

Professional in Practice Partnership

Wednesday 23 February 2022, 10.00 a.m.

Via Zoom Call

Confirmed Minutes

Attendance:

Catherine McPhillips	Chair	Board
Roslyn Dougherty		Board
Jane Lindsay		External Assessor
Christine Hunter		Board
Emma McGuinness		UU obo Denise MacDermott
Gillian McAuley		Extern
Kathryn Carmichael		NHSCT
Anne Campbell		QUB
Joan Byers		WHSCT obo Stephen McLaughlin
Eileen McKay		BHSCT
Adrian Nugent		EANI
Catherine Sweeney		PBNI

In Attendance:

Marian O'Rourke	Interim Director of Regulation and Standards
Catherine Maguire	Interim Head of Workforce Development
Audrey Cusick	PiP Data Manager
Sharon McAteer	Professional Adviser
Gillian McAuley	Professional Adviser
Mandy Cowden	Professional Adviser
Audrey Roulston	QUB
Nicola Lewis	Minute Taker

Apologies:

Ciaran Traynor	CiNi
Pauline Leeson	CiNi
Francesca Leyden	SHSCT
Theresa Fallon	NIGALA
Elaine Somerville	SEHSCT
Martina Jordan	BASW
Stephen McLaughlin	WHSCT

		Action
1.	Welcome	

1.1	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting via Zoom and provided an update on changes to the committee membership which now includes Theresa Fallon as representative from Northern Ireland Guardian Ad Litem Agency (NIGALA).	
2.	Declaration of Interest	
	The Chair asked for conflicts of interest. None were noted.	
3.	Chair's Business	
3.1	<u>Learning Zone</u> The chair confirmed that the amendments to the Learning Zone in relation to the Professional in Practice Guidance had been presented to the board and were well received.	
4.	Minutes of Previous Meeting / Matters Arising	
4.1	The minutes from November were agreed as a true and accurate record.	
4.2	<u>Research Methods Course Numbers</u> Sharon shared a summary of outcomes over the last five years for the Research Methods Programme (all modules), which showed the numbers as being steady and consistent. However Sharon confirmed that work still needs to be completed to promote and encourage an increase in uptake of the programme. Sharon stated that it was also important to maximise the opportunities to review, utilise and disseminate research undertaken via the PiP Framework. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the Regional Social Work and Social Care Research strategy which was renewed last year to build a research culture and network and look at gaps in research and related issues. A central repository was suggested that would be accessible to all sectors and settings. It was noted that work is currently underway by Anne McGlade to build a research community under the strategy. Marian highlighted the need for the research strategy to come to the partnership for consideration and to engage to ensure that the links are made and strategic priorities are aligned. Anne McGlade will be invited to attend the next meeting of the PiP Partnership Committee.	Chair

Agency Staff PiP Arrangements

Catherine gave an update on the meeting held in January to plan engagement with employment agencies to help them understand their responsibilities as employees in relation to AYE and attainment of 2 PiP Requirements to maintain registration. The Council has been advised to delay engagement until the commissioning and contracting departments in HSC Trusts have agreed a specification in relation to what is required for the provision of services.

Mandy and Sharon are currently completing a paper setting out responsibilities in terms of AYE and 2 PiP Requirements that can be used to inform the specification.

Elaine will report updates on the progress of the specification.

Partnership Membership - HSC Leadership Centre / Education Authority

Sharon gave a brief update on the efforts to date to engage with Diane Taylor in the Leadership Centre to gain a nominee.

Theresa Fallon will join from NIGALA and has completed her induction.

Adrian Nugent will continue to attend on behalf of EANI.

Single Marking Proposal

Sharon provided an update on the sub group which was convened to consider the single marking proposal from UU. The first meeting of the group took place before Christmas and members are currently completing a piece of work in advance of the next meeting to look at implications for all partners concerned.

The next meeting is scheduled for the 03 March 2022.

This item will be kept on the agenda for further updates.

Meetings with Partners

Marian confirmed that dates are scheduled to meet with Directors and Assistant Directors in HSC Trusts, and all employing partners.

Quality Assurance - Governance Manual Update

Sharon provided a brief update on work to create a Governance Manual for quality assurance and governance processes within the PiP Framework. This is scheduled to be completed within this

Chair

	business year.	
5.	Palliative Care Programme Statement of Intent	
5.1	<p>Audrey Roulston joined the meeting to present the Statement of Intent for a new programme on Palliative Care which will comprise six modules for PG Diploma and three for PG Certificate planned to commence in 2023. The programme will be an online international course with seven DoH funded places for social workers available in the first three years, with a view to evaluation and recurring funding to be made available.</p> <p>Members provided feedback. It was agreed that the programme is innovative and that the online and international aspects will aid the sustainability of the future of the programme.</p> <p>Jane highlighted the need for consideration as to how the students will be supported due to the nature of course and the fact that this will be taught remotely.</p> <p>Eileen highlighted the role of Trusts in supporting another PiP approved programme and advised that this is likely to be something that the Approval Panel will want further information on before making a decision to approve.</p> <p>Marian welcomed the programme coming for approval and noted the amount of work that had gone into the planning.</p> <p>The partnership approved the Statement of Intent.</p> <p>The programme will be brought to the next Approval Panel on 13 April 2022 for consideration.</p>	
6.	Workforce	
6.1	<p>Marian highlighted the importance of recognising current workforce pressures and to give space to partners to share their experience and how this impacts on the PiP Framework.</p> <p>A lengthy discussion took place highlighting issues faced such as capacity, recruitment and retention, pay and conditions, limited student placements, and mitigations and incentives being put in place to address these where possible.</p> <p>It was suggested that while opportunities in the PIP framework strengthens the resilience of staff, there is a need to look at how things can be done differently to enable staff to engage and develop, for example, bite- sized courses rather than larger programmes.</p>	

	<p>Adrian noted issues of pay disparity in the voluntary and education sectors. He highlighted the ongoing strike action by Social Workers in the Education Authority in relation to pay parity which leads to difficulty in providing professional service and training and development of staff. He stated that this may result in having to limit the offer of student's placements for the coming year and next year.</p> <p>Adrian also provided an update on a meeting which took place with the Education Authority and others looking at Social Work in schools models in the UK.</p> <p>Adrian will share the presentation in relation to this.</p> <p>Marian referenced the Reform of Adult Social Care consultation and the Children's Services review and the Social Care Council's plans to engage and respond to these as. Marian confirmed that the Implementation Board of the Social Work Workforce review is due to be set up to be established.</p> <p>This item will remain on agenda as matters arising to allow members who sit on groups outside this partnership to feedback on developments.</p>	<p>Adrian</p> <p>Chair</p>
7.	PiP 2 Requirement Report	
7.1	<p>Mandy shared a PowerPoint on the Power BI statistics for Mandatory Two Requirements.</p> <p>This included figures for;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Two Requirements Started ● Two Requirements Satisfied ● Two Requirements not satisfied ● Two Requirements Extensions ● Two Requirements Time Analysis <p>Audrey Cusick highlighted that the issues faced with missing employer information is due to registrants not inputting these details during registration, but that work will be carried out to make changes to the mandatory fields within the application.</p>	
8	Board Priorities for Corporate Plan	
8.1	<p>Marian shared a presentation on the Board priorities for the Corporate plan.</p> <p>This included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Our Vision, Ambition and Values ● Strategic Priorities ● Delivering the Strategy ● Questions for Consideration 	

	<p>A copy of the presentation will be shared with the minutes.</p> <p>Marian asked that if anyone has any comments or questions that they forward them to her.</p>	
9.	Any Other Business	
	<p>It was noted that this will be the last meeting of the Partnership for Sharon McAteer, Francesca Leyden and Kathryn Carmichael. Marian thanked them for their contribution to the Partnership and wished them well in their future plans.</p> <p>It was confirmed that Gillian McAuley will take over from Sharon on the Partnership Committee.</p>	
12.	Dates of Future Meetings	
12.1	Wednesday, 08 June 2022	

Signed: Catherine McPhillips, Chair of Partnership Committee

Catherine McPhillips

Date: 08 June 2022

Action List - 23 February 2022

Item	Owner	Action	Status
4.2	Chair	Anne McGlade to be invited to the next meeting of the PiP Partnership Committee.	Open
4.2	Chair	Single Marking Proposal to be kept on agenda for further updates.	Open
5.1	Sharon	Continue to seek nominations for membership from EANI, HSC Leadership Centre and NIGALA.	Open
6.1	Adrian	Adrian to share presentation for meeting with representatives around Social Work in Schools in UK.	Open
6.1	Chair	Workforce to be kept on agenda for further updates from all members.	Open

Action List - 25 November 2021

Item	Owner	Action	Status
4.2	Sharon	Meeting with Research Methods Programme Co-Ordinator to review PiP Requirements and advise Approval Panel of plan of action	Closed
4.2	Sharon	Information on data and trends of course numbers to be brought to next PiP Partnership Committee meeting.	Closed
5.1	Sharon	Continue to seek nominations for membership from EANI, HSC Leadership Centre and NIGALA.	Ongoing
6.1	Catherine	Small working group to be formed in new year to look at meeting with employment agencies and what this should look like, and when.	Ongoing
7.1	Nicola	Workforce to be added to agenda as a standing item	Ongoing

Item	Owner	Action	Status
8.1	Sharon	Small working group to be formed to gather more information on partner requirements of Single Marking proposal for Approval Panel.	Ongoing
	Joan & Denise	Chair of IPD Management Board to revise timescales for December marking schedule with Programme Co-Ordinator. in writing to Joan for decision.	Closed
10.1	Marian & Catherine	Visits to partners in new year to be arranged	Closed
	Sharon	Review of Quality Assurance process to be reported to February 2022 meeting	Ongoing

