



CYPSP Children, Young People and Offending Sub-Group
Minutes of meeting held on 2nd May 2013
YJA Waring Street, Belfast

Present:

Michael Heaney	YJA (Chair)
Orlaith McGibbon	YJA
Yvonne Cooke	PSNI
Helen Dunn	Action for Children
Maurice Leeson	HSCB
Anne Marie McClure	Opportunity Youth
Angela Devlin	Extern
Koulla Yiasouma	Include Youth
Paul Thompson	PBNI
Linda Keating	PPS
Jim Wharton	YJA (minutes)

Apologies:

Paula Jack	YJA
Sinead Simpson	CSU
John Duffy	HSCB
Brendan Donaghy	NIHE
Suzanne Gowling	Belfast City Council
Lee Russell	PSNI
Sharon Beattie	SBNI
Philomena McDermott	WELB & SELB

Michael advised the group that Paula was not attending the meeting due to illness and as the vice-chair (Dave Weir) could not attend either, Michael would chair today's meeting.

Michael asked for a round of introductions.

Michael advised that Bob Ashford was not able to talk at the meeting today but that everyone present was invited to attend the seminar at 12.30 today at Stormont.

Michael advised that today's meeting would be slightly curtailed to allow people to attend the seminar if they chose to.

Michael suggested that today's agenda should also include discussion on ASBOs.

It was agreed that this be added to the agenda.

Declaration of Conflict of Interests:

None declared

Minutes of last meeting:

Helen advised that her apologies had not been recorded.

Yvonne asked for a discussion around the wording of the minutes of the last meeting in regard to ASBO's.

Michael informed the meeting of his conversation with Lee Russell and it was agreed that part of a sentence would be redacted.

Matters arising:

UNOCINI – PSNI

Maurice stated that this was on the agenda of the next Chairs Group meeting.

ACTION POINT: Maurice to update at the next CYPO meeting.

Lee to keep group informed of any developments within PSNI.

Mapping Exercise

Michael asked that any further input onto the Map of Young Person's Journey through the Justice System be forwarded to Jim.

Jim was asked to e-mail copies of the map to Yvonne, Linda, Helen and Angela.

ACTION POINT: Jim to e-mail copies of the map.

ASBOs:

Michael provided brief feedback on a sub-group meeting chaired by Sinead in response to the Youth Justice Review recommendation that ASBOs should

include a support package for children. This group is gathering further evidence but the initial consensus was that YJA could provide additional support (if their current support is not sufficient) for young people already involved in the criminal justice system and that the voluntary / community sector might provide it for those who are not. There was also a view that the focus should be on ABCs and ensuring that these provide the appropriate support in order to prevent ASBOs. Further meetings are planned. Orlaith stated that it was her intention to talk to Agency workers regarding the 6 young people who received ASBOs last year and were known to the YJA. There was discussion around the issue of support for young people on ASBOs and ABCs, both those young people who are known to the YJA and those who are not. Koulla stated her concerns regarding support systems becoming an “industry” around ASBOs which may result in an increase in their use. There was discussion around what support is currently available. It was suggested that there was no support specifically linked to ASBOs and support being in place was not a condition of granting an ASBO but that courts should look at this issue when considering issuing one. There was discussion around support for young people on ABCs potentially helping to prevent a subsequent ASBO. It was agreed that this issue be on the agenda for the next CYPO meeting when Sinead could feedback from the sub-group.

ACTION POINT: Sinead to feedback from sub-group at next meeting.
ACTION POINT: Orlaith to liaise with YJA workers re 6 young people who were subject to ASBOs last year and report her findings to the group.

Areas of Interest:

Michael stated that the Areas of Interest were those which had been agreed at a previous meeting (13th Dec 2012) and asked if anyone else wished to be included in any particular area. Michael also asked for discussion around how sub-groups would be structured, frequency of meetings, time limits and make up of sub-groups. There was discussion and agreement that ‘Transition from children’s services to adult services’ would become a key area and that the related issues of accommodation and relationships / identity would also be looked at by this group. It was agreed that either the CYPO member or a nominated person from their organisation could attend sub-groups when up and running. It was agreed that this could be revisited as and when necessary. Paul suggested that it would be helpful to foster links with the PSI strategic group. It was agreed that these sub-groups should be chaired by CYPO members. Yvonne stressed the need for representation from the private sector in the ETE sub-group. There was discussion around the terms of reference for the sub-groups and it was agreed that these must be linked to the Action Plan.

Maurice volunteered to draw up brief terms of reference for discussion at the next meeting.

ACTION POINT: Maurice to draw up brief terms of reference for discussion at the next meeting.

AOB:

Koulla raised a question regarding the start times of CYPO meetings. It was agreed that this be included for discussion at the next meeting.

Next meeting 13th June 2013 at 10.30 am – Waring Street, Belfast