



CYPSP Children, Young People and Offending Sub-Group
Minutes of meeting held on 13th March 2013
YJA Waring Street, Belfast

Present:

Paula Jack	YJA (Chair)
Franziska Hewitt	YJA
Michael Heaney	YJA
Lee Russell	PSNI
Dave Weir	NIACRO
Sinead Simpson	CSU/DOJ
Una Magee	Barnardos
Sharon Beattie	SBNI
Suzanne Gowling	Belfast City Council
Maurice Leeson	HSCB
John Duffy	HSCB
Anne Marie McClure	Opportunity Youth
Jim Wharton	YJA (minutes)

Apologies:

Yvonne Cooke	PSNI
Philomena McDermott	WELB / SELB
Tom Cassidy	WHSCCT
Linda Keating	PPS
Roisin Leckey	PBNI
Brendan Donaghy	NIHE
Koulla Yiasouma	Include Youth
Andrew Hawthorne	HSCB
Eithne McIlroy	PBNI
Helen Dunn	Action for Children

Paula welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for a round of introductions.

Declaration of Interests:

None declared

Minutes of last meeting:

Agreed by all

Actions arising:

UNOCINI – PSNI

Lee stated that this was part of the Review of PPU, that it will be looked at although not immediately, that UNOCINI is still being used in some areas but there is no consistent approach.

Discussion followed re: UNOCINI and the merits of a common assessment tool.

John Duffy stated that UNOCINI was a complex process driven tool which was intrusive for families and time consuming and not necessarily fit for purpose in all cases.

John suggested that a common assessment tool may become very long and complex and that it may be useful to have one assessment around the child as opposed to child / family / parent.

Sharon Beattie stated that all of these elements affect the child.

Michael Heaney suggested that it was not realistic to come up with a method of assessment which would suit everyone but that it was important to have a common set of shared information. Paula agreed, stating that young people were saying that they are being assessed too much and organisations should be focusing on information sharing.

Suzanne Gowling felt that this should be raised at the Chairs Group and stated that she would take input from this meeting to the Belfast Outcomes Group meeting 2nd week in April.

Sharon Beattie stated that she would also raise at the Safeguarding Board.

ACTION POINT: Lee to keep the sub-group updated re: UNOCINI

ACTION POINT: Paula and Maurice to take forward at Chairs Group and other CYPSP groups.

Trust and Education representation for CYPSP CYPO

Maurice stated that it had been agreed that each person could have an agreed substitute and that agreed substitutes should be agreed with the Chair in advance.

Courts and Tribunal Service – ASBOs

Franziska drew members' attention to documentation outlining information on ASBOs which had been supplied by Claire Campbell. Franziska stated that information relating to why ASBOs had been applied for was difficult to obtain but that Claire would access this manually and supply later.

There was discussion regarding the figures supplied by NICTS, the age of young people being given ASBOs and the process of awarding ASBOs. Suzanne stated her wish for ASB Forums to meet earlier and to be made more effective. Paula stated that more work was needed around this. Michael spoke about the issue of Young People's consent. Maurice spoke about Hub access and the need to adapt our guidance around informed consent for organisations who would like to refer to the Hub. It was agreed that Franziska's replacement (Orlaith McGibbon) should track 6 current ongoing cases to see if there is a pathway into the Hub.
ACTION POINT: Orlaith to bring update on reasons for ASBOs to next meeting when Claire Campbell supplies same.

Mapping Exercise

Paula stated that input had been received from some organisations and this had been added to the map, that there were still a few gaps but that a detailed map now exists. Paula asked that a further reminder be issued regarding outstanding input in order that this could be finalised.

Paula asked the group for their comments regarding the map.

There was discussion around input from Opportunity Youth in regard to 'no young person under the age of 18 going to Hydebank'. It was felt that this was not within our gift to make this happen and that Hydebank needed to remain a contingency option in the case of high risk young people, civil unrest and exceptional circumstances.

John Duffy stated the importance of ensuring that young people sent to Hydebank receive the same support as they would in the JJC.

It was agreed that this should be removed from the map.

Sinead referred to the inclusion of comments relating to 'children killed or injured on roads' and asked why this had been included.

It was agreed that this should be removed from the map.

Sharon asked about the inclusion of comment relating to 'young people reporting being a victim of crime' and suggested that this was included in another place.

It was agreed that this be kept in the map but relocated.

ACTION POINT: Jim to issue a further reminder to send input for the map.

Action Plan

Paula asked that members begin to think about what specific areas of the Action Plan relate to their areas of expertise and what areas they would like to be involved in. Paula stated that she would not be allocating specific areas unless it proved necessary to do so.

Michael reminded the group that a document detailing who is interested in particular areas already exists and that this could be circulated to members. It was agreed that this be done.

There was discussion around the creation of working groups to take forward specific identified actions.

ACTION POINT: All members to consider what specific areas of the Action Plan they would be interested in taking forward and to discuss at next meeting.

ACTION POINT: Jim to circulate document detailing interest in specific areas.

AOB:

Maurice drew members attention to an article to be included as an E-Zine and asked if members were happy with this. There were no objections.

Dave stated that a Justice Services Seminar would take place on 2nd May when Bob Ashford would be giving a lecture re: rehabilitation of offenders. Dave stated that it may be possible for Bob to come to our meeting or that we should consider attending the seminar after our meeting scheduled for the same day. Members expressed their interest in this. It was agreed that Dave would supply details to Jim who would then circulate to members.

ACTION POINT: Jim to circulate details of seminar to members when received from NIACRO.

Paula advised the group that Franziska Hewitt was leaving the Youth Justice Agency to take up a position with the Northern Trust.

Next meeting 2nd May 2013 at 10.30 am – Waring Street, Belfast.