

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHERN OUTCOMES GROUP MEETING AND
WORKSHOP HELD ON 17th APRIL 2013 AT 2PM IN THE TOWER
ROOM ALL SAINTS PARISH CENTRE**

Present:	Marie Roulston	(Chair) NTSCT
	Anne Hardy	CYPSP
	John Fenton	NHSCT
	Ciara McKillop	NHSCT
	Susan Gault	NHSCT
	David Gilliland	Carrickfergus YMCA
	Collette Slevin	MENCAP
	Helen Dunn	Action for Children
	Jenny Adair	Northern Childcare Partnership
	Una Geelan	CYPSP
	Una Magee	Barnardo's (on behalf of Billy McMillan)
	Deirdre Coyle	HSCB
In Attendance:	Maria Heron	Parenting NI
Apologies:	Hilary Johnston	PHA
	Kyle Gordon	PSNI
	B McMillan	Barnardos
	Paul Carr	DSDNI
	Cl K Gordon	PSNI
	H Johnston	PHA
	F O'Connor	NIHE
	J Gault	Bushmills Locality Group Chair
	G Keane	Youth Justice Agency
	Anglea Devlin	Extern
	Brenda McAteer	Moyle Locality Group Chair
	Selena Ramsey	CYPSP Locality Dev't Officer
	Sandra Anderson	CYPSP Participation Officer

Minutes of Sub Group meetings

Anne Hardy tabled copied of the two reports from the subgroups of the Northern Outcomes Groups.

A: Family Support Hub Development – this sub groups recommendations were those:

- 1: Procurement process to secure one organisation to carry out the work as outlined in their report in 2013/14 and 2014/15
- 2: Action for Children contract to be extended until the successful tenderer is in place.

Members expressed that they agreed with these and were happy to sign off the above proposals.

Helen highlighted that the Coleraine area hub met last week and it is aimed that it will be running in May.

B: Priority for funding – services for children and young people with a disability and those with ADHD – the recommendations were

- 1: A procurement process to be initiated to secure services for children and young people and their families with a disability and the £100K recurrent funding allocated to this process. Specification to reflect the requirement set out above and in line with the requirements of the CYPSP for level 2 services.
- 2: A procurement process to be initiated with regard to the DSC funding of £108K aimed at children and young people with ADHD and their families as outlined in the report.

The group agreed with this proposal.

Anne explained that the Trust will carry out the procurement process and she will co-ordinate a procurement subgroup.

WORKSHOP

Marie gave the attached presentation. She highlighted the CYPSP structure and the responsibilities of the outcomes group which included outcomes based planning, integrated planning, integrated commissioning and what members can bring to the group. She explained the need for members to make connections and to look at their roles within the group and identify clear tasks to take forward.

Anne discussed the key tasks of the group which included refreshing the action plan. She also discussed the membership of the group highlighting that membership was a 3 year term which involved a selection process; and that there will be a transitional period so there

won't be a loss of experience. She also explained that members attendance at meetings is monitored.

The members then took part in a group exercise as outlined in the agenda.

David Gilliland – Carrickfergus YMCA

Carrickfergus YMCA is a local voluntary organisation that works with children, young people, families and community, with particular regard to those that are disadvantaged and disaffected. Underpinned by Christian principles, Carrickfergus YMCA responds to local needs and seeks to share and learn from being part of a national and international movement. Affiliated to the National Council of YMCA's on Ireland, the YMCA in Carrickfergus is an autonomous organisation governed by a local voluntary board of directors.

Working with around 300 young people and just over 130 families each week through a range of projects including:

Youth Drop In – Open 4 evenings per week. Work with young people aged 12-25 years. Approximately 30-50 attendees each night. Normal drop in activities plus project-based youth programmes addressing issues affecting young people in Northern Ireland today.

Health Hub – a drop-in shop front providing education, advice, support and referral to youth and young adults on a broad range of health related issues such as alcohol and drug use, pregnancy, sexual and mental health, diet and eating disorders.

Glenfield-Castlemara Parents and Kids Together (PAKT) - This project runs after schools activities five afternoons each week and a teenager club. Parents take part in life skills/educational courses.

Woodburn-Sunnyland PAKT – Similar to the Glenfield project but with a higher focus on parent education, a creche as well as the development of activities for children aged 4-11 years.

Friends Forever Programme – an annual programme taking 5 Catholic and 5 Protestant young people through a yearlong young leaders course. It involves two weeks in the USA taking part in civic work, community service and team building events.

Detached youth work across the Borough involving young people caught up in or at risk of being involved in anti-social behaviour.

The volunteer base at Carrickfergus YMCA is growing and we have recently been presented with the “Investing in Volunteer Award” by Volunteer Now.

David highlighted that he was concerned about the use of drugs and alcohol among young people in Carrickfergus.

Jenny Adair – Northern Childcare Partnership

Background

The Child Care Partnerships were first established in April 2000 as a result of the Northern Ireland Child Care Strategy, “Children First” (1999). The key aims of this strategy were to

- Improve the quality of child care
- Increase access at local level
- Provide better information for parents about the availability of child care
- Make child care more affordable

Worked alongside Pre-school Education Advisory Group in each Education and Library Board area to ensure a consistency of approach

Took responsibility for the development of Sure Start projects, in their respective areas and implemented the expansion of Sure Start into the top 20% most deprived wards with the allocation of additional funding in 2005/06 from the Children and Young People’s Funding Package. This funding also established the Developmental Programme for 2-3 Year olds (P42YO) across Sure Start Projects.

Policy responsibility for ‘Early years’ including the Child Care Partnerships transferred from DHSSPS to DE in November 2006 with the legacy Health and Social Care Boards continuing to provide a lead to the Child Care Partnerships with arrangements and budgets confirmed on an annual basis.

In April 2011 there was a re-alignment of function and funding, with the responsibility of Sure Start remaining with DE and responsibility for Child-minding/childcare and the Early Years Development Fund transferring back to DHSSPS.

Partnership team

There are now 5 Childcare Partnerships regionally - Eastern CCP has now split into 2 Belfast and SE.

- Chair Gerry Conway – commissioning lead for Family Support and Early years.
- 5 Managers now in post Evelyn Curran, Maura Mason, Mairead Abraham, Roisin McCooey and Jenny Adair. Regional responsibilities – Mairead & Roisin - Sure Start & P42YO, Maura - Parenting & Family Support, Evelyn - Training & myself workforce development
- Team 5 Programme specialists P42YO,
- Currently 3 training officers
- Information officers- Tommy Doherty, Moira Grimley, Sharon Gillanders & Admin support.
- Financial Support – Finance Dept. HSCB

Representation on CCP's.

- Trust (Health Care & Social Care)
- Education and Library Board
- Public Health Agency
- DEL
- Local District Council representation
- Regional Early Years & Childcare Organisations:
 - Early Years – The organisation for young children
 - PlayBoard
 - NICMA
 - Irish-medium Sector
- Community representation (possibly also representing interests e.g. BME, disability etc.)

CCP Client Group / Services - Early Years Providers including:
Childminders, Day-care Nurseries, Playgroups (PEAG Non PEAG),

Afterschool Provision, Crèche, P42YO, Parent and Toddler groups, Sure Start services, families.

What does the Partnership do? - The Childcare Partnerships produce a three-year strategic plan. The Plan aligns with Government Strategies in relation to Families' and Children's Early Development and Well-being with a focus on Early Years & Childcare and complements other plans including the CYPSP, PEAG etc. and is influenced by changing policy initiatives.

Key objectives of the CCP:

1. Communication – through the Regional Child Care Partnership website (in development), local newsletters, a model of consultation that is appropriate for the Child Care Partnerships, sharing of good practice e.g. through the website & practice workshops
2. Information – using the initial baseline information available within the CYPSP website and Family Support NI website. The information team have the capacity to develop profiles at CCP/Trust level, SureStart Project level and at District council level. Provide a mechanism for making information available on an open basis. Web based information system (Sure Start play) incorporates new measurement tools for activity monitoring within SS projects.
3. Sure Start – practice issues being addressed regionally for SS projects
 - CCP staff are working with DE's Early Years Team to develop a clear governance framework.
 - Regional working group looking at HV and Midwifery in SS to develop a consistent approach
 - A Speech, Language and Communication Model is being finalised with an Implementation Plan to be agreed with DE.
 - Mapping Parenting Education Programmes within SureStart to ascertain the range of programmes being delivered, whether they are evidence-based or evidence informed on their impact on improving children's outcomes over the longer-term.

- Development of the P42YO
- 4. Training workforce planning - Links with DEL, Further Education Colleges, Sector Skills bodies. Assessing training needs, developing training plans based on emerging need to raise the quality of service delivery
- 5. Quality – show casing good practice models, exploring the role out of accreditation programmes, reviewing the need for capital investment, improving governance arrangements.
- 6. Inclusion and social Justice - Initial project work has commenced in early 2013 in partnership with DHSSPS in relation to the accessibility of Early Years Services for children with a disability. Small grants scheme piloted in February March 2013 training programmes for early years staff to be rolled out April – March 2013.

How do I see my work relating to the work of the group – cross agency / early intervention?

- Ensure links with Regional Strategies impacting on Families and Children
- Sharing local knowledge, network contacts including work being carried out by NCP member agencies
- Service providers all work within the early years sector key focus on improving outcomes for children and families .Key focus on improving emotional and social well-being in early years and Sure Start.
- CCP remit to ensure these services are supported, developed and sustained to benefit children and families this should support the on-going work of the CYPSP.
- Sure Start business plans contribute to the achievement of the 6 high level outcomes. Web based information system (Sure Start play) new measurement tool for activity monitoring.
- The Child Care Partnerships have formal links now with:-The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (Gerry Conway) The Outcomes Group at Trust/CCP level (CCP Managers) Sure start managers sit on locality planning groups.

CCP members are also represented in their own rights at all levels these planning levels.

- CCP staff and members can provide information to CYPSP on new emerging funding streams
- New policy initiatives – DE Learning to Learn Framework, Childcare Strategy share the impact on service delivery feed into the development of the strategy
- CCP's are contributing to the Early Years Review group and the Regional implementation group for the Minimum Standards led by HSCB and DHSSPS.
- Initial project work has commenced in early 2013 in partnership with DHSSPS in relation to the accessibility of Early Years Services for children with a disability. I am participating in the Northern outcomes group disability sub group
- Reviewing parenting Education Programmes research feed into CYPSP work
- Support development of the Family support Hubs – referrals to Sure Start Services
- Up skilling and sustaining the early years workforce to support delivery of high quality services

Hilary Johnston – PHA (absent – via email)

Give Every Child and Young Person the best start in life is one of the PHA building blocks around which we structure our work. Key areas for action underneath this include:

- Reducing smoking during pregnancy and beyond
- Reducing alcohol use antenatally
- Reducing obesity pre/during/post pregnancy
- Reducing childhood obesity
- Increasing breastfeeding rates
- Root of empathy programme
- Parent/school support programmes
- Tackling food and fuel poverty in families
- Benefit maximisation

Helen Dunn – Action for Children

Northern Area Early Intervention Project

NAEIP works with children/young people aged 8-13 years who are experiencing difficulties at home, school and/or in the community with an emphasis on the prevention/reduction of offending/risk taking behaviours.

Northern Area Employability Service

Providing an employability service for young people who are in or leaving care, over the age of 16, not in education, employment or training. Can provide job tasters in the local business community, work opportunities and preparation for work programme.

Ballymena SureStart Project

Supporting families and children from pre-birth to 4 years. Aim to promote healthy lifestyles, optimise early development, ability to learn and positive parent/child relationships through high quality play, health and educational based activities for parents and children.

One Stop Shop

Working in partnership with YMCA the One Stop Shop will host drop in facilities for young people from Larne, Carrickfergus and Newtownabbey up to 25 years to meet and be signposted to services and projects most appropriate to their presenting needs.

Larne Parental Support Project and Horizon SureStart

Support families with children aged 0-7 years and expectant parents. Services are delivered through a multidisciplinary team either on an outreach basis including intensive individual work with families or through group work for parents and children, parents courses or drop in services.

Choices Family Support Service

Support young people aged 10-17 years who may experience difficulties with their mental health, at risk of coming into care or living with hidden harm. Offers family work, group work and on-going 1-2-1 work with volunteers, project workers and social workers offering intensive support.

Functional Family Therapy Team

FFT is an empirically grounded family based prevention and intervention programme. Therapists will undertake work with families primarily in the family home where there are children aged 11-14 years on the edge of care.

Castle Tower Child and Family Project

We work with children and young people from Castle Tower School on an outreach basis. Provide opportunities and activities for children and young people with disabilities showing signs of stress, feeling isolated and in need of support.

Susan Gault – Public Health Nursing

Public Health Nursing is a conglomerate of services. There are 9 Health Visiting and School Nurses covering the 10 district council areas of the NHSCT. The team works with 0-18 age group, with health visiting focusing on 0-4 year olds and school nurses focusing on 5-18 year olds (19 year olds in special schools) . The school nurses are involved in school immunisations, the health protection team which includes TB screening for BME pupils. There is a Child Protection Nurse on the team who's remit is safeguarding and works with the health needs of LAC. There is also a breastfeeding coordinator and an incontinence nurse who carries out assessment and offers support. Within the Health and Wellbeing team Claire McKeown is developing new services, carrying out research and profiling. There are 16 Health Visitors working with the SureStart projects in the NHSCT area. There is also a new services doing an ADHD pilot project. This involves a Behaviour Nurse Specialist, who carries out triage assessment and works with a multi-disapliantry group which includes allied health professionals. The aim is to create awareness of appropriate referrals. There is also work ongoing with Infant Mental Health and Family Support Strategy. The Universal First Parenting Programme will be piloted in the trust from September. School Nurses will also be involved in profiling the school aged population's health needs and will work with the community and voluntary sector to do this.

Una Magee – Barnardos

Barnardos work with children, young people and families, targeting those who are vulnerable and in need of extra support. The Family Connections project in Newtownabbey is funded by the big lottery. This project involves early intervention school counselling which is targeted at primary school, there are links with ADHD. The project works alongside

teachers and parents in a triangle format. This project works to help children self-regulate their emotions from a young age, and to improve educational outcomes. This service follows through to secondary school and there has been improved GCSE results.

Barnardos also manage the Jigsaw project in Ballymena and has a contract with special schools for counselling. Children and young people often are faced with difficulties in verbalising emotions when faced with issues such as bereavement.

One of Barnardo's current priorities is young people at risk of sexual exploitation particularly those vulnerable young people in the care system.

Barnardo's manages the children and young people bereaved by suicide and help them with emotional and behavioural issues they might face as well as coping with the death of a loved one.

Barnardos also manage the Choices Family Support services in partnership with Action for Children (see description of service above).

Barnardos runs the Young Carers service which offers individual and group based support.

Collette Slevin – Mencap

Mencap is a nationwide organisation offering a regional service. Policy, research etc is based in Great Britain. There is a local advisory service for people with disabilities. This information service complements social work services. The service helps with benefit entitlements, sign posting, referrals to family and childcare teams. Work with parents with a learning disability too. Mencap offers a summer scheme service working through schools. The referrals are taken through social workers are given priority.

The Mencap employment service works with young people up to 25 years as young people don't leave special schools until they are 19. This service helps the young people with the pressures and stresses of moving from school environment into work.

The Mencap HYPE project works with mainstream schools in their special units. Many of the young people that this service works with do

not have a diagnosis. All this work is carried out in collaboration with FE colleges. This is often a very hidden population within schools.

The Mencap regional young people together works with young people with a learning difficulty, autism, behavioural problems through schools at school down time and pull them together in clubs. These are linked up across NI.

The Super Me pilot is working to develop resources for a whole school population and will be delivered through the Equality and Diversity class.

Ciara McKillop – NHSCT

Ciara is developing a Family Support Strategy which focuses on Early intervention and moving away from crisis lead services. The 3 key points to this is 1: Preventing. Support for the family support hubs, by providing safeguarding and raising awareness of family support hubs with social workers. 2: Access services to prevent crisis by up skilling staff to prevent the deterioration of issue. 3: prevent child/young person entering the care system. Ciara is developing four gold standards in the Northern Area to make sure social work staff are aware of these and uses them. She wants to ensure that the Family Support Strategy is usable.

Deirdre Coyle – HSCB

Deirdre has a dual role with a Regional remit for level 4 children and young people in care and to promote the best outcomes for the most vulnerable including issues of homelessness, mental health, drugs and alcohol and behavioural problems.

At a local level Deirdre's role is that of commissioning to modernise, performance monitor the corporate parenting within the Trust. Deirdre stated that it is a necessity to lay strong foundations upstream to make the service less costly and strengthen connected-ness.

John Fenton – NHSCT

Gateway - There are 3 gateway teams covering the Northern Trust Area that initial child protection cases would come to. One third of cases would be taken to family support intervention teams and children in need would be allocated to a social worker and placed on the child protection register. Currently there are 532 children and young people on the Child Protection Register.

Health Improvement & Community Development Team. – The scope of the team underpins Family Support and includes Mental Health preventative work, Drugs and Alcohol, Sexual Health etc.

Family Centres – there are 4 family centres in the Northern Area. These offer counselling, CDN at level 3

Early Year Teams – involved in family group conferencing.

Making the Change – work with children who are a threat to other children.

Principle Practitioners

Social care Governance, Support staff

Maria Herron – Parenting NI

Maria explained that Parenting NI covered 3 main areas; Telephone help line, Parenting Education courses and Parenting Forums which include the Parents Reference Group (PRG) that ensures the voice of parents are included within the CYPSP process. There are 15 parents on the Northern Outcomes Group PRG. There are also PRGs for some of the Regional Sub Groups such as The BME. The Northern Outcomes Group PRG have met 3 times. They have gave feedback on the Action Plan, put together a consultation response about the First Parenting Programme. Maria suggested that given the large geography of the Northern Area that it might be better to have 2 PRGs covering that area

Actions to take forward

- Revisit Membership – addressing gaps in membership
- Make use of members time
- Select 6 priorities to achieve over the year
- Update column on Action Plan
- Links to subgroup