



**Minute of Western Area Outcomes Group**  
**held on 25 June 2014**  
**Strabane Enterprise Agency**

**Present:** Mr Kieran Downey, Director of Women & Children's Services [Chair]  
 Mr Michael Dallat, NIHE  
 Ms Bernie Tierney, Children's Services Manager, Action for Children  
 Mr Paul Sweeney, Extern  
 Chief Inspector Andy Lemon, Strabane PSNI  
 Ms Colleen Heaney, Youth Justice Agency  
 Mrs Monica MacIntyre, Department of Social Development  
 Mrs Kate McDaid, Assistant Director [Health Care]  
 Ms Deirdre Mahon, Assistant Director of Safeguarding [Children]  
 Mrs Anne Hardy, Children's Services Planning Officer, HSCB  
 Ms Laura Rankin, HSCB  
 Mr Gerry Conway, Commissioning Lead, HSCB  
 Ms Muriel Bailey, Director of Helpline, Parenting NI  
 Ms Marie McGale, MENCAP  
 Ms Cathy Mullan, PHA

**In Attendance:** Ms Amanda McClean, Early Intervention Service Change Manager  
 Mrs Margaret Ferris, Assistant Business Services Manager, Western Trust  
 Ms Elaine Forrest, Personal Assistant, Western Trust

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Apologies</b>          Ms Nicola Topping, Education Officer, WELB          Ms Bronagh Donnelly, Action for Children          Mrs Priscilla Magee, Action for Children          Ms Helen Harley, Children &amp; Young People's Officer, Derry City Council</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Chairman's Business</b>          Mr Downey welcomed the following new members to the group and thanked them for contributing to the planning process for children:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ms Muriel Bailey, Director of Helpline, Parenting NI</li> <li>➤ Ms Bernie Tierney, Children's Services Manager, Action for Children</li> <li>➤ Mr Paul Sweeney, Manager, Extern</li> </ul>

He advised that Ms Marie McGale and Ms Brenda MacQueen would continue as members from the voluntary and community sector and informed members that he had sent a thank you letter on behalf of the group to the following members whose term of office had ceased:-

- Ms Orla Conway, Omagh Women's Aid
- Ms Maeve Linton, SureStart Manager
- Ms Clionagh Boyle, Senior Early Years Specialist

Mr Downey advised that there would be appropriate training offered to new members to inform them of structures, aims, networks etc. Mrs Hardy said it was likely that the training would be arranged at the end of the summer and she would contact members in due course.

### **Gaps in Membership**

Mr Downey advised that due to the change in membership, the post of Deputy Chairperson was now vacant. He requested representatives from the community and voluntary sector to collectively consider a nomination and to report back at the next meeting.

Mrs Hardy reported that there were currently three community and two BME membership places available. Following discussion, Ms Mahon agreed to consult with Women's Aid regarding a possible representative and Mr Dallat agreed to speak to Ms Linda Watson from the Tenants Scrutiny Panel. Mrs Hardy agreed to recirculate membership information so members could share with potential interested parties. Mr Conway said it was important to try to get a geographical spread for the outstanding membership places.

### **3 Presentation on Alcohol and Drug Services in the Western Trust**

Mr Downey welcomed Mr Richard Grant from the Alcohol and Drug Service of the Western Trust. Mr Grant distributed details of the range of services provided within Tiers 1 – 4 and leaflets on alcohol, drugs and hidden harm. He said he had forwarded a directory of services to Ms Forrest and this would be emailed to members.

Mr Grant advised that the Alcohol and Drug Service operated within Tier 3 and received a huge number of referrals, especially from Social Services. Mr Grant advised that there were 7 beds available at the Omagh Addiction Unit and the Trust could avail of 30 treatment episodes per year at Northlands and that the Community Addiction Teams ran clinics throughout the Trust. He advised that a member of staff was based in Altnagelvin Hospital and the South West Acute Hospital.

Mr Grant reported that there were two Hidden Harm Social Workers in the Trust - one based in Derry and one in Omagh and he acknowledged the good interface linkages with Child Care Social Work Teams. In response to a query from Ms Mahon, Mr Grant advised that Hidden Harm Social Workers could only undertake work with children, if their parent was a client of the Alcohol and Drug Service. He said

	<p>parental consent was required before work with children could commence and acknowledged that it was a limited service. Mr Grant endorsed the excellent training provided by DATP for staff and the community and voluntary sector regarding alcohol and drug issues. Ms Mullan encouraged members to avail of this free staff training as arrangements could change in the future when retendered.</p> <p>Ms Heaney enquired about the Community Detox Nurse. Mr Grant advised that this service was only available for adults. Ms Heaney advised that community workers were dealing with many young people with alcohol and drugs problems who needed an access route to available services. Members acknowledged that alcohol, legal highs and drugs were a major issue, not only for young people, but their parents, Social Services, PSNI and community groups. Chief Inspector Lemon confirmed that these issues were being taken forward by Policing and Community Safety Partnerships. He said many parents were worried about their children and early intervention was important and advised that the PSNI delivered programmes within schools. Members acknowledged that young people were difficult to engage with, but said it was important to also engage with parents. Mr Sweeney said mentoring programmes for young people would be very beneficial. Ms Tierney said there was a need to focus on harm reduction.</p> <p>Following discussion, it was agreed to organise a half day workshop in September/October 2014 to bring together key partnership agencies to share experiences, revisit interfaces and help shape future commissioning. Ms Mullan said she would raise this at the next meeting of the Western Drugs and Alcohol Co-ordination Team, chaired by Ms Yvonne McWhirter, and WDACT would facilitate the workshop. Mr Downey said this issue would be kept on the agenda of the Western Area Outcomes Group.</p> <p>Mr Downey thanked Mr Grant for his presentation and he withdrew from the meeting.</p>
4	<p><b>Notes of Previous Meeting</b></p> <p>All present confirmed that they had received a copy of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 February 2014 and they were a true and accurate record of the discussion that had taken place.</p>
5	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>Child Sexual Exploitation</b></p> <p>Mr Downey shared with members details of the SBNI's community campaign on Child Sexual Exploitation entitled "The More You Know, The More You See" which was launched on 24 June 2014 and asked members to disseminate the information within their organisations.</p> <p>Ms Mahon reported that the Trust had held a very successful Child Sexual Exploitation conference on 5 &amp; 6 March 2014. She advised that Professor Kathleen Marshall, Inquiry Lead into Child Sexual Exploitation in Northern</p>

Ireland, was due to report on her findings on 10 September 2014, and would make a number of recommendations.

#### **Outcomes Group Planning Day held on 30 April 2014**

Mr Downey thanked members for attending the planning day on 30 April 2014. Mrs Hardy circulated a draft report on the planning day to members and asked for any comments to be returned to her, so the final report could be presented at the next meeting for approval. Mrs Hardy advised that Mrs Valerie Maxwell would attend the next meeting to apprise members on the Information Mapping Tool.

#### **Contracts Update**

Mrs Ferris reported that the funding awards ranged from £1,000 to £3,800 and confirmed that a report detailing the successful allocations had been emailed to members. Mr Downey thanked Ms Mullan, PHA, for the additional Strengthening Families Programmes. Mrs Ferris advised that a Speech and Language Therapist had been appointed and would take up post on 1 July 2014. Mr Conway said it had been identified within work with Neighbourhood Renewal in the Limavady/Dungiven areas, that 70% of children had poor communication skills which would have a big impact on their school readiness.

Mr Downey thanked Mrs Ferris for undertaking this work in compliance with social procurement requirements and also thanked sub group members.

#### **7 Presentation on Dental Registrations Under 2 Years**

Mr Downey welcomed Mrs Quinn to the meeting to inform discussion on dental registrations for under two's.

Mrs Quinn said the Community Dental Service served the community by providing direct patient care and preventative programmes to people who, because of their special care needs, were unable to access appropriate dental services elsewhere.

Mrs Quinn detailed the percentage of dental registrations for 0 - 2 years in 2007 and 2013. The statistics identified an increase in dental registrations within the Trust, but Mrs Quinn said it was her opinion that most parents only began to think about registering their child with a Dentist when they started primary school. She said some Dentists only took on private work and others were unhappy about seeing very young children as they could be difficult to examine and appointments were often time consuming. The statistics demonstrated that there was noticeable increase in dental registrations for the 3 - 5 age group. Mrs Quinn said more engagement was needed with Dentists to encourage them to register young children. She advised that in cases of serious dental neglect in children, dental staff on occasions, made referrals to Social Services.

Mrs Quinn advised that via a range of programmes within the Trust such as Smile for Life, 321 Programme and Class Smiles, tooth brushing packs were distributed three times per year to children in schools and nursery groups and dental staff also offered

	<p>training to Health Visitors, SureStart groups etc. She said that dental staff tried to incorporate oral health messages alongside other training programmes to promote dental care throughout the Trust.</p> <p>Mrs Quinn said the main dental health messages were:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Reduce frequency of sugary snacks.</li> <li>➤ Brush daily with a fluoride toothpaste.</li> <li>➤ Register with a Dentist.</li> </ul> <p>Mr Downey said it was reassuring to hear the positive work being undertaken to promote oral health care within the Trust and thanked Mrs Quinn for attending.</p> <p>Mr Lemon withdrew from the meeting.</p>
6	<p><b>Update from Locality Planning Groups</b> Deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Children &amp; Young People's Directory</b> Deferred to the next meeting.</p>
9	<p><b>Community Planning</b> Members agreed it would be important for representatives of the group to meet with Chief Executives and Chief Officers of the newly formed Councils to establish connections and apprise Council personnel of the function and remit of the Outcomes Group, as community planning was now their responsibility. Mrs MacIntyre advised that DSD had arranged meetings with Chief Executives of the Councils. Ms Mahon suggested that contact be made with the Family Policy Unit at the DHSSPS to see if they had initiated contact with Councils. Mr Dallat advised of plans in the NIHE to align a new NIHE area with the Council boundaries.</p> <p>Ms Mullan advised of a Community Planning workshop being held on 8 July 2014 and agreed to forward the relevant details to Mr Downey.</p>
8	<p><b>Early Intervention Updates</b></p> <p><b>Early Intervention Transformation Programme</b> Ms McLean apprised members of the three year £30M Early Intervention Transformation Programme and detailed the following workstreams:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Equipping parents to give their children the best start in life.</li> <li>➤ Supporting families when problems arise before the need statutory involvement.</li> <li>➤ Positively address the impact of adversity on children.</li> </ul> <p>Ms McLean said the aim was to develop up to 25 Early Intervention Service Teams across the Province which would provide support to level two families where a single agency approach was not working. She said there should be a standard service</p>

	<p>model for supporting families in Northern Ireland. Discussion took place on the Trust's identified pilot site - Outer West, Bogside and Brandywell. Ms McLean undertook to check if the original area was confirmed and if it was possible to propose additional areas. It was agreed that time would be set aside at the next meeting to discuss additional sites should funding be available. Ms Mahon requested the criteria other Trusts had used to select their pilot sites.</p> <p>Mr Dallat, Mrs MacIntyre and Ms Bailey withdrew from the meeting.</p>
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Western Parents Reference Group Update</b>  As Ms Bailey had to leave the meeting, Ms Mahon reported on a briefing note Ms Bailey had prepared. Parenting NI had set up a pilot in Fermanagh for parents wishing to become involved in influencing change at a local level. There were 24 members on the group and they had met three times to date and would continue to meet on a monthly basis until September when the pilot would be reviewed. Mrs Hardy advised that the group now linked to the Locality Planning Group and the links were Mrs Herron from Parenting NI and Mrs Magee from the Locality Planning Group.</p>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>CYPSP Think Family Sub Group/Hidden Harm</b>  Ms Mullan distributed a draft regional Hidden Harm Action Action Plan and asked members to review the document and advise her of any comments relating to the West. She said when the regional action plan was finalised, she would share it with the Outcomes Group and a Western specific action plan would then be devised. She said a working group would be established with members from the Outcomes Group and the Western Drug and Alcohol Co-ordination Team. Ms Mahon and Ms McGale agreed to be members of the group, with Ms Mullan as chair.</p>
<b>12</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p><b>Information Mapping Tool Presentation</b>  Mrs Hardy advised that Ms Valerie Maxwell and Ms Shauneen Loughran were scheduled to attend the August meeting to give a presentation on the information mapping tool.</p> <p><b>Bushmills Locality Planning Group</b>  Mrs Hardy distributed copies of a Bushmills Young People's Education Charter which had been launched earlier this month and had been produced as a music rap and was available to view on YouTube.</p>
<b>13</b>	<p><b>Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting</b>  27 August 2014 at 10.00 am in the Conference Room, Strabane Enterprise Agency</p>