

Leaders in Social Care Partnership
10am Thursday 23rd March 2023
Via Teams
Unconfirmed Minutes

In Attendance

Anne O'Reilly (AO'R)	Chair (Board Member, Social Care Council)
Patricia Higgins (PH)	Social Care Council
Sarah Browne (SB)	Board Member, Social Care Council
Marian O'Rourke (MO'R)	Social Care Council
Declan McAllister (DMcA)	Social Care Council
Paul Rooney (PR)	Social Care Council
Rita Lewtas (RL)	Social Care Council
Denise Magill (DM)	Triangle Housing
Dory Kidd (DK)	Harmony
Ryan Williams (RW)	Connected Health
Elaine Armstrong (EA)	Cedar Foundation
Pauline Shepherd (PS)	Independent Health and Care Providers
Agnes Lunny (AL)	Positive Futures
Izabela Olczak (IO)	Belfast Central Mission
Clodagh O'Brien (CO'B)	Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Kirsten Hewitt (KH)	Simon Community
Kieran McAteer (KMCA)	South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust
OBO Fiona McClean	
Brian Moylan (BM)	Social Care Council (Note taker)

Apologies

Leslie-Anne Newton	ARC
JP Watson	Domestic Care NI
Alison Simpson	Extra Care
Jayne Wright	Mindwise
Jenny Johnston	Southern Health and Social Care Trust
Fiona McClean	South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

Item	Agenda	Action
1.	Welcome and Apologies	
1.1	The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and noted apologies as above.	
2.	Minutes from Previous Meeting	
2.1	The minutes of the previous meeting on Tuesday 18 th January 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record.	
3.	Matters Arising	
3.1	Service user participation	
3.2	AO'R advised the group that the Participation Partnership within the Social Care Council is still open for volunteers to join and asked the group if they have any nominations they could put forward to get in contact with Mandy Cowden, Professional Adviser Mandy.Cowden@nisc.hscni.net	
3.3	SB thanked AL for nominating Ronnie to be involved in the group and advised that he is a great addition to the Partnership.	
4.	Presentation: Social Care Council update on social care data and intelligence	
4.1	DMcA provided a presentation to the group on the Data and about Social Care, which the Council currently holds and provided a demonstration of the new Power BI system.	
4.2	DMcA asked the Partnership to consider the following questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Would the Partnership be content that the data presented could be shared more widely, and if so with whom? 2. For Employers- are there any "Commercial in confidence issues?" 3. Would the Partnership be content to resurrect the Data and Intelligence subgroup to focus on the area of Workforce Intelligence? 	
4.3	KH asked if it would be possible for DMcA to share this information with each employer to view the data and DMcA advised this he will share the link to this dashboard with the group.	
4.4	AO'R agreed that the time is right for the Data Subgroup to recommence and suggested that HSC Directors of Adult Social Care be included in this approach.	
	Action: Declan to share the link for the dashboard to the group so employers can view the analytics, Declan will also ask for nominees to join the data subgroup when doing so.	DMcA

5.	Strategic priorities update – Social Care Collaborative Forum	
5.1	<p>PH informed the group that Peter Toogood, Deputy Secretary, Social Services Policy Group (DoH), is forming a Social Work Collaborative Forum in which Patricia will sit as a Co-Chair. PH advised that this will be the first time that the sector will be in a position to work collaboratively and to influence change and transformation of social care.</p> <p>PH advised that the then establishment of the Forum demonstrates a commitment on the part of both the Department of Health and the Social Care Council to raise the visibility and voice of social care within the HSC transformation agenda.</p>	
5.2	PH informed the group that Anne O'Reilly will also sit on this Forum as Chair of the Leaders in Social Care Partnership.	
5.3	PH advised that Peter Toogood has taken the actions agreed at the rapid action workshop, facilitated by NICON, to create a draft action plan that the Forum will begin to work on.	
5.4	PH informed the group that within this Forum Data and Intelligence will be one of the workstreams and advised that this is vital going forward.	
5.5	AL raised some concerns over the membership of the forum and suggested that the voluntary sector is poorly represented at present in this group.	
5.6	PH stated her understanding that this matter had been raised with DoH and they would be engaging with ARC on the matter. PH will also raise Agnes's concern.	
6.	Social Care Campaign	
6.1	RL provided an update on the subgroup and the focus of the work of the group.	
6.2	RL advised that there have been two podcast ideas that have come from the Leaders in Social Care group and these will now be developed further with the subgroup to have them ready for publication in late spring.	
6.3	RL advised that there is now a solid promotional campaign in place and the subgroup are working with an agency around digital support for the campaign.	
6.4	RL also reported that the subgroup has started a stakeholder engagement stream to support both the campaign and the reform of social care and this is in the initial planning stages.	

	Action: Brian to share previous minutes from the Communications subgroup with the group.	BM
7.	Update from the Workforce Sub Group	
7.1	PR provided an update on The Prince's Trust pilot which has just finished. PR advised that there was a lot of interest for this pilot with some of the participants being asylum seekers. PR reported that The Prince's Trust are also being asked to start a new "Getting hired" programme.	
7.2	PR provided an update on the training and development fund from the Department of Health that has been used to fund qualifications in the sector with the funding supporting 61 level 5 qualifications, 15 level 4 qualifications and 5 level 3 qualifications. PR advised there was a high interest in these qualifications and this year the group have been able to provide a trainer to mentor students through the qualifications and this has received positive feedback.	
7.3	PR reported on the work of Big Motive to gather data from frontline workers on their views on the Care in Practice Framework which has received a good response via a survey and face to face conversations. PR advised that Big Motive have been asked to do further work to gather information on the demographics of the workforce, career progression and learning and development in the sector.	
7.4	PR informed the group that Dr Shirley Boyle is currently undertaking a desktop review into retention and advised that there is currently content and resources being developed to help the sector with retention.	
7.5	PR provided an update on the work to develop the Health and Safety Practice Certificate. Working groups have been set up with two external facilitators facilitating these groups. PR advised that there has also been a reference group set up to look at the curriculum and modules and develop the certificate.	
7.6	PR informed the group about a meeting with the Department of Economy on traineeships and apprenticeships and advised that the traineeships are focused on 16-17-year olds for 1-2 years with 100 hours placement included.	
7.7	PR advised that apprenticeships have been included in the Care in Practice Framework	
7.8	PR informed the group that the Department of Economy will present at the Social Care Managers Forums in May.	

7.9	PS raised concerns that within her organisation as of 23 rd March they are still unsure that they will meet the national living wage in April and advised that this is a big risk.	
7.10	RW informed the group that a big issue affecting the sector is that 90% of those applying have no driving licence and advised that every month there are hundreds of potential social care workers being turned down due to them not being able to drive.	
8.	Members Update	
8.1	PS expressed some concerns from the sector about the stalling of the work on the Enhancing Clinical Care Framework with the Department of Health.	
8.2	DK also reiterated her concern about having no notification about the uplift for April and expressed concerns about having just one weeks' notice that PPE will no longer be provided.	
8.3	DK also reported that there has been a recurring issue for her organisation in relation to packages no longer being needed after staff resource has been allocated to those packages.	
8.4	AL reported that there has been an upturn in recruitment lately and there has been some initiatives introduced within her organisation including health insurance which AL advised is helping with retention at present.	
8.5	AL also put on record the Partnership's thanks to Margaret Cameron who is retiring. The Chair thanked Margaret for her contribution to the Partnership passed on best wishes.	
9.	AOB	
	No other business to note.	
10.	Dates of Next Meetings	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 20th June at 10am • Tuesday 10th October at 10am 	
	Signed	
		