

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

**40th STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, TUESDAY 29 AUGUST 2006, IN
THE STORMONT HOTEL, BELFAST, AT 10.00AM**

Present:

Professor Roy McClelland	Mr Nevin Ringland
Mrs Maureen Ferris	Mr Bill Halliday
Mrs Mary O'Boyle	Ms Eileen Sherrard
Professor Alan Ferguson	Dr Oliver Shanks
Dr Diana Patterson	Dr David Cameron
Rev Trevor Williams	Dr Fred Browne
Mrs Martha McClelland	Mr Martin Daly
Ms Moira Davren	Dr May McCann
Mr Roy Keenan	Mr Sean Ferrin
Mr Michael Kelly	Miss Vikki Greenwood

In Attendance:

Mrs Karen Campbell	Mrs Helen Kirkpatrick
Mr Seamus Logan	

Apologies:

Mr Glenn Houston	Master Brian Hall
Mr Patrick Convery	Dr Paschal McKeown
Mr Brian Dornan	Mr Colin Beck
Mr Leslie Frew	Mrs Siobhan Bogues
Professor Geoff Shepherd	Mrs Marie Crossin
DI Gary Mullen	Mr Brendan Mullen
Miss Joanne McDonald	Dr John Owens

Welcome and Introduction

1. Professor McClelland welcomed everyone to the 40th meeting of the Committee, especially May McCann, who was deputising for Marie Crossin; Helen Kirkpatrick from the Carers' Group; and Karen Campbell and Seamus Logan from the Needs and Resources Committee.

Chairman's Communications

(i) Autistic Spectrum Disorder Correspondence

2. Professor McClelland sought the Committee's views on letters (which were tabled) from the Mental Health Commission and Autism (NI) on the Review's ASD report. He referred to his previous correspondence with Autism (NI) as background to their latest letter and undertook to discuss a response with Eileen Sherrard.
3. On the Commission's letter, several of the recommendations concerned implementation matters, which were for DHSSPS. Members agreed, however, that the reply should welcome the Commission's support for the ASD report; stress that the Review supported the early development of a strategy on ASD based on existing local and national surveys, but that it urged providers also to undertake proper needs assessments in their areas; and explain that these were regarded as two separate and parallel pieces of work, not mutually exclusive exercises. The reply would also point out that the Strategic Priorities report would specify the early need for the development and co-ordination of ASD services.
4. Copies of both replies would be issued to members for the next meeting.

(ii) Engagements

5. Members were asked to note paper **SC 50/06**, which detailed the Chairman's meetings in August and forthcoming Review meetings and events in September.

Experts by Experience and Carers' Joint Report (SC 46/06)

6. Professor McClelland welcomed Helen Kirkpatrick to present the Experts by Experience and Carers' joint report. She explained that it was a revised, final version following discussions after their meeting in July and recently with Dr McGinnity. She then summarised the main points, stressing that the implementation process was the crux as to how to take the paper's recommendations forward. There had to be a partnership approach to this, with the current Reference Groups continuing to input to the work.
7. Members endorsed this report and suggested some minor amendments to finalise it. These included:

Section 1.1: should be 4 years.

Section 7: 2nd bullet point – this should be changed in light of legal issues work.

Section 4: the paragraph on Dual Diagnosis needed to be revised.

More emphasis was needed on the increased need for “therapeutic approaches”. An acknowledgement of the difficulties of building up user and care networks in areas such as Forensic Services.

8. As regards the way ahead, Helen Kirkpatrick would finalise the paper and it would then go, endorsed by the Steering Committee, to DHSSPS. It would also be placed on the Review’s website. The issues it discussed would be picked up at the concluding conference.

Presentation on Resources by the Needs and Resources Committee.

9. Professor McClelland welcomed Karen Campbell (DHSSPS) and Seamus Logan (NHSSB), both of whom were members of the Needs and Resources Committee, to make their presentation. This, as detailed in **SC 51/06**, covered:
 - the background to the committee’s work and the scenario for HPSS expenditure;
 - comparative UK spending on mental health and learning disability;
 - the impact of need;
 - costs from the Review;
 - possible investment options; and
 - recommendations and the way ahead.
10. They stressed that work to develop a Review paper on all of this was ongoing and that the costs quoted were still provisional. Nevertheless, members welcomed the clear and helpful way in which the material and the issues had been presented and looked forward to seeing the finished paper in due course. This should also include coverage of the costs of **not** providing the services.

Workforce and Training Issues Paper (SC 47/06)

11. Professor McClelland introduced this paper which, he said, further developed the document prepared by Joyce Cairns in DHSSPS. Leslie Frew had agreed that the Review should do this, to give the Department its “best shot” at the detail. In addition, Professor McClelland had asked Adrian Walsh from the Needs and Resources Committee to try and identify workforce numbers from the costings work they had already completed on reports. These figures would feature in the proposed annex 2 to the paper.
12. Members welcomed this paper, although some were concerned that the “partnership” approach to this project seemed to have been superseded. The Review’s members on that project would now look at this revised paper and “flesh it out” as best they could, including showing current deficits in the agreed established posts. The Support Team would arrange a meeting of the group for this purpose. Bernadette Hamilton would be asked to join it, to cover the social work perspective.

Strategic Priorities Report (Paper SC 48/06)

13. Professor McClelland referred members to this paper. It was a shorter version of the original (on which finalisation work continued) and its aim was to present the key messages from the Review to a wider readership. It could be used for forthcoming meetings with Departments and at the concluding conference.
14. Members endorsed the approach of the paper and suggested a few minor changes to the workforce section, to cover recruitment issues and current deficits. Professor McClelland welcomed these comments and requested members to submit any others to the Support Team.

DHSSPS Implementation Plans

15. Professor McClelland advised that the Minister had written to his colleagues in other Departments setting out plans for an inter-departmental task force, chaired by the proposed new Director, to oversee implementation.

Concluding Conference and Policy Makers' Workshops (Paper SC 49/06)

16. Professor McClelland referred members to this paper, which was a revised programme for the conference. It tried to take account of members' comments on the original version. The aim was for a shorter and more sharply - focused event, giving due prominence to input from Users and Carers. A planning group of members, and including Sam Simpson who would handle the publicity, had been formed and was meeting for the first time that afternoon. Members' continuing comments and suggestions on the programme etc were welcome. It would be an agenda item for the September Convenors' meeting and further discussion was planned at the next Steering Committee, when proposals were further developed.
17. Further thought would also be given to the timing and format of the workshops/seminars for Departments.

Reports from Working Committees

Dementia and Mental Health Issues of Older People

18. The report had been issued for consultation with a response deadline of 29 September. It had also been posted on the Review's website.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health

19. The report had been published at the start of the month. The CAMHS Committee were very happy with the work Sam Simpson had done in arranging publicity.

Legal Issues

20. A drafting group had been formed to produce the committee's report. It was meeting again on 31 August 2006. Interface issues were being looked at and a meeting had already been held with the Office of Law Reform, while a meeting with criminal justice representative was being arranged. It was hoped that a draft would be ready for the next Steering Committee meeting.

Social Justice and Citizenship

21. The Promoting Social Inclusion report had been circulated within that group for final clearance before being issued for consultation. The Human Rights and Equality report was being edited following the group's last drafting meeting and it was hoped to have it published in October 2006.

Forensic Services

22. Final typographical changes were being made to this report, prior to publishing in October 2006.

Date of next meeting

23. The next meeting had been arranged for **Tuesday 26 September 2006 at 10.00am**. The venue would be advised at a later date.