

LGB&T Children and Young People's Sub Group

Notes of Meeting

7/8/13, Youth Action, Belfast

Attendees

Lee Kane, NIABF;; Gavin Boyd, Rainbow;; Andrew Hawthorne, HSCB/CYPSP;; Deidre McNamee, PHA; Maurice Leeson, HSCB/CYPSP

Apologies

Sharon Bingham, NHSCT; Mark Brown, Cara-Friend, Jill Trotter, BELB, Elizabeth Gilhooley, BHSCT, Hilary Johnston, PHA, Gail Neill, Youth Action; Amanda Stephens, Youthnet; Rosemary McAnerney, SHSCT; Gabrielle O'Neill, SEHSCT, Natalie Corbett, Rainbow; Nicola Dornan, SAIL;

Chair

Co-Chair Gavin Boyd chaired the meeting in the absence of Hilary Johnston.

Updates

Gavin updated the group on a recent meeting with John O'Dowd at which there was acknowledgement that the Department of Education (DE) were not delivering for LGB & T children and young people. There were a number of outcomes from this meeting as DE agreed to review: the absence of Sexual Orientation from the school curriculum, bullying in schools and the designation of Section 75 by October. It was also agreed that the Sexual Orientation Strategy would be reviewed by September.

Lee Kane updated the group on a meeting with Mary Potter which produced actions for the Northern Ireland Anti Bullying Forum (NIABF) including reviewing policies and practices in line with the Education and Libraries Order and a proposal that any research regarding bullying would come through NIABF.

The group worked through the potential actions circulated and resulting from previous meetings as below.

Possible actions for 2013-14

Proposed Action	Comments for consideration	Progress and actions (7/8/13)
<p>Sharing good practice from schools who are meeting, or close to meeting, section 75</p>	<p>High priority / achievable this year. Need to discuss who / how.</p>	<p>NIABF are proposing planning 2 events with each Education and Library Board on a consultative basis and this may be an opportunity to share good practice. This could lead to a regional event to share best practice across the region.</p> <p>Can we map good practice to each of the 5 ELBs and across integrated, primary and other post primary sectors?</p> <p>Is there one place where the good practice is written up? Do we need to develop the materials/presentations to take advantage of whatever events are on.</p> <p>Is it possible to use existing events for this work as there may be difficulties gathering together relevant people within a busy school calendar</p> <p>Action: Andrew to follow up with Jill Trotter- is a standalone event better or being part of existing events.</p>

<p>ACTION: Roll out of I-Matter to all schools re health and wellbeing. NSPCC taking this forward and will finalise in next few weeks. Link with this- check status in June meeting</p>	<p>Next meeting of the I matter group taking place in August. Hilary will be attending.</p> <p>Useful to establish links</p>	<p>I-Matters is replacing the former PEHAW process</p> <p>Part of their work is planning to put inserts into the homework diaries of schools regarding bullying and part of this regarding Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.</p> <p>Action: Deirdre to forward inserts to the group</p>
<p>Training for primary schools around transgender issues.</p>	<p>Suggestion this could be combined with the safeguarding agenda, which would guarantee the training would take place. Negotiation on this could begin this year.</p>	<p>Difficult issue as recognised that schools are particularly gendered but also that this is likely when gender identity issues will first arise.</p> <p>Hold for further discussion with Nicola Doran</p>
<p>Dissemination on the under 18 gender identity pathway to all GPs and to raise awareness within primary care on LGBT issues.</p>	<p>Understanding is that this has now been achieved, through the regional service run by Billie Hughes. It would be useful to also circulate to others eg educational welfare officers. This could happen quite easily and soon.</p> <p>RCGP have agreed the need for guidance and an education session is to be organised, could include the e learning programme. (Rosemary to update?)</p>	<p>PHA agreed funding to develop guidelines for LGB &T and currently the contract is in negotiation. Guidelines to be developed over the next year.</p> <p>Action Deirdre to invite RCGP to present at next meeting of the group</p>

<p>Raise awareness of the need to share GI information between primary and post primary schools.</p>	<p>Data protection issues would need to be considered.</p>	<p>Hold for discussion with wider group</p>
<p>Resource additional books for use in schools to raise awareness on LGBT issues.</p>	<p>Not high priority but group members should bear it in mind for “slippage” funding.</p>	<p>Arguably not the best use of resources. Books have been developed in England. May be better to talk to Libraries NI to inform them that these books are available especially to tie in with significant dates in the calendar such as anti-bullying, LGBT, mental health</p> <p>Action: Scope books in England and talk to Libraries NI</p>
<p>Literature on sexual orientation readily available in healthcare settings</p>	<p>To include workplaces. Group could undertake to identify the most relevant literature and current circulation lists.</p>	<p>PHA have developed a poster in partnership with the Equality leads from each HSC Trust to be distributed to all healthcare settings</p> <p>Idea is for the group to hold information on what is happening where and distribute it further</p> <p>Action: Information to be sent to Andrew for wider distribution</p>

<p>Need for a pathway for dealing with GI issues in schools.</p>	<p>High priority and could begin to be developed this year. One specific issue is that there will be no mixed controlled secondary schools in Belfast.</p>	<p>Action: Gavin to draft for next meeting</p> <p>What information is included in transition from Belfast Hospital Schools to mainstream education. Important to note that all transitions are important.</p>
<p>Promoting good health behaviour messages to young men</p>	<p>Perhaps not achievable this year? Need to give a bit more thought to what we mean by this?</p>	<p>Linked to action below- not just promoting but empowering</p> <p>No opportunity to meet unless on the scene</p> <p>This is ongoing work for Rainbow and requires extensive resource.</p> <p>Hold this- requires a bit more thought</p>
<p>Empowerment courses- targeted support- what's already available who puts them in place and are they monitored (personal development as well)</p>	<p>Should be linked to section 75 – need to give a bit more thought to what we mean.</p>	<p>Linked to above</p>
<p>E module for LGBT for HSC staff rolling out</p>	<p>Ongoing, should look at the possibility of rolling out to other workplaces. Could begin this process this year.</p>	<p>This is done, circulated to the group and ability to track uptake</p> <p>CYPSP to tweet and write e-zine regarding this</p>

<p>Mental Health and Suicide- Public Awareness. Last year there was an ad campaign on buses in partnership with FASA- can this be done again? Need a separate one for LGB and for T- how would one for T look?</p>	<p>Meet with the PHA communication team to look at representation of LGBT in campaigns etc generally? Could happen this year.</p>	<p>Action: Gavin to follow up to see how feasible this regarding cost</p>
<p>*Trans: Sticks and Stones Southern PCSP- a Tool for community officers of PSNI as they visit schools KEY- Feeding into existing PSNI work of community officers who visit school</p>	<p>This should be influenced to ensure it includes awareness raising and dangers of the internet. Need to think about how it could be taken forward.</p>	<p>Hold for Nicola</p>
<p>Need to work with schools on making the RSE curriculum inclusive.</p>	<p>Need to link with PHA sexual health team who commission much of the training.</p>	<p>RSE should be included in the statutory curriculum and reviewed to include LGB & T</p> <p>Based in Belfast HSCT and funded by PHA</p> <p>Action: Deirdre to invite to a future meeting</p>

<p>Health checks available in all FE colleges</p>	<p>Need to standardise – opportunity to have a good practice seminar for health clinics in FE sector. Could happen this year?</p>	<p>Linked with above re promoting good health behaviour messages</p> <p>Rainbow run testing clinics in some FE colleges</p> <p>Action: Deirdre to follow up</p> <p>Andrew to seek information from Rosemary McAnerney</p>
<p>Need for training transgender issues within sexual health services, to include primary care, social workers, CAHMS etc.</p>	<p>This should be taken forward through Trusts, could link with mandatory equality training and could be incorporated into induction. Discussion could begin this year?</p>	<p>Hold this but need to start thinking about a joined approach that covers both LGB & T</p>
<p>Need to raise awareness around homophobic bullying and hate crime</p>	<p>Link in with PSNI and their work in schools? Need to establish formal link with PSNI</p>	<p>Action: Formal letter to PSNI seeking representation.</p> <p>(Gavin Boyd to seek to identify potential rep)</p>

<p>Training for foster carers / social workers</p>	<p>This is already happening in SEHSCT, should look at how this could be rolled out (Gail)</p>	<p>This is a theme throughout.</p> <p>One role of the group could be as reference-collating the best practice for elsewhere and providing this expertise for others- what would this 'hub' look like.</p> <p>Action: Maurice to talk to HSCB commissioning lead in this area.</p>
<p>Need to look at support for young trans people who don't attend school</p>	<p>Time Out for Positive Steps (TOPS) programme, need to look at how this could be rolled out / sustained.</p>	<p>Covered in other identified areas above</p>

Dates of meetings for the rest of the year

The following dates were agreed and noted:

2nd October at 10am and 6th November at 10am.