



**Minute of Western Outcomes Group**  
**held on 19 June 2013**  
**Shared Future Centre, Waterside**

**Present:**

- Mrs Kate McDaid [Chair]
- Ms Maura Mason, Western Area Child Care Partnership
- Ms Carina Boyle, Action for Children
- Ms Colleen Heaney, Youth Justice Agency
- Mr Eamon O’Kane, Local Commissioning Group
- Ms Helen Harley, Children & Young People’s Officer, Derry City Council
- Mrs Una Geelan, Business Support Manager, HSCB
- Mrs Brenda MacQueen, Dry Arch Centre
- Ms Maeve Linton, SureStart Manager
- Ms Marie McGale, MENCAP
- Mr Gerry Conway, Commissioning Lead, HSCB

**In attendance:**

- Ms Bronagh Donnelly, Action for Children
- Mrs Priscilla Magee, Action for Children
- Mrs Anne Donaghey, Business Manager
- Ms Elaine Forrest, Personal Assistant, Western Trust

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>Mr Kieran Downey, Director of Women &amp; Children’s Services          Ms Deirdre Mahon, Assistant Director Safeguarding [Children]          Ms Cathy Mullan, Public Health Agency          DCI Garry Eaton, PSNI          Ms Orla Conway, Omagh Women’s Aid          Mr Barny Heywood, Omagh District Council Council          Ms Nicola Topping, Education Officer, WELB          Mrs Avril McAllister, NIHE          Mr Paul Laughlin, DSD          Mrs Anne Hardy, Children’s Services Planning Officer, HSCB</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Notes of Previous Meeting</b></p> <p>All present confirmed that they had received a copy of the notes of the previous</p>

	meeting held on 24 April 2013 and that they were an accurate reflection of the discussion that had taken place.
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>Chair of Meeting</b> Mrs McDaid advised that she had been asked to chair today's meeting in the absence of Mr Downey.</p> <p><b>Community Family Support Programme</b> Mrs McDaid reported that Mr Downey had raised his concerns regarding the dislocation of services at a meeting of the Outcomes Group Chairs and Regional Sub Group Chairs. Mr O'Kane advised that he had been in contact with the Department for Employment and Learning [DEL] and the Community Family Support Programmes were going live in July 2013. £750,000 was available in the west to run three different programmes of 26 weeks duration between now and 2015. Mr O'Kane advised that the pilot was scheduled to continue in Strabane until September 2013. Members noted that this was a large programme with increased targeted numbers.</p> <p><b>Membership</b> Mrs McDaid advised that following communication between Mr Downey and Superintendent Cargin, PSNI, Detective Chief Inspector Garry Eaton had been nominated to represent the PSNI on the Western Outcomes Group, although due to other commitments, he was unable to attend today's meeting.</p> <p><b>Vice Chair</b> Following discussion, it was decided to defer this matter until the next meeting as several members from the community and voluntary sector were absent. Ms McGale requested that a reminder call for nominations for the post of Vice Chair be sent out along with papers prior to the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Locality Outcome Monitoring 2006 – 2012</b> It was decided to defer discussion on this item until the next meeting as Mrs Geelan, Mrs McDaid, Ms Mason, Mrs Magee and Mrs Donnelly had not had an opportunity to meet due to other diary commitments.</p> <p>Mrs Magee joined the meeting.</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Update from Locality Planning Groups</b> Mrs Donnelly reported that the Locality Planning Groups were involved in reviewing the action plan, which is to be undertaken on a yearly basis and that work was proceeding in planning the stakeholder events before the end of this year.</p> <p>Mrs Magee advised of using the Hubs as a networking venue for youth provision. She reported that Youth Forum, who were being funded to run five geographical</p>

	<p>programmes in Fermanagh, were finding it a challenge due to the limited youth community infrastructure in that area. Mrs McDaid advised that Teenscene in Fermanagh could be a useful link for signposting young people. Mrs Magee advised of a gap in services in Fermanagh for Level 1 &amp; 2 services for families who have other children involved in Level 3 and 4 services, and reported that there had been a sudden increase in the number of young people in Fermanagh going into juvenile custody.</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Stakeholder Events</b></p> <p>Mrs Donnelly and Mrs Magee reported that stakeholders events were being planned for Derry, Omagh, Fermanagh and Limavady over the coming months. Mrs Magee advised that the Derry event would take place on 9 September 2013 which is Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Day, and also the date of the meeting of the Western Parents Reference Group, which will be incorporated into the stakeholder event. Mrs Magee advised that Mrs Way, Chief Executive of the Western Trust, had agreed to attend the stakeholder events. Mrs Magee requested members to advise her of any forthcoming events within their organisations that the stakeholders events could be aligned to.</p> <p>Ms Harley reported that a Youth Council was being established in September 2013. All members endorsed this development. Ms McGale enquired if young people with a learning disability could become involved and Ms Harley advised that all Section 75 groups would be included. Ms McGale agreed to speak further with Ms Harley. Mrs Magee suggested that Ms Harley contact Mrs Maxwell, Children’s Service Planning Information Manager, HSCB, to arrange for information on the Youth Council to be published on the CYPSP website.</p> <p>Ms Heaney joined the meeting.</p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Funding Themes – Update Reports</b></p> <p>Mrs McDaid thanked members who had participated in the three themed groups. Mr Conway, Ms Boyle and Ms Heaney advised on the priorities themes as follows:-</p> <p><u>Theme 1- Speech, Language and Communication Development</u>  To promote the importance of speech and language communication development in the bump-to-three period of a child’s growth though work with parents and those working with young children in the community and in close liaison with appropriate health professionals.</p> <p><u>Theme 2 – Participation in School</u></p> <p><u>Proposal one</u>  Children aged 7 - 11 years who are experiencing social, emotional and behavioural difficulties which impact on their ability to engage with school.</p> <p><u>Proposal two</u>  Young people aged 11 – 14 years who are experiencing social, emotional and behavioural difficulties which impact on their ability to engage with education and</p>

	<p>more formal supports.</p> <p>Ms Heaney reported that the WELB were rolling out counselling and mentoring in schools. Members acknowledged that schools were a good place to identify children in need of help. Ms Heaney advised that Ms Topping could provide more information on this development, but stated the importance of having both female and male mentors.</p> <p><u>Theme 3 – Children at Risk of Offending</u> Strengthening Families Programme – 16 week programme.</p> <p>Following discussion, members agreed that all four proposals were relevant and it was decided to begin work to prepare specifications – Mrs Donaghey to take forward. Mrs Geelan advised of additional administrative capacity to assist with these processes. Mr Conway agreed to contact Ms Mullan, PHA, to apprise her of the proposal for the Strengthening Families Programme.</p>
7	<p><b>Co-ordination of Funding for Early Intervention</b></p> <p>Mrs McDaid advised that Outcomes Groups and Regional Sub Group Chairs had requested that the co-ordination of funding for early intervention be placed on the agenda of CYPSP on 15 May 2013. The Chairs requested that the CYPSP consider a mechanism for ensuring that planned early intervention funding and agency priorities for investment by CYPSP members were identified in advance and that this information would be available to Outcomes Group Chairs. They said this would allow for collaboration and action to reduce duplication. They also requested that the CYPSP consider approaching non statutory funders to inform them of CYPSP priorities infrastructure to assist them in their planning and allocation of funding.</p> <p>Mrs McDaid reported that she was a member of the Child Development Board and £400,000 was available for training for early interventions with places being offered to statutory, community and voluntary sectors. Mr Conway said there was a need to get an overview of the range of parenting programmes available and to ensure that they were all aligned. He said the parenting programmes should be rolled out with PHA and then evaluated locally.</p>
8	<p><b>Barnardos Restructure to a Locality Led Model</b></p> <p>Mrs McDaid advising that Mr Downey had met recently with Ms Liz Kavanagh, Barnardo's and she had asked that members be apprised that Barnardo's was restructuring to a locality led model. Mrs McDaid said the group would look forward to working with Ms Kavanagh in her new role.</p> <p>Ms Linton and Mr Armstrong joined the meeting.</p>
	<p><b>Presentation – Developing Family Support Hubs</b></p> <p>Mrs McDaid welcomed Mr Pat Armstrong, Head of Service [Fostering &amp; Adoption, Early Years &amp; Family Support] to the meeting.</p>

Mr Armstrong gave a presentation on “Delivering Family Support Hubs”. He advised that the core objective of a Family Support Hub was to enhance awareness, communication, connectedness and, critically, the co-ordination of family support services in local areas with an emphasis on prevention and early intervention. He reported that the threshold criteria for early intervention was Level 2 of the NI Family Support Model [families not meeting the criteria for a statutory social work intervention]. He said that the Hubs had their own operational guidance and had linkages to Gateway Services with a “Step Up, Step Down” protocol and had their own governance arrangements via the Quality Improvement Project Board.

#### Hub Locations

- Ethos Family Support Hub – Shantallow area.
- Creggan Family Support Hub – Triax area.
- Waterside Family Support Hub.
- Strabane Family Support Hub – Strabane and District.
- Dry Arch Family Support Hub – Limavady/Dungiven.
- Omagh Family Support Hub – Omagh and District.
- Fermanagh Family Support Hub – Enniskillen and outer areas.

Mrs MacQueen advised that meetings were arranged with families wherever they wished to engage and that advertising of the Hubs had taken place at community fairs, although all acknowledged that there were capacity issues.

Mr Conway said Hubs identified the needs of families and can, therefore, inform the Outcomes Group as to where there are gaps in services. He advised that £1.5M per year was available from Delivering Social Change which equated to additional funding of £70-£80,000 for the Western Outcomes Group in addition to the recurrent £100,000.

Mrs McDaid thanked Mr Armstrong for his presentation. Mr Armstrong and Ms Harley withdrew from the meeting.

#### **Presentation – Early Intervention City**

Mr O’Kane gave a presentation on the Early Intervention City.

He reported that the Early Intervention Strategic Partnership had been established with key stakeholders from the community, voluntary and statutory sector, with an agreed focus and cross sectoral commitment. The EISP had merged with the Derry Locality Planning Group in September 2011. The following milestones were as follows:-

- Transitional, phased structure for Education Attainment and Family Support Pilot Programme delivery.
- UNICEF Child Rights Partner Programme in place.
- Locality Planning process re-invigorated.

Mr O’Kane advised that that there were five early intervention zones across the Derry

City Council area under the Social Investment Fund with the following programmes in place:-

- Confidence and Resilience.
- Speech and language and communication in pre school.
- Literacy, numeracy, confidence and self esteem.
- Capacity and professional development of staff working with children, young people and families.

Mr O’Kane advised of the following plans to address the attainment gap:-

- Aim: “Learning Communities” in five zones across the Derry City Council area.
- Home as the primary learning environment through family support and nurturing for 0 - 3 year olds.
- 10 year Early Intervention Programme supporting families, children, carers, educators and others in supportive learning environment.
- Focus on communication development as a bedrock of pre-literacy and numeracy forming the attachment with parents/care givers.

Agenda for next 18 months:-

- Consolidate EISP and communications function.
- Update/finalise Early Intervention Strategy and priority action plan.
- Specific actions being drawn up for Family Support, Literacy and Numeracy Programmes.
- Secure SIF investment through local coalition tender and animate same.
- Develop SIF concept through other avenues.
- Consolidation of mapped existing services, enablement of an indicators/performance management framework applicable to all and a “Derry Early Intervention Model”.

Mr Conway acknowledged the complex political agenda surrounding this work and members commended Mr O’Kane and his colleagues on the work achieved to date.

**9 Statistical Profile of Births Report, September 2012**

Members noted receipt of a report “Children’s Health and Northern Ireland – A Statistical Profile of Births using Data Drawn from the NI Child Health System, September 2012”. Mrs McDaid highlighted the main findings as follows:-

- There were 25,364 births to Northern Ireland residents in 2011.
- A clear difference in the age profile of mothers by deprivation, with 36% of all mothers aged less than 24 years of age being from the most deprived areas.
- A decrease in the number of teenage births.
- Approximately 91% of mothers are less than or equal to fourteen weeks gestation at the time of booking.
- 29% of mothers from the most deprived areas smoke, compared to 7% in the least deprived areas and 16% for Northern Ireland overall.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Approximately 48% of all mothers, at the time of booking, are considered pre-obese [29%] or obese [19%].</li> <li>➤ Mothers under 30 years of age had a higher percentage of births by emergency caesarean section [14%] than by elective caesarean section [9%], but this trend reverses when the mother is over 30 years of age when 20% of births are by elective caesarean section and 16% are by emergency caesarean section.</li> <li>➤ 32% of mothers from the most deprived areas are breastfeeding their babies at discharge [total and partial feeding] compared to 59% of mothers from the least deprived areas.</li> </ul>
10	<p><b>Seminar “Disseminating Evidence – What Works?” – 2 October 2013</b></p> <p>Mrs McDaid advised of a seminar being organised by Children in Northern Ireland, Centre for Effective Services and the Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership on “Disseminating Evidence – What Works?” on 2 October 2013 in the Long Gallery, Parliament Buildings from 10.30 am - 1.00 pm. She said that additional information would be shared with members when available.</p>
11	<p><b>CYPSP Think Family Sub Group</b></p> <p>Mrs McDaid reported that Mr Downey was enhancing linkages between the Women &amp; Children’s Directorate and the Adult Mental Health Directorate to ensure that both Directorates worked effectively together. Ms Boyle reported that Ms Mary Donaghey was the chair of a themed sub group on Think Family under the auspices of CYPSP and Ms Donaghey was also a member of the Outcomes Group Chairs and Regional Sub Group Chairs.</p>
12	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p><b>Participation Network</b></p> <p>Mrs McDaid advised that Ms Maria Herron had been in contact with the Trust regarding the consultation on the Safeguarding Board for NI and had raised the issue of inviting Participation Network to a future meeting to discuss the involvement of children and young people in the western area. Members agreed that this would be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Big Lottery</b></p> <p>Mrs McDaid advised that Ms Conway was unable to attend the meeting, but had requested that the Big Lottery call for applications for family support projects be discussed to see if there was any interest in a consortium of members making a bid. Following discussion, members agreed in principle, but decided that they would need to check if their own organisations would be submitting applications for funding.</p> <p><b>MENCAP</b></p> <p>Ms McGale advised of an all party group meeting on learning disability and planning for the future at the Long Gallery on 1 July 2013. Ms McGale advised that additional details were available on the MENCAP website.</p>

	<p><b>Making a Difference; Loving Our Lives [MAD LOL]</b>  Ms Heaney advised that the Youth Justice Agency were hosting “Making a Difference; Loving Our Lives [MAD LOL]” free showcasing event for young people on 4 July 2013 in St Columb’s Hall from 3.30 pm – 8.00 pm.</p> <p><b>Children with a Disability</b>  Mr Conway advised of funding of £350,000 for children with a disability which can be used for small grants, equipment, child care costs etc.</p> <p><b>Venue for Next Meeting</b>  Members agreed that the venue for the next meeting would be Strabane Enterprise Agency.</p>
13	<p><b>Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting</b>  21 August 2013 at 10.00 am in the Conference Room, Strabane Enterprise Agency.</p>