
Ms. Caroline Rutherford	Extern	✓	
Vacant	Vacant		✓
Mr. Avery Bowser	AFC	✓	
Partnership Sector			
Ms. Roisin McCooley	Belfast Childcare Partnership	✓	
Mr. Jackie Redpath	Belfast Strategic Partnership	✓	
In Attendance			
Ms. Maxine Gibson	CYPSP		✓
Ms. Nichola Creagh	Department for Communities		✓
Ms. Dawn Vance	Department for Communities		✓
Ms. Bronwyn Campbell	Regional FSH Lead		✓
Ms. Valerie Maxwell	CYPSP Support	✓	
Dr. Sarah Meekin	Head of Psychology, BHSC	✓	
Mr. Mark Conachy	Assistant Head of Psychology, BHSC		✓
Ms. Laura Feeney	Save the Children (obo Peter Bryson)	✓	

Summary of Actions:

1.	Family Support Hubs	Collated quarterly summary report to be shared in July 2023. Regional info shared. Awaiting Belfast data. Ongoing	Gerry Largey
2.	Early Years Workstream – Education Inequalities Sub-Group	Overarching / cross-over of themes – to be reviewed in the new year. Currently parked. Ongoing	All / Kerrylee Weatherall / Gerry Largey
3.	Membership	To be reviewed. CYPSP Sub-group being convened to review processes. Ongoing	Kerrylee Weatherall
4.	Reduced / Amended School Timetables / lack of classroom assistants - issues raised at LPGs and FSHs	Chair to make contact with Elaine Craig EANI re: concerns raised by members and partners. Previous workshop – Need to re-visit. Ongoing	Kerrylee Weatherall
5.	Future Meetings	Proposals from members re: venues for 2024 Meetings Partially Complete (need venue for Sept. and Nov. meetings)	All
6.	Consultation Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members to complete sections in the questionnaire relevant to themselves and submit to Trisha. - Gerry Largey will collate all responses and convene a small sub-group to review. - Final draft to be circulated for sign-off via email. Complete	All
7.	Belfast Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting with Chris Marsh at beginning of December – Chair and Gerry. - Meeting for all members to stocktake re: evidence gathering and agree timeline of next steps in early January, date TBC. - Series of meetings to be convened, between Community Planning staff and BHSCT staff to discuss support for the initiative. Ongoing.	Chair / Gerry Largey

8.	December	Shorter extra meeting to be arranged for December. Complete (18.12.23 – Spectrum Centre)	Chair / Gerry Largey
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1. Welcome & Apologies

Apologies are recorded in above table and the Chair welcomed all in attendance.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising from previous meeting on 12th September 2023

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record. All suggestions re: future venues to be sent through to Ms. McDonald.

Matters Arising:

1. Family Support Hub quarterly report – regional data is collated and shared. Mr. Largey will share Belfast data as soon as available.
2. EY Workstream/ Ed Ineq S-G – Action on hold.
3. Membership – Membership / Interview process is being reviewed by CYPSP along with all other issues raised at the recent workshop. A sub-group is being set up by CYPSP. Ms. Maxwell outlined previous / current process for the group and nominations for the sub-group are being collated by Louise Dickson.
4. Jones Report – Complete – Options appraisal and consultation details shared.
5. Belfast FS Hub data – as above, no 1.
6. NICON Conference – Chair provided an update. Event well attended. Children's Services / Social Care not really on agenda. Short presentations from Ray Jones, Ms. Weatherall, Eilis McDaniel, and the new Children's Commissioner, Chris Quinn. 60 people approx. in attendance for presentation – range of professions e.g. Psychology, Social Work, AHP, Judiciary, Government Depts. Some discussion took place with mixed views re: proposed structural changes.
7. One Young World Conference – no feedback from this event.
8. Presentation re: Jones report at previous meeting – Mr. Largey thanked everyone for the feedback.
9. 'How do we do better' Event – Excellent event convened in November. The Planning Sub-group and all involved were acknowledged and thanked for this excellent work at short notice. It was a big achievement, with approx. 140 people in attendance and great venue.
10. Reduced School Timetable / lack of classroom assistants – issue is ongoing. Chair will be liaising with Elaine Craig next week as the meeting last week was cancelled.

The Chair advised that there has been a number of consultation sessions across all of the Trusts. The Chair also informed of the increased demand and pressures on Children's Services currently, e.g. increase in referrals to Gateway and increase in

children coming into Care. Further workforce pressures are coming to the fore. All The Trust has ceased its use of Agency SW as at March 23 for off-contract agencies and as at June 23 for contracted agencies. This was in order to reduce expenditure which has been successful. Medical and Nursing Services are also now trying to adopt this approach. The focus recently has mainly been on the Children's Services Review and work on seamless pathways.

3. Children's Services Review Event on 14th November 2023

The Chair asked for any feedback or comments in respect of this event. Views were expressed around the table and feedback was positive, e.g.

- Good to be in same room working together;
- Good to have Ray Jones there;
- Good discussions and insights;
- Helped to inform consultation response;
- Feels different to previous consultations and responses;

The Chair noted that each of the outcomes groups will be holding events with Ray Jones, theirs will be online and that there is a lot of synergy at the minute with responses and views being raised across the board from all sectors.

BAOG Jones Report Response:

In terms of a response specifically from the Belfast Outcomes Group's perspective, considerable discussion ensued and many comments put forward with regards the recommendations and what it means for BAOG, thoughts re: ALB and advantages and challenges linked to that, some children's services not included and what that would mean. It was agreed that a response should be completed with input from all members with practical expertise on certain sections. Key messages and priorities, gaps etc. to be included. Members can complete only the sections relevant to them and their service. Boxes re: Yes or No should be ticked on each question in final draft.

Actions:

- **Members to complete sections in the questionnaire relevant to themselves and submit to Trisha.**
- **Gerry Largey will collate all responses and convene a small sub-group to review.**
- **Final draft to be circulated for sign-off via email.**

4. Workshops on Seamless Pathway

Three workshops have been convened so far, now facilitated by Chris Marsh. Mr. Largey provided an update of the process so far with regards evidence gathering, workshops held, meeting between the Chair, Mr Largey and Mr. Marsh, and other models discussed. The focus now is to assemble the evidence, and apply an integrated partnership model. Some good examples were noted, e.g. Boston Model and Dublin Pathways. The workshop was very good. Discussions ensued around the different models, the Belfast Agenda proposals and upcoming consultation, some queries raised re: language and positive feedback received in respect of the draft

paper. There is some overlap with BAOG agenda and priorities, e.g. school attendance and children's mental health.

Ms. Maxwell informed that the CYPSP 3 year plan will be out soon also and will be based on a number of high priorities, e.g. school disruption, children with disabilities, poverty and children's mental health which also reflects quite a bit of overlap. The Chair advised that all of these initiatives will need to be linked up, to avoid duplication and similar pieces of work.

Mr. Redpath mentioned the Education Underachievement Working Group and the crossover work there also with regards Early Years. We need to ensure children are at the front and centre of everyone's business.

Considerable discussion followed with regards the draft Belfast Agenda and agreed strategic intent, submitted under the Living Here Board for actions to be taken forward. Some comments and queries re: any proposed or required changes, e.g. age range, pre-birth and extending later; the proposals within the Children's Services Review report re: 0-10 age group; and also the gaps and risks identified in referral data – children in care longer and also coming into care earlier; significant issues at younger ages which may highlight missed opportunities at younger ages; considerably deprived areas across Belfast and significant complex children with disabilities also. A data analyst has been appointed to work alongside Mary Murphy from the BHSCT EIS Team to undertake a piece of work re: community infrastructure, datasets, heatmaps over a 6 month period – a deep-dive audit of children coming into care and their pathway will be completed to inform this work.

Dr. Meekin informed that her service has created an animation 'Belfast Baby / Belfast Child' and there will be a pagetiger / signposting to resources and is hopeful draft video will be ready for January 24.

It was then mentioned re: the need for a strapline for the BAOG model and a number of different comments and suggestions were discussed in respect of the strapline and the model. It was raised that if the recommendations from the CS Review did not happen, then a Plan B would be needed and will be a chance for us to model something.

With regards Integrated Working / Partnership agenda, we need to continue this alongside the CS Review – suggestion to convene a working group with a common purpose. Discussion again re: age-range and covering primary school age children – quite a few schools involved in Locality Planning Groups.

With regards the Belfast Agenda, the consultation period for the draft paper is over. Any changes are needed by the deadline in mid-December. The Belfast Agenda will be re-launched in January or February 2024. Ms. Brennan advised that she has a meeting with John Tully next week and will raise all relevant issues from BAOG with him such as meeting schedule and funding for workshop facilitation. She suggested that BAOG could present to this group re: current situation and get them on-board re: pulling budgets and resource. A number of resources were mentioned, e.g. BCC use the FSHs as a platform to allocate funding for anti-poverty work; Save the Children allocated monies on an annual basis via SureStarts. We will need to

ensure there is no duplication with Save the Children. Mr. Largey added that funding needs to be spent equally.

Actions:

- **Meeting with Chris Marsh at beginning of December – Chair and Gerry.**
- **Meeting for all members to stocktake re: evidence gathering and agree timeline of next steps in early January, date TBC.**
- **Series of meetings to be convened, between Community Planning staff and BHSCT staff to discuss support for the initiative.**

5. Any Other Business

Action: Shorter extra meeting to be arranged for December.

6. Dates of Future meetings

Date and time:	Venue:
Tuesday 13 th February 2024 at 2pm	Whiterock Children's Centre, 91 Whiterock Road, Belfast, BT12 7PG
Thursday 18 th April 2024 at 2pm	Carew Family Centre, Tamar Street, East Belfast
Thursday 27 th June 2024 at 2pm	Action for Children Northern Ireland, Loughshore House, 10 Heron Road, Belfast, BT3 9LE
Tuesday 10 th September 2024 at 2pm	TBC
Thursday 14 th November 2024 at 2pm	TBC