



STRATEGIC INVOLVEMENT GROUP

Minutes

4th August 2021

3-5.30pm via Zoom

Attendees:

Chair

Christine McLaughlin, Assistant Director, WHSCT

Bronach McMonagle, Involvement Manager, WHSCT

WHSCT

Hazel Browne, Senior Accountant

Maire Boyle, Head of Service

Sean Hegarty, Non Executive Director

Leone Burns, Head of Contracting Services

Jonathan McGuigan, Local Involvement Facilitator

Deirdre Kelly, Local Involvement Facilitator

Julie McGinty, Involvement Business Manager

Service User/Carer

Gerard Devine, Carer – Strabane LIG

Diane Crozier, Carer – Omagh LIG

Gerry Craig, Carer – Derry LIG

Aimee Storey, Carer – Fermanagh LIG

Kay Armstrong, Carer – Fermanagh LIG

Brenda Aaroy, Independent Advocate (item 3)

No.		Action
1	<p><u>Apologies</u> Margaret Mulligan, Head of Service Gordon McKinley, Carer – Omagh LIG Sean Moynihan, WHSCT Business Manager Karen O'Brien, Director Adult Mental Health and Learning Disability</p> <p><u>Welcome and Introductions</u> Christine McLaughlin welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.</p>	
2	<p><u>Minutes of previous meeting</u> The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u> Representation from the Public Health Agency and the Health and Social Care Board to sit on the SIG has been sought. To date no one has been identified but this matter will continue to be followed up.</p>	<p>Christine and Julie will continue to seek representation from HSCB and PHA</p>
3	<p><u>Advocacy Presentation</u> Brenda Aaroy addressed the group on the topic of independent advocacy (see attached presentation). In response to questions, Brenda explained that this service is funded by the Trust but suggested that carers could use Direct Payments if they wished. Discussion took place regarding the independent advocates used by the Trust. Marie Boyle stressed that the role of the Social Workers is to advocate on behalf of the Service Users. In response to a proposal that all Service Users should have an independent advocate, Christine McLaughlin stated that some are capable of putting their own opinions forward. Brenda Aaroy suggested that advocates are needed at key points in the lives of Service Users such as when they are transitioning.</p>	 <p>Independent Advocacy For LDA.ppt</p>

4	<p><u>Involvement Business Manager's Update</u> Julie McGinty gave an update on various topics. See attached report for details.</p>	 Involvement Manager report to S
5	<p><u>Area Profile / Scoping</u> Julie McGinty gave a brief overview of the Area Profile / Scoping Report.</p> <p>This has been compiled in response to request made by the Carer reps on the LIG's and SIG. Discussion took place regarding the lack of day opportunities for Service Users in the Southern Sector of the Trust as highlighted in the report. Christine McLaughlin stated that negotiations are ongoing with the Now Project to provide day opportunities in the Omagh area. It was acknowledged that the production of this report will be helpful in terms of identifying gaps and opportunities.</p> <p>Julie reported to the group that the information in the Area Profile will be updated in response to queries (where we are able to get collect the information) and that the numbers are correct as of 31st July and will change on an ongoing basis. Julie has given the commitment to update on a yearly basis.</p>	 PPIAreaProfile(optio n2).pdf
	<p><u>WHSCT Finance Update</u> Hazel Browne tabled a high level summary of the expenditures incurred within Learning Disability. She stressed that the figures only relate to the services directly managed by the Learning Disability Directorate. A number of Carer members questioned the benefit of providing this information to the SIG members. Both Christine McLaughlin and Julie McGinty replied that this information was collated as requested by the group at the previous SIG meeting.</p>	<p>Margaret, Maire and Julie will meet to discuss mapping the patient journey.</p>

	<p>The group agreed that this information is so high level as to be difficult to interpret and the suggestion was made that it may be more beneficial to map the patient journey.</p> <p>Gerry Craig raised the issue of the underspend and asked can it be allocated to provide new premises for the day centres. Hazel Browne replied that revenue money cannot be used to purchase buildings. She gave an overview of the process whereby capital money (used to procure facilities) is obtained. It was agreed that Hazel Browne would give an update regarding the 3.2m Spending Plan at the next SIG meeting.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Local Issues</u></p> <p>The provision of Respite and short-breaks, bedded units, day opportunities and repair and improvement of existing buildings remain a priority for the LIGs.</p> <p>Sean Hegarty suggested that the group should focus on what is likely and achievable within a given timeframe and that we need to be realistic about the timeframe.</p> <p>Christine reassured the group that she is advocating for and representing the needs of the Western Trust at regional meetings however, cautioned that we need to accept that work taken forward is very much dictated by regional priorities and availability of capital and revenue money.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u> Evaluation of Involvement Model</p> <p>Julie McGinty proposed that it may be timely that an independent evaluation of the Hub and Spoke Model of Involvement within Learning Disability be undertaken to test the effectiveness of this particular Model of Involvement.</p>	<p>Julie will take forward the writing of a draft specification for Evaluation for input of LIG and SIG members.</p>



	<p>The group agreed that any evaluation of the process should be Independent.</p> <p>Christine McLaughlin advised that there are indications that other carer involvement processes, including the Regional Carers' Group, have recently agreed to a period of pause to take stock of their work.</p> <p>Regional Model for Learning Disability Christine McLaughlin informed the group that progress on the implementation of the Regional Model for Learning Disability has been delayed due to COVID. A consultation on the proposed model will be required but a timeline for this has not been decided upon yet.</p> <p>Rebuilding Plans Christine McLaughlin explained that quarterly targets for the rebuilding of services are provided to the DoH and for learning disability. These are particularly focused on attendance at day-care. Targets for rebuilding of services affected by COVID are driven by the Department of Health and the Health and Social Care Board. She stated that the Trust have exceeded predictions.</p> <p>There was discussion regarding a review which has been commissioned by the Public Health Agency regarding social distancing and infection control in day care, short breaks and transport settings. The PHA are taking this work forward and will involve service user and carer feedback, through a process managed by the Patient and Client Council. Details have been circulated and everyone is being encouraged to engage in giving views and feedback.</p>	
5	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p> <p>3rd November 3-5pm</p>	

