

**THE MENTAL HEALTH AND LEARNING DISABILITY REVIEW  
(NORTHERN IRELAND)  
TWENTY EIGHTH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY, 26 JULY 2005 AT 10.00am in the PARK AVENUE HOTEL,  
BELFAST**

**Present:**

Professor Roy McClelland (Chairing)	Dr Oliver Shanks
Professor David Bamford	Mrs Mary O'Boyle
Master Brian Hall	Mrs Marie Crossin
Dr Paschal McKeown	Ms Eileen Sherrard
Mrs Maureen Ferris	Mr Patrick Convery
Mr Brendan Mullen	Mr Bill Halliday
Dr Diana Patterson	Rev Trevor Williams
Mr Glenn Houston	Mr Leslie Frew
Professor Alan Ferguson	Mrs Maureen McCartney
Mr Roy Keenan	Mr Michael Kelly

**Apologies:**

Dr Fred Browne	Mr Mark Timoney
Professor Geoff Shepherd	Mr Martin Daly
Dr John Owens	Mr Brian Dornan
Mrs Martha McClelland	Ms Moira Davren
Mrs Siobhan Bagues	Mr Nevin Ringland
Mr Colin Beck	Miss Joanne McDonald
Dr David Cameron	Mrs Marion Nicholas
Dr John Hunter	DCI David Wallace

**In Attendance:**

Tom Teggart & Sean Ferrin (Item 4)  
Judith Lee (Item 5)

**Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

- 1 Professor McClelland welcomed everyone to the twenty eighth meeting of the Committee. He noted the apologies received.
- 2 He also welcomed Tom Teggart and Sean Ferrin for the Child and Adolescent Presentation.
- 3 He advised members that the Department of Health has now appointed Andrew McCormick as its new Permanent Secretary to replace Clive Gowdy who has retired. He will be invited to attend a future Committee meeting.

**Chairman's Communication (paper SC 42/05)**

- 4 Members were reminded that this paper was issued for information.

**ASD letter from Norma Evans, Chief Executive Homefirst Trust (paper SC 44/05)**

- 5 Professor McClelland tabled a letter dated 28 June 2005 from Norma Evans in response to the letter dated 18 April 2005 which was issued to stakeholders.
- 6 Members discussed the issues raised in the letter and agreed that no programme of care is an ideal choice, but that it is important that some programme has lead responsibility in dealing with this client group. While currently much of the emphasis is on children with ASD, in the long run there will be more need emerging among adults with ASD.
- 7 It was suggested that a care management system needs to be developed. This should include pathways, shared working and responsibilities and to ensure delivery of a seamless service.
- 8 Tom Teggart pointed out that since the Child and Adolescent Working Committee is recommending that CAMHS sits within Children's Services, then children with ASD who are in contact with CAMHS will fall within Children's Services.
- 9 Professors McClelland and Bamford and Eileen Sherrard will look again at the Steering Committee paper.

**Letter from Dr Fred Browne (paper SC 45/05)**

- 10 This letter was tabled for members to offer advice on the request from Dr Browne to propose Dr Cathal Cassidy, incoming Chair of the NI Section of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, as a member of the Committee.
- 11 Members discussed the request and felt that it should be rejected. Dr Browne was appointed because of his expertise, not as Chair of the NI Section of the College.
- 12 They felt that the current Steering Committee was large enough, had wide-ranging expertise and that no particular group or body should have individual representation. They noted that if one professional body was invited, then all others would also need to be invited. Members felt that a robust consultation process is in place and there is plenty of opportunity to submit comments etc. on the Review's reports.
- 13 Professor Bamford will respond to Dr Browne's letter on behalf of the Committee and advise him of its decision.

**Letter from Shaun Woodward, Minister of Health (paper SC 46/05)**

- 14 The Adult Mental Health Strategic Framework report was sent to the Minister and he has now responded. Members commented that Boards and Trusts have been informed that resources have been allocated and it was up to them to implement reforms. It will be an uphill task to find additional investment on behalf of the Review's recommendations in light of Minister's comments.
- 15 Professor McClelland noted that the various changes in Ministerial responsibility since the start of the Review have not helped. He advised that an early meeting is being sought.

**Letter from Jacqueline Carey (paper SC 47/05)**

- 16 Members were asked to consider a request by Jacqueline Carey, Experts by Experience Group, to attend the Steering Committee in place of Martha McClelland due to her current unavailability. This was agreed and she will be advised accordingly.

**Note of Last Meeting (paper SC 36/05)**

- 17 The note of the last meeting was agreed apart from a change to the paragraph 6, which should now read; "Members confirmed their decision, as in Steering Committee report on ASD, not to....."

**Matters Arising**

**Communication and Influencing Strategy**

- 18 Professor Bamford informed members that the group had met and developed a few items. A meeting is being arranged with Sam Simpson and he has been sent some key issues that should be developed.
- 19 Professor McClelland advised that he has been in contact with Dot Kirby, BBC Health correspondent and he will further develop this, especially on the Strategic Framework document.
- 20 Members felt that as the Review was independent, then it can make its own decisions on how to progress. Finance is our first priority and it needs to be realistic and kept creditable.

**Consultation Report – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Committee (CAMH) (papers SC 37/05 and 38/05)**

- 21 Professor McClelland welcomed Tom Teggart to the meeting and asked him to present the CAMH report. He thanked Professor McClelland and invited Maureen Ferris to begin the presentation. She apologised for Moira Davren's absence as she was in London at a RCN meeting.
- 22 She presented an overview of each chapter. The report contains 44 recommendations and has a vision covering the next 15 years.

- 23 Members had experienced difficulties in receiving the Report by e-mail, so were unable to fully comment. It was agreed that more discussion would be needed when everyone had a chance to study the report in detail, so it will be included on the agenda for the August meeting.
- 24 Members came up with several comments and these will be addressed at a meeting of some of the CAMH group to be held next week.
- 25 Glenn Houston informed members that this document would be difficult to cost due to the way it was written. Maureen Ferris agreed to liaise with Adrian Walsh, EHSSB, who is on the Needs and Resources Committee, to look at and try to resolve the problem.
- 26 Other comments included changing the word “Trust” and replace it by ‘provider’ while the use of a population size should be considered in conjunction with a large provider unit. More detail in relation to Four Tier model in respect of size and staffing numbers is required. Maureen Ferris said she would discuss these matters with Professor Sue Bailey.
- 27 Chapter 5.27 looks at Suicide and Self Harm and it was thought that the statement in second sentence “nearly always” should be reconsidered.
- 28 Members were informed that a new Suicide Task Force, chaired by Colm Donaghy, Chief Executive, SHSSB has been established and this was one area that needs to be given due weight in the report. There are interface issues such as suicide and ASD that have to be included in this as well as other Working Committee reports.

**Mental Health Promotion Committee (paper SC 39/05)**

- 29 Professor McClelland welcomed Judith Lee and Alan Ferguson to the meeting to consider the latest draft from the Mental Health Promotion Working Committee. He informed members that he, David Bamford, Maureen McCartney and Roy Keenan had had a couple of meetings with them and their comments have been taken on board. A summary of changes and amendments subsequent to April 2005 Steering Committee meeting was tabled for information.
- 30 As with the CAMH Report, problems over receiving it by e-mail had been experienced by members so were unable to fully comment on the revised report.
- 31 Members were asked for comments and suggestions which will be incorporated into the version which will be issued for consultation at the end of August 2005.
- 32 Specific changes were requested to para 2.2, 1st para to have “supporting parents” moved to the beginning and in para 3.1.1, have “Promoting Parenting Skills” moved to the start of that section. It was also requested that in Appendix V, the names of staff be removed.

- 33 Cross-referencing and interface issues were discussed. Alan Ferguson advised that he had met with Colm Donaghy, Chief Executive SHSSB, who has been appointed to chair a new Suicide Task Force. It was considered essential that the report was cross-referenced to the CAMH report. Overlap areas should be covered and consideration given to building in coping aspects especially in the area of young people.
- 34 Appendix 8 deals with Economics and Alan Ferguson will liaise with Lynn Friedli and the Sainsbury Centre to look again at the costings.
- 35 Recommendations are listed in chapter 5 while key issues have been identified in Appendix 7. Though ethnic minorities are mentioned in chapter 3 they are only mentioned in appendix 7 and don't feature in the recommendations.
- 36 The siting of the Regional Mental Health Promotion Directorate needs to be highlighted as being sited in the Mental Health area of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.
- 37 A meeting will be arranged within the next two weeks to pick up members' comments. Members were asked to call or contact Alan Ferguson directly.
- 38 Alan Ferguson advised that he hopes to have the report ready by the end of August to issue for consultation, with responses by the end of October.
- 39 He also informed members that he had drawn up a circulation list and would also consider setting up a series of meetings with stakeholders etc to discuss the report.

#### **Draft Strategic Priorities Report (Paper SC 40/05)**

- 40 Professor McClelland introduced this paper by saying that it is very much a draft and work is still in progress and it is hoped to have a further/final draft for discussion and approval at the August meeting. It will be discussed further at a progress meeting with Leslie Frew to be held after this meeting.

The following is a list of points made by members:

- Broader vision of the role of the Review to be included at the beginning of the report
- Lack of flavour of "Equal Lives" from the Learning Disability section; feel that something is missing (Pascal McKeown will talk to Siobhan Bogues)
- Resettlement issue. Long term funding needs to be obtained and sustained. Planning cycle for resettlement of people from long-stay hospitals.
- Needs-led, more flexible, shorter timescale, longer funding and bridging finance to manage transition to community-based services.
- Written like a medical model
- Para 3, support for families and carers needs to be addressed
- Para 7, Social Inclusion, interdepartmental working needs to be mentioned
- Para 9, Special Needs, include multi-needs group

- Para 10, Implementation, include figures used in Professor Bamford's letter of December 2004 to Mr Pearson
- Para 11, Societal Mental Health, the first paragraph "promote the ..... all of society." Needs to be rewritten using more understandable wording.
- Vision paragraph should be strengthened and elaborated i.e. what do we want, what workforce and legislation is needed, the health promotion aspect as well as service development.

## **Reports from Other Working Committees**

### **Social Justice and Citizenship**

- 41 Bill Halliday advised that both sub groups were pulling together their reports. It was hoped that these would be agreed by August and presented to the September Steering Committee meeting.

### **Alcohol and Substance Misuse**

- 42 The draft report has been issued for consultation and there has been early feedback from the Mental Health Carers' group. They have identified a problem over the dual diagnosis interface with Adult Mental Health. Professor McClelland will liaise with Dr Patterson over this issue.

### **Legal Issues**

- 43 Master Hall reported that a meeting of the full Working Committee has been arranged for Thursday 11 August 2005.

### **Needs and Resources**

- 44 Glenn Houston informed members that the group were currently liaising with Dr Patterson on costing her report.

### **Forensic Services**

- 45 The Learning Disability issue is currently being worked on with no meetings currently planned.

### **Learning Disability**

- 46 The final report is currently with the printers.

### **Dementia and Mental Health Issues of Older People**

- 47 The next meeting will be held in August. Kate Thompson, Ian Sutherland & Nevin Ringland are meeting shortly and Professors Bamford & McClelland agreed to attend.

### **Adult Mental Health**

- 48 The report has been widely distributed.

**Date of Next Meeting**

49 The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 30 August 2005 at 10.00am at a venue to be confirmed. Paper SC 41/05 lists the proposed dates of meetings up to Christmas 2005.

**Any Other Business**

50 Maureen Ferris raised the issue of the new GP contacts and their current operational problems. Master Hall advised that this was service provision issue and that if they wanted his office to supply advice they would need to formally make proposals to him. He also advised that Ms Hilary Wells has been appointed as his successor as Master of Care and Protection.