

**THE MENTAL HEALTH AND LEARNING DISABILITY REVIEW
(NORTHERN IRELAND)**

**FIFTHTEENTH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING,
TUESDAY 27TH APRIL 2004, AT LORNE, CRAIGAVAD**

Present:	Professor David Bamford [Chair] Dr Paschal McKeown Mr Patrick Convery Ms Marie Crossin Dr Fred Browne Dr Diana Patterson Rev Trevor Williams Mr Mark Timoney Ms Moira Davren Ms Eileen Sherrard Mr Roy Keenan	Professor Roy McClelland Mrs Siobhan Bogues Dr Oliver Shanks Master Brian Hall Mrs Mary O'Boyle Mr Colin Beck Mrs Maureen Ferris Mr Brendan Mullen Miss Joanne McDonald Mr Michael Kelly Miss Vikki Greenwood
Apologies:	Professor J Scott-Brown Professor Geoff Shepherd Mr Brian Dornan Dr John Hunter Det S/dent Andrew Bailey Mrs Marian Nicholas Professor Tony McGleenan Dr John Owens	Dr Raman Kapur Mrs Martha McClelland Mr Leslie Frew Mr Nevin Ringland Professor Alan Ferguson Mr Winston McCartney Mr Bill Halliday Mrs Maureen McCartney
In Attendance:	Mr Paul Roberts Miss Moira Scanlon	Ms Agnes Lunny

Welcome, Introduction and Apologies

1. Professor Bamford welcomed everyone to this fifteenth meeting of the Steering Committee. He particularly welcomed Colin Beck; Gerard Collins, Jennifer Holmes and Daphne Doran from the Care Standards Task Group; and Moira Scanlon, Agnes Lunny and Paul Roberts from the Learning Disability Committee who were attending for the presentation. He noted the apologies received.

Developing Care Standards for Regulated Services

2. Introducing this item, Professor Bamford reminded members that 3 papers (SC15, 16 and 17/04) on this work had been issued for information at the last meeting. However, members had felt that a presentation on the project would

be helpful. Since then, he, Siobhan Bogue, Agnes Lunny and Kieran Downey, had had a helpful meeting with the Task Group to discuss concerns.

3. Gerard Collins and Jennifer Holmes then gave members a presentation on their work. A copy of the powerpoint slides (SC 26/04) is attached.
4. In general discussion which followed, members raised various issues, including:
 - the definition of the services to be regulated, including those for under 12's;
 - the involvement of young people in developing standards which will affect them;
 - whether thought had been given to a multi-agency approach to develop standards;
 - the scope of the authority of the HPSSRIA and what relationships/protocols it would develop with other agencies and organisations, eg NIHE;
 - whether the HPSSRIA will be able to access confidential client records;
 - whether there will be specific standards on employment practices;
 - the interface between the Task Group and the Boards and Trusts; and
 - the involvement of nursing representation in the work.
5. In summing up, the Task Group members emphasised that their work can only relate to what is in the current Order. This was the start of a process, which would be reviewed. Colin Beck advised that a similar registration and inspection body had been in place in Scotland since last year, which was proving to be effective.
6. It was also recognised that it was important for the Task Group to see draft reports from the Review for comment. This would be arranged. Professor Bamford thanked the Team for the helpful presentation and responses.

Chairman's Communications

7. Professor Bamford reported on a wide range of on-going Review work. Key forthcoming events in May were summarised in Paper SC 21/04, which had been issued to members. This included his meetings schedule in April, on which he specifically mentioned:
 - the start of meetings with the health spokespersons of the local political parties;
 - the ongoing one-to-one meetings with Convenors;
 - the successful "Workforce" event organised by the Learning Disability Committee on 21st April; and
 - the excellent Carers' meeting on 3rd April, at which Convenors gave presentations on their Committees' work.

8. Advising that there were no Convenors' reports at this meeting, he acknowledged the time and commitment they and their committees and sub-group were devoting to the Review. Thought was being given to prospective timescales for Committees' reports to be ready for consultation, and at the last Convenors' meeting, the following preliminary timescales had emerged:

- Adult Mental Health – June 2004
- Learning Disability – September 2004
- Mental Health Promotion – Autumn 2004
- Social Justice and Citizenship – December 2004
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health – January 2005
- Alcohol and Substance Misuse – December 2004.

The remainder would hopefully be ready by Summer 2005.

9. Convenors had also discussed organisational structures, and a further paper on this would come to the Committee in due course.

10. Finally, Professor Bamford reported that presentations were now arranged with DSD (30th April) and DEL (19th May). The Review Teams for these were being finalised. It was important that learning disability was represented at these and further meetings with Departments.

Note of the Last Meeting

11. This was agreed as drafted.

Matters Arising

12. There were no matters arising which were not covered by the agenda.

(i) Workforce Issues: DHSSPS Exercise

13. Professor Bamford reported that a meeting had been arranged with David Bingham on 19th May to discuss the Review's concerns on the DHSSPS exercise. He noted a related National Occupational Standards Workshop which was being hosted by DHSSPS that same day (27th) but it was unclear whether any of the Review's representatives were attending.

14. Maureen Ferris advised of a conference, "Developing the Mental Health Workforce", on Wednesday 2nd June in London which she could attend. Members agreed that she should go and feedback details to the Committee.

(ii) **Mental Health Users' and Carers' Groups**

15. Marie Crossin reported on progress with the Carers' Group. It had most recently met on Saturday 24th April and would meet again on 1st May. The main focus continued to be the Adult Mental Health report: Professor McClelland had agreed to join the meetings, as necessary. She asked that minutes of Committee meetings be sent to her for members, and that the notes of the Carers' meetings be sent to Convenors. This would be arranged.
16. In Martha McClelland's absence, Professor Bamford advised that the Users' Group was continuing to meet, with a further date arranged for 12th May, when the draft Adult Mental Health report was on the agenda.

(iii) **Information Requirements**

17. No replies had yet been received to the joint Review/DHSSPS letter of 22 March. The deadline was 30th April.
18. Diana Patterson advised on a possible research project within her Committee, details on which had been sent to the Support Team. It centred on an exploration of Substance Misuse in people with a learning disability and a decision was needed in May, for the work to be carried out over the summer. Brendan Mullan cautioned on the possible difficulty of double counting having occurred in the information for 2002-03.

Review's First Draft Report (Papers SC 22, 23 and 24/04)

19. Professor McClelland introduced this draft report. It comprised:
 - a preface and a background section, including;
 - over-arching human rights to equality principles; and
 - the Adult Mental Health Committee's report.

He explained that the preface was intended to be a short, scene-setting piece, and that the background chapter would cover the wider work of the Review, its organisation, some general issues, and the (tabled) human rights and equality principles.

20. Members suggested the following drafting changes to the preface:
 - Refer to "Sir John MacDermott";
 - Mention also the 1985 document, "Mental Health: The Way Forward".
21. Comment was also made that the preface should look at the long-term view on services, with a reference to the Review's future vision. Professor Bamford agreed to consider these points in redrafting.

22. Turning to the human rights and equality principles, members felt that while there was a legal requirement on these issues, they were also “the right thing to do”. The paper should reflect this. It was also suggested that it could be an annex, with key points included in the background section. Professor McClelland advised that this was a first draft, which the Human Rights to Equality Sub Group had not cleared: it would be discussed further with Bill Halliday and Christine Eames.
23. Members then considered the adult mental health section. Chapters 7 and 8 were being worked on and would be available in a revised fuller document for the May meeting. Professor McClelland explained that chapter 1 had been substantially redrafted since the last time the Committee had seen it. Significantly now, it included 10 Standards to which all the report’s recommendation would be referenced.
24. Members welcomed these, which, they thought, as amended, could also be used by some other Committees. Comment was made that there was not sufficient emphasis given to innovative practice.
25. On chapter 2, Professor McClelland advised that this was incomplete and that some more work was needed to strengthen the arguments used. Work on this was ongoing.
26. Chapter 3 had also been substantially redrafted, with a wider introduction and several good practice examples included. Members welcomed this redraft and suggested:
 - paragraph 3.15: social work should be mentioned;
 - paragraphs 3.17 and 3.18: to be redrafted and combined.

Diana Patterson agreed to consult with Graeme McDonald on the redrafting of this chapter, and would use some of its content for her report.

27. Professor McClelland then explained that the original chapter 4 had now been split into chapters 4 and 5 in this current version. Significant reworking had also been done on the subject material. Members queried on paragraph 4.7 whether the 300,000 population size needed to have a rationale added.
28. Time did not permit any further discussion on the document, but members were asked to **submit written comments and/or drafting changes to Maureen McCartney/Roy Keenan, and copied to Professor McClelland, by 7th May.** This would enable the Adult Mental Health Committee to consider these at its meeting on 24th May.

29. Professor Bamford thanked members for their helpful comments. Revision of the document was continuing. This would take into account some other key general comments made, eg:

- provision of an executive summary;
- the availability of accessible formats, in line with the Equality obligations;
- the list of stakeholder interests who would receive the consultation document; and
- user and carer input to the document.

Organisational Arrangements in Support of People with a Learning Disability (Paper SC 25/04)

30. Time did not permit discussion of this paper, which was on the agenda for the next the Learning Disability Committee meeting. Professor Bamford said that he had found it to be an excellent document, which he asked members to consider. It was relevant to the Adult Mental Health Report and its contents would be included in a revised “Structures Paper” which would be brought back to the Committee in the near future.

Date of Next Meeting

31. **Tuesday 25th May, 10.00am in the Canal Court Hotel, Newry**

Any other Business

32. Moira Davren advised that she would shortly be writing to the Convenors, inviting them to attend a 2-day stakeholder consultation (8th and 9th June) which her Committee was arranging. This was a key event for the Committee’s work and if Convenors could attend for part of it, or provide a written input, this would be very helpful.