

Belfast Area Outcomes Group

Minutes of Meeting on Thursday November 14th

LORAG

Previous Actions agreed 10.09.24:

- Community leads to meet and discuss strategies surrounding racial tensions in community
- For the next meeting- further information on some of the work streams, those of particular reference; they will hear from Mr Largey and Mr Murray and their sub groups.
- Mr Largey to link with Bronwyn and contracts to explore amalgamating reporting.
- Work to Progress Action Plan
- Locality Planners have meeting with Raise.

- 1. Welcome & Apologies** – Declan Davey
Julie Jamison
Sarah Meekin
Mark Conaghy
Paul Deighan

Matters Arising from previous meeting on 10th September 2024

- **Community leads to meet and discuss strategies surrounding racial tensions in community** – *Completed, Locality planners met and discussion tensions and reiterated focus on 'Belfast is a welcoming place' message. Discussion with BCC and Julie Girvan re aligning with lead role on further incidents
To be kept under review*
- **Work streams to be discussed today**
- **Explore amalgamating reporting.** – *Bronwyn has been off, though links there meeting on her return- Ongoing*
- **Work to Progress Action Plan** – *Caroline has drawn up Draft Action Plan and papers , awaiting sign off*
- **Locality Planners have meeting with Raise.** – *Individual meetings have been held North, West, South and East, locality chairs attended. Still a new concept to be kept under review as progresses and information/progress to be shared with Ms Weatherall/ Gerry as appropriate.*

2. Chairperson's Business

Recent 'BBC Spotlight' documentary detailed pressures on CWD- short breaks and residential. There is continued effort to source places and this has been a worked across all trusts. There are more plans to look at therapeutic release of money to explore short breaks. Funding is welcomed by the minister and the trust are providing information to the department on this.

Ray Jones- awaiting ministerial decision.

Conference to be held 27/11/24; reform board, rest and rebalance. Ray Jones will speak at this. One recommendation was for Children's Services to hold an annual Conference and this is the delivery of this.

Action Short of Strike- Belfast, SET and Northern still in negotiations with SW caseloads, vacancy rates and accountability for this.

A range of activity linked to the Seamless Pathway is under development and Chris as our external consultant is assisting with looking at the next stages.

3. Update re: Workstream Activity for Children's Services Reform Board:

- **Work Stream 1 – Front door and waiting lists**
- **Work Stream 9 – Family Support**

Work stream 9-

Recent visit to Camden reflected a different SW model linking to 'before the door'- findings of Camden to be presented and shared. This model reflected a different approach to allocating families and resources through a different structure.

***Ms Rutherford to share information on the previous 'Health Care Zone' model trialled in BT14 to Mr Largey*

Work Stream 1-

Band 5- job descriptions being created to get skilled staff able to work with families on a family support basis.

Current pilot in the Carlisle Office has Band 4 SW Support Staff working with families on a family support basis, over seen by a SW.

4. Activity Update:

- **Locality Planning Groups**
- **Family Support Hubs**

Anti-Poverty work and racial awareness work has been undertaken- they feel there will be substantial funding to invest in this work and decisions on this matter should be made soon.

Ms Brennan agreed the council have committed to add to funding if DFC do, they have model to distribute funding with vouchers etc which will hopefully be progressed via the EIS team.

Family support hubs-

Mr Largey noted the activity profile the last quarter reflects a slight decrease of 100/150 compared to this time last year. The BAOG FS hub network remain the highest performing component of the CYPSP's hub activity Ms Gibson noted she has some data that also relates to a regional decline in numbers.

******Ms Gibson to share information with the minutes/quarterly return.

5. BAOG Action Plan 2024-27 – Draft Plan

Mr Largey noted any final comments are to come back by Friday.

***** 1 week for feedback on Action Plan. To be presented to locality planning groups for feedback- plan is for this in the next fortnight.***

6. Seamless Pathway Activity – Update

Seamless Pathway Document

Next Steps- streams of work for each stage. Planning work and engagement required for 'bonding with babies,' biggest input will be the EA.

Mr Redpath noted they were to gather the parent's voice and get feedback form advisors at Belfast Castle and also flag with academics if they have the evidence base for they are saying.

There may be 3 versions- statutory, voluntary and general public.

*****Parent feedback forms to be shared with Sure Starts and locality leads to share as far as possible.***

Voice of children- Ms Ripley-McElvogue advised they have data on the numbers of children not speaking and involved with social services, they can see the factors making their lives harder and the needs affecting families.

Ms Brennan agreed they have the ability to access parents' voice and can look at the gaps and data.

Ms McKinney noted they can look at milestones too.

Ms Gibson has data from an SPPG Review which gathered the parents and children's voices to inform a regional outcomes plan, this information formed a 3 years outcomes plan and will inform the seamless pathway work- to be shared.

***Data to be shared with Mr Largey to be collated.*

Another piece of work is the graphic design.

***Graphic Design CHR Knockbracken to be approached and feedback discussed in January.*

Area Of Initial Interest

Data mapping activity linked to the seamless pathway: The focus for this work has been on looking at area design and possible improvements to delivery models in areas of high demand for Children's Community Services. Areas which are also associated with concentrations of families and Children experiencing poorer outcomes and linked socio economic pressures.

The main focus for initial activity is on a District Electoral Area in North Belfast- Oldpark/Duncairn with support provided by Chris. We are trying to better understand the local pressures leading to BHSCCT bringing high numbers of children into the care system. The approach uses visual data approaches to support structured community engagements on a prototype basis to review networks and delivery models to identify opportunities to better support families. External programmes such as DE's Raise programme interested too. – To be reviewed next outcomes meeting.

Ms Weatherall commended all partners of the outcomes group for work in the Seamless Pathway, they have received a range of positive feedback and this is testament to the hard work which went into this model.

Ms Weatherall noted there is a government level transformation fund and the department of health has put in for funding across all the streams. This is how the department envisages it can put in place additionality to support the development of delivery activity that could enhance multiagency working across Belfast.

Actions November 2024 Review:

Ongoing Actions-

- **Explore amalgamating reporting.** –*Bronwyn has been off, though links there meeting on her return- Meeting arranged for Thursday.*

- **November:**

1. Minutes from October Outcomes Meeting to be shared next week
2. Ms Rutherford to share information on the previous Integrated Services/ 'Health Care Zone' model trialled in BT14 to Mr Largey. (Received)
3. EIS team to allocate funding relating to DFC/BCC anti-poverty activity
4. Ms Gibson to share information with the minutes/quarterly return
5. BAOG Action Plan 2024-27- 1 week for feedback on Action Plan. To be presented to locality planning groups for feedback- plan is for this in the next fortnight
6. Parent feedback forms to be shared with Sure Starts and locality leads to share as far as possible.
7. Ms Gibson to share SPPG data with Mr Largey to be collated.
8. Re: Seamless Pathway Graphic Design CHR Knockbracken to be approached and feedback discussed in January.

Next Outcomes meeting- *To be confirmed.*