

**MENTAL HEALTH & LEARNING DISABILITY REVIEW  
(NORTHERN IRELAND)**

**36<sup>th</sup> STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, TUESDAY 28 MARCH 2006  
AT THE STORMONT HOTEL, BELFAST AT 10.00am**

**Present:**

Professor Roy McClelland  
Dr Oliver Shanks  
Mr Glenn Houston  
DI Gary Mullan  
Dr Diana Patterson  
Mrs Marie Crossin  
Professor Alan Ferguson  
Mr Roy Keenan  
Mr Michael Kelly

Dr Paschal McKeown  
Master Brian Hall  
Mrs Mary O'Boyle  
Mr Nevin Ringland  
Ms Moira Davren  
Mr Martin Daly  
Ms Eileen Sherrard  
Mr Sean Ferrin  
Miss Vikki Greenwood

**Apologies:**

Mrs Maureen Ferris  
Rev Trevor Williams  
Professor Geoff Shepherd  
Mr Brian Dornan  
Miss Joanne McDonald  
Dr Fred Browne  
Mr Bill Halliday  
Mr Mark Timoney  
Mrs Martha McClelland

Mrs Siobhan Bogues  
Dr David Cameron  
Mr Brendan Mullen  
Mr Pat Convery  
Mr Colin Beck  
Mr Leslie Frew  
Dr John Hunter  
Mrs Marion Nicholas  
Dr John Owens

**Welcome, Introduction and Apologies**

1. Professor McClelland welcomed everyone to this 36th meeting of the Committee. He noted the apologies received.

**Chairman's Communications**

**(i) Paper SC 24/06**

2. Professor McClelland drew members' attention to this paper, which detailed the meetings/events he had attended in March and forthcoming Review events and meetings in April.

3. He especially mentioned the meeting arranged for Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April with local political representatives. Names suggested to attend from the Review were Martin Daly, Marie Crossin and Siobhan Bogues (or a nominee) from the learning disability perspective. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the current stage of the Review and how the local political parties could help with its implementation. As a forerunner to this meeting, Professor McClelland was meeting Carmel Hanna (SDLP) the next day.

**(ii) Romanian After Care Project**

4. Members were advised that over £700 had been donated to date. The fund would remain open until the end of the financial year (5 April), after which the total would be taken to the project.

**(iii) Name of the Review and Chair (Paper SC 25/06)**

5. Paper SC 25/06 was tabled. It was a reply from Shaun Woodward, in which he agreed to the proposed change of name for the Review to “The Bamford Review of Mental Health and Learning Disability (Northern Ireland)” as well as conveying his wish that Professor McClelland formally take on the role of Chair for the remainder of the project.

**Note of the Last Meeting**

6. This was agreed as drafted, with the exception of some minor changes: para 25 should read “Brendan Mullen” and para 29 should read “Brian Hall”. These changes would be made.

**Matters Arising**

**(i) Communication and Influencing Strategy**

7. Professor McClelland reported that he had been involved with media interviews from both radio (Stephen Nolan show) and television (Tara Mills, BBC).
8. A meeting was being arranged with the Minister, as well as with the DHSSPS Permanent Secretary. The Review will also make a presentation to the Permanent Secretaries’ Group on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2006.

**(ii) Workforce Issues**

9. The DHSSPS revised paper from Joyce Cairns was imminent. Professor McClelland had spoken to Leslie Frew about the urgent need for a workforce strategy group, which was the key to implementation.

**(iii) Draft ASD Report**

10. Professor McClelland reminded members of the background to the work to finish this report. This largely centred around the wording of the

recommendations in sections 5 and 6 about the management and organisation of services for people (adults and children) with ASD. The Review's thinking was that there should be a tri-partite approach to this at provider level, involving the children, adult mental health and learning disability programmes of care, together with a named person who would have overall responsibility for the development and co-ordination of ASD services.

11. Members considered that it would be more important to highlight the role of commissioning arrangements, which determined how services would be delivered. Proper training for staff was also seen as crucial. Professor McClelland agreed to re-draft the relevant recommendations in light of these comments and bring this revised version to the April Convenors' and Steering Committee meetings.
12. Members also agreed that the commissioning point was relevant to the draft Strategic Priorities report. Diana Patterson would provide a draft paragraph for Professor McClelland to incorporate into his continuing work on that paper.

#### **(iv) Experts By Experience/Carers Reference Groups' Meeting, 11 March**

13. These Groups held a joint meeting on 11 March. A report on the outcome will be presented to the April Steering Committee meeting. Professor McClelland advised that he was willing to arrange a meeting with users and carers on any particular issues arising.

#### **DHSSPS Implementation Plans**

14. Professor McClelland reported on the Department's current thinking on implementation plans, following a meeting with Leslie Frew on 24<sup>th</sup> March. DHSSPS was trying to bring as much of the Review's insights into these proposals as possible and was considering a public announcement of its proposals as soon as feasible. A joint event with the Review was a possibility.
15. Members welcomed this, but urged that any joint event had to be at the time when all of the Review's reports were in the public domain, either as published documents or reports out for consultation, which was not likely to be before June. Members also felt strongly that the Review itself should host a "conclusion" conference probably after the summer.
16. Professor McClelland thanked members for their views, which he would relay back to Leslie Frew.

#### **Draft Strategic Priorities Report (Paper SC 26/06)**

17. Discussion then moved to the tabled draft paper, SC 26/06, prepared by Siobhan Bogues, on strategic priorities for implementing Equal Lives, including performance measures and targets.

18. Members were generally content with this paper, but stressed that for presentational purposes it should not feature as a separate document until **after** any public announcement by the DHSSPS on its implementation plans. Discussion on the detail of the work to implement Equal Lives could then be taken forward with the Department's officials. Professor McClelland agreed to write to Siobhan Bogues about the meeting's conclusion; with Dr Oliver Shanks filling in any detail with her, as required.
19. Other work would, meantime, also continue separately on the Strategic Priorities report, for discussion at the April Convenors' meeting

### **Dementia and Mental Health Issues of Older People – Recommendations (Paper SC 22/06)**

20. Nevin Ringland introduced a list of 44 recommendations, condensed from the original report. He advised that many of them were part of current practice, but still needed to be said. Members of the Working Committee had been asked to comment on them by Friday 31 March 2006.
21. The Working Committee was also looking at making them SMART for implementation and costing purposes, and it was suggested that performance indicators should be added.
22. It was hoped to have the consultation report for the April Steering Committee meeting.

### **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Report (Paper SC 23/06)**

23. Moira Davren said that this report now contained the amendments made as a result of the consultation process. Clarity on some of the recommendations had been sought by some of the consultees and those concerned have been re-worded. The Needs and Resources Committee have put together costings.
24. There were still some minor amendments, such as on Annex 4, to be made before going to print. An Executive Summary would also now be prepared.
25. Professor McClelland congratulated her and her committee for their work in such a crucial area.

### **Reports from other Working Committees**

#### **Legal Issues**

26. Brian Hall reported that he was working on his draft report. He hoped to present a first draft at the next meeting.

### **Forensic Services**

27. The report had been further amended and was about to be issued for consultation.

### **Mental Health Promotion**

28. Some final changes were being added. It would then be sent to the printers. It was hoped to hold the launch on 5 May 2006.

### **Needs and Resources**

29. The Committee continued to meet monthly. Dr Fred Browne had made a useful presentation to the last meeting on Forensic Services.

### **Social Justice and Citizenship**

30. The Human Rights and Equality Group's report would be issued for consultation within the next week. Professor McClelland will contact Leslie Frew about the position on his Promoting Social Inclusion report.

### **Date of next meetings**

31. The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 25 April at 10.00am**. Venue to be advised later.
32. The next Convenors' meeting will be on Thursday 13 April at 2.00am in Annex 6, Castle Buildings. Leslie Frew and Maureen McCartney will be invited to attend.