

A meeting of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership took place on Tuesday 3rd June 2014 at 2.00 pm in the Round Tower Suite, Antrim Civic Centre, Antrim

Present:

Please see attached document.

1. Arrival and Welcome

Ms Fionnuala McAndrew, interim Chief Executive chaired the meeting. Ms McAndrew thanked members for their attendance and welcomed them to the meeting. Roundtable introductions were carried out due to new members joining the group.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 7th February 2014

Members **AGREED** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th February 2014 as an accurate record of the meeting.

Mr Dave Wall stated that he is still in the process of carrying out his action from the previous meeting. He had agreed to forward member's further information concerning funding for community and voluntary sector organisations post 2016. Mr Wall said that this paper will be ready shortly and he will send it to Maurice Leeson for circulation.

3. Purpose of Today's Meeting

Ms McAndrew, advised members of the purposes of the meeting:

1. To consider the achievements to date and challenges going forward in the work of the Outcomes Groups.

2. To identify any work that needs to be done to facilitate the work of the Outcomes Group going forward.
3. To consider the achievements to date and challenges going forward in the work of the Locality Groups.
4. To identify any work that needs to be done to facilitate the work of the Locality Groups going forward.

Ms McAndrew also advised members of items for noting:

1. Information System Report card
2. Communications Report card
4. Matters Arising:
 - a. Update on HSC work relating to Social Clauses Paper (ML)

Mr Maurice Leeson provided an update on the on-going work relating to Social Clauses within HSC. The paper had been discussed at the previous meeting and was circulated with the meeting papers. Ms Marie Cavanagh advised that NICVA could be a possible resource to provide help with this matter.

Ms McAndrew reminded the group that there is a timescale which this work must be carried out in as the first draft will need to be presented at the next HSCB procurement meeting.

Mr Dave Wall stated that the concept of social value would be very helpful in this work as it supports an outcome focus. Ms McAndrew advised that there were representatives from the DHSSPS on the Social Clauses and Social Enterprises Group.

- b. Voluntary and Community Membership of CYPSP (ML)

Mr Leeson told members that a list of voluntary and community members was included in the pack which they received at the start of the meeting. The CYPSP governance states that the community places

should “spread across the five Outcome Group areas, in terms of where they cover” (section 2.7, p.83)

Mr Leeson referenced section 2.8 (p.83) states that “If gaps remain in the voluntary and community representation, CiNI will organise a process to seek and appoint co-optees, who will then serve the remainder of the year term in which they were appointed”.

Mr Leeson informed the group that gaps in membership would be filled through co-option in line with the governance rules for CYPSP.

c. Follow up to invitation from Mr Denis McMahon for further engagement with CYPSP (FMcA)

At the last CYPSP Mr Dennis McMahon issued an invitation for further engagement between CYPSP and the Delivering Social Change initiative in OFMDFM.

A number of meetings have occurred and a proposal is being considered that will see CYPSP assisting in the development of the new Children’s Strategy subject to ministerial approval.

This had been mentioned when OFMDFM officials gave evidence to the OFMDFM committee. “I (Margaret Rose McNaughton) have met representatives of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership. It is one part of the sector that will bring significant expertise to the development of any further strategy, so I want to involve it. Whether it is a co-designed process, whatever main options emerge from the consultation and however we take forward this document, it is crucial that they are involved”. (reference [Delivering Social Change for Children and Young People Consultation: Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister](#))

Margaret Rose McNaughton from OFMDFM has been invited to attend the next meeting of the Early Intervention subgroup to discuss how this engagement might work in practice.

A report of this discussion will be available to all members following the meeting.

Ms Koulla Yiasouma noted that it was very positive that OFMDFM were engaging with CYPSP on the development of the new children's strategy. She said that OFMDFM had to be mindful of the need to be inclusive of a wide range of stakeholders in respect of this strategy.

Ms McAndrew agreed with the point about inclusiveness and noted that across the CYPSP infrastructure there were a range of groups that reached out to vulnerable families.

Ms Jo Marley noted the importance of engaging with BME sector.

Ms Paula Jack noted that this approach was good for CYPSP and whatever help was needed should be offered.

d. Early Intervention Transformation Programme (DS)

Mr Leeson provided members with an update on the CYPSP engagement with the Early Intervention Transformation Programme.

Ms Dawn Shaw reported that at the last meeting there had been the initial conversation about linkage with Mr Jason White (DHSSPS). She confirmed that Jason White has been invited to the next meeting of the Early Intervention Subgroup to discuss the nature of this link and how it will work in practice.

A recommendation on the CYPSP role will come back to the CYPSP for endorsement.

ACTION: Ms Shaw will report back to the Partnership at the next meeting on the meeting with Mr White

5. Outcomes Groups Presentation and discussion by Marie Roulston, Chair of Northern Outcomes Group

Ms McAndrew introduced this item by stating that Outcomes Groups were one of the successes of the Partnership. She commended members for driving forward the agenda and engaging with the groups.

Ms M Roulston, in her capacity as Chair of Northern Outcomes Group, presented on the achievements of Outcomes Groups to date and challenges going forward in their work (Please see attached presentation).

Ms Roulston reminded the group that the main purpose of the outcomes groups is to carry out integrated planning and commissioning, with specific emphasis on sharing resources across agencies to improve outcomes for children.

The Chairs wanted to make a number of observations-

- a. To acknowledge the input of the members of the 5 Outcomes Groups.
- b. To acknowledge the need to build capacity at community level to engage with this process.
- c. To ask statutory organisations to re-commit to this process as their nominees engagement is critical.
- d. To note that the Outcomes Groups are currently refreshing their action plans
- e. To consider the support needs for the process. It had been originally envisaged that partners would contribute resources in terms of planning and commissioning expertise but this has not occurred.
- f. To recognise the importance of the stakeholder events in engaging with a wide range of organisations and the public. The events have generated a lot of positive publicity for the CYPSP.
- g. To note the challenge of drawing additional resources into the shared resources pool in order to deliver on the promise of integrated commissioning. We have not added to this pool apart from DSC funding. The issue of sustainability concerns Outcomes Groups in terms of early intervention services.
- h. To build better linkages with the regional subgroups.
- i. To build on participation practice.

- j. To get ready for the development of community planning and plan an engagement strategy.

On the conclusion of Ms Roulstons' presentation Ms F McAndrew thanked her and invited discussion from the floor.

Mr Kieran Downey commented on the hard work undertaken by members of the outcomes groups and their success in dealing with local issues in a way that was sympathetic to local cultures. He added that it is necessary to ensure Children's Services Planning is the 'only show in town' and everyone is in agreement to prove it works- this will give it more traction in cycle 2.

Ms Lesley Walker said that an important question to consider is have we really challenged ourselves to do things differently with the resources we already have or have we focussed on 'new money'? The importance of increasing the buy-in from membership is really an issue for us now. Ms Walker noted excellent input from statutory and voluntary members but noted challenges for the statutory sector in participation.

Ms Paula Jack agreed about membership and buy-in. She commented that for statutory organisations there are often competing demands on staff time with a range of commitments from, for example, PCSPs and Safeguarding Board. Ms Jack asked members if they felt enough is done, for example, to engage between the partnership and PCSP to ensure synergy and avoid duplication.

Mr Ronnie Armour stated that he was happy to take comments re collaboration with PCSP and CYPSP structures on board.

Mr Downey reported that over 1000 people attended the Western Trust Stakeholder event. One common message of feedback was received at each of these events- We do not need to see duplication of effort.

Mr Tony Rodgers agreed and stated that the challenge across partnerships is to be clear about their strategic intent and then to agree common issues and a common approach with others to avoid duplication.

Mr Downey said that it is important to free up resources by working differently but this was going to take time/ generational shift. He stated

that getting planning right is an important factor in delivering this and ensuring good communication across the partnership structures.

Ms McAndrew stated that better integration within the partnership structures has been on the agenda since its inception.

Ms McAndrew said that the theme of doing things differently with existing resources resonated strongly with the purpose of the partnership. She suggested that each Outcomes group could look at developing one model of integrated work over the course of the next year.

Ms Walker commented that she supported this idea but there are capacity issues in terms of support to the Outcomes Groups. There is a lot of working being directed to Outcomes Groups but there is not the time or additional resource to complete it.

Mr Jim Girvan suggesting looking the possibility of spreading work across a wider range of groups and organisations as a small number of people seem to be doing most of it.

Mr Leeson noted that the CYPSP already had three identified priorities- mental health and well-being, prevention of offending and education-and these should be used when considering integrated approaches.

Ms McClure agreed that the CYPSP should look at an initiative like this.

Mr Paul Yam stated that there is a need to continue to engage effectively with BME sector in taking work such as this forward.

Ms Maura Muldoon commented that on the theme of integration and non-duplication it was important to consider the impact of community planning. The Police are doing a lot of work on community planning and unless the partnership considers this then we could have the emergence of a parallel process.

ACTION- Each Outcomes group to model up one type of integrated service using existing resources using the three priorities already established by CYPSP.

6. Locality Planning Presentation and discussion by Ms Anne Hardy, Children's Services Planning Officer

Ms A Hardy, Children's Services Planning Officer, presented on the achievements to date and challenges going forward in work of the Locality Groups (Please see attached presentation).

Ms Hardy noted the following-

- a. There are now 27 Locality Groups and work is on-going to fill gaps in South eastern area
- b. Sustainability of the support team is an issue as some of the funding is time limited
- c. They are an important part of linking communities to services and focus on mobilising local resources
- d. Membership is drawn from frontline staff and inclusive of parents, children and young people.
- e. Local knowledge is an important resource to planning
- f. Challenge is to capture this qualitative information in a systematic way
- g. Holding a consistent model of outcomes based planning across the groups is very important
- h. Small amounts of funding to locality groups have made big differences
- i. Interface with community planning will be critical.

On the conclusion of Ms Hardy's presentation Ms F McAndrew thanked her and invited discussion from the floor.

Ms Pauline Leeson commented that CINI employ one Locality worker who services 5 (soon to be 6) groups. Is it important that her work is based on evidence and she depends on information from Valerie Maxwell's team. Ms Leeson said that there had been three very successful stakeholder events involving local politicians and parents. The South Armagh event in Mullaghbawn had 7 out of 11 primary school principals in attendance. These events have also allowed some good engagement with young people in area. These events should be the bedrock of the partnership.

Ms Valerie Maxwell added that a full suite of information is available from the information team to support locality planning e.g. mapping tool. This shows where emerging needs are and also monitors outcomes and

trends. An example was given of where poor Maths GCSE outcomes for young boys were identified in Armagh. The Outcomes group agreed some extra help and as a result the performance improved.

Mr Wall said that this had given the group a good sense of what if going on. However there needs to be more traction and flexibility of funding. First 'port of call' should be the councils as they are getting funding transferred from DSD. The DSD will handle policy in the future but not funding. the issue of flexibility in funding could be pushed into policy going forward.

Ms Clare Mangan stated that there are still too many groups and an unrealistic expectation that statutory organisations have sufficient staff to spread around all the planning groups that request their participation. In reality there is a significant capacity issue for statutory organisations. From an education point of view the Outcomes Groups should be where the decision are involved and education will, and do, support this. Decision makers cannot be freed to support planning at a locality level. Mandate at locality level needs to be considered.

Ms Jack agreed and raised the question of what level of staff should be attending locality meetings.

Ms Yiasouma acknowledged that there is a risk of duplication of work with other structures. The "statutory family" need to discuss this and look not just at CYPSP but across other structures where there are demands for their time.

Ms McAndrew stated maybe it would be important to reflect on purpose of locality groups for example their role function and the interface with other planning groups.

Ms McAndrew asked that a presentation be prepared for next time that would have a strong outcome focus-what has changed as a result of CYPSP. It could also look at where different structures 'shared' a group or delegated a function to someone else in order to avoid setting up new groups.

ACTION- An Outcomes Based Presentation will be carried out at next meeting for member's information.

Items for Noting:

a. Information System Report Card (VM)

Ms V Maxwell made members aware of the workshops which are currently being rolled out with the childcare partnership to develop an outcomes based system within Surestart.

Ms Maxwell also updated the group on the new Early Intervention Strategic Scan database for the website which is in the final stages of being uploaded. There are still a few changes to be made but it is working and has a record of all policies and legislation for early intervention.

b. Communications Report Card (AH)

Mr M Leeson provided an overview of the last communications report; he emphasized the importance of communicating what the CYPSP is about and the effectiveness of stakeholder events. Mr Leeson also reported that readers of the e-zine had declined however the usage of the website is increasing. Twitter has been enormously popular.

7. AOB

Civic Court Forum

8. Dates for 2014 Meetings

Dates for the next meetings will be circulated to members, the next two meetings will be held in October 2014 and February 2015.