

PiP Partnership Committee Agenda

Wednesday, 21 May 2025

10am - 1pm Via Teams

- 1 Welcome and apologies**
- 2 Declaration of Interest**
- 3 Chair's Business**
- 4 Actions from previous meeting**
- 5 Business Report**
- 6 External Examiner Report**
- 7 September Strategic Meeting**
- 8 2025 PiP Award Ceremony**
- 9 AOB**
- 10 Matters for Reporting to the Board**
- 11 Dates of future meetings:**
Wednesday, 3 September 2025 – In Person
Thursday, 11 December 2025



Professional in Practice Partnership Committee

Wednesday, 21 May 10.00a.m.
Via Teams

Confirmed Minutes

Attendance:

Davy Hayes
Gloria Kirwin
Elaine Pollock
Gillian Montgomery

Eileen McKay
Jennifer Hamilton
Tina O'Reilly
Marita Magennis
Maura McMackin
Suzanne Mooney

Chair (Deputising for Roslyn Dougherty)
External Assessor
Interim Head of Service: SEHSCT obo Fiona Gunn
Director of Operations: Probation Board for Northern Ireland
Assistant Director: BHSCT
Head of School: Ulster University
PiP Lead: Voluntary and Community Sector
Assistant Director: SHSCT
Principal Consultant: HSCNI Leadership Centre
PiP Co-Ordinator: Queen's University Belfast

In Attendance:

Catherine Maguire
Gillian McAuley
Mandy Cowden
Heather Graham
Nicola Lewis
Julie-Ann McCann

Head of Workforce Development: Social Care Council
Professional Adviser: Social Care Council
Professional Adviser: Social Care Council
Professional Adviser: Social Care Council
PiP Team Leader: Social Care Council (minute taker)
PiP Administrative Officer: Social Care Council

Apologies:

Roslyn Dougherty
Denise MacDermott
Adrian Nugent
Stephen McLaughlin
Michaela Glover
Gillian McAllister
Stephen Thompson

Ciaran Traynor
Ursula Crickard
Lee Wilson
Noeleen Higgins

Chair
Social Work Lead: Ulster University
Head of Education Welfare Services: EANI
Assistant Director: WHSCT
Head of Social Work Governance: SPPG
Acting Deputy Director: Youth Justice Agency
Service Manager: Children's Court Guardian Agency for Northern Ireland
Community and Voluntary Sector
Assistant Director, Children's Court Guardian Agency
Assistant Director: NHSCT
Professional Officer: British Association of Social Work

		Action
1.	Welcome	
1.1	CM opened the meeting, and welcomed DH who is standing in as Chair of the Panel on behalf of RD who was unavailable. CM completed a round of introductions for new members. HG was welcomed to the Social Care Council, and to the Partnership Meeting.	
2.	Declaration of Interest	
2.1	None noted.	
3.	Chair's Business	
3.1	The Chair acknowledged the passing of Judith Mullineux and recognised her extensive career and contribution to Post Qualifying Social Work Education. In honour of Judith the Social Care Council have introduced the Mullineux Award for Outstanding Contribution to Post Qualifying Social Work Education. This will be presented to Judith posthumously at the 2025 PiP Award Ceremony in September. The Award will then be presented annually following a nominations process.	
4	Approval of Minutes and Actions from previous Meeting	
	DH advised the Partnership that the reviewed and updated Terms of Reference are due to go to the Social Care Council June Board Meeting. Members agreed the Terms of Reference. There was a brief discussion about the need to identify a formal Deputy Chair for the PiP Partnership from the Social Care Council Board when new Board members are confirmed. GMcA advised that as part of the review of the TOR, nominations were being sought for deputy Partnership members from each organisation represented. Nicola will be following up with members in the coming weeks. The Chair confirmed that invitations have been issued to representatives from DOH who will attend the Strategic Session of the PiP Partnership in September 2025. CM updated the Partnership that work on the review of Research Methods is ongoing and discussions have continued with Ulster University. A further date is to be planned in the coming weeks.	Gillian / Nicola

	The Chair advised the Partnership that the Accountability Report had been shared with members. CM encouraged members to review the report as it provides detailed information on all of the Social Care Councils regulatory activity relating to Social Work Education.	
5	Business Report	
5.1	GMcA and MC provided a detailed Business Report for 2024 /25. The presentation provided a detailed overview of data and analysis on the delivery of the PiP Framework across the business year, and developments and innovations for the year ahead. GMcA confirmed that work is underway to complete a written report that will provide additional analysis on the data and that this will be shared with members when available. GMcA acknowledged the commitment and input of all Partners in the continued success of the Framework. She also thanked the PiP Team and wider Social Care Council staff for their work on providing the data and slides for the presentation. Members acknowledged the breadth and scope of the work that has been undertaken to deliver the Framework. The availability of a clear evidence base was welcomed by members, as was the usability of the data to support further discussions with stakeholders. MMcM noted the comprehensive data will be very useful in discussion around funding for courses and places on programmes. There was a discussion on the apparent increase in the numbers of withdrawals, leave of absence and deferrals. Members were informed that this information will be held within the institutions providing programmes or courses and the Social Care Council would not receive detailed information relating to the reasons for non-completion or a module or programme. There was recognition that continued monitoring of this would be important. Members acknowledged the continued development of the Credit Accumulation Route (CAR) and delays in work to update the IT system which have been out of the SSC's control. The Partnership were informed that CAR remains in its current format and that candidates should be encouraged and supported to use their credits to claim requirements. There was discussion on the need for awareness for staff and those supporting them, that credits could be used to claim requirements. GmcA confirmed that this on the agenda for the May 2025 I&D Forum. TOR noted candidates need support with CAR and IAR submissions to get to the required level of writing, and making links to requirements. She acknowledged the positive impact that having the extra-ordinary IAR assessment panels have had in	

	supporting candidates who are close to being competent to get their submission to the required standard. This has particular benefits for those with PiP requirement conditions. The Partnership acknowledged this, and recognised the resources required. Action: Business Report to be shared with Members along with minutes.	Gillian
6	External Examiner Report	
6.1	GMcA advised that work was underway to collate samples of Approved Programme, CAR and IAR submissions across the Framework. These will be shared with the Glorial, External Assessor to the Partnership to review to ensure standards and equity across routes. Action: This report will be circulated prior to the September Partnership Meeting.	Gillian
7.	September Strategic Meeting	
7.1	CM confirmed that the September meeting of the Partnership will provide an opportunity to look at upcoming policy, legislation and practice changes. Invitations have been issued and confirmation received from Suzan Ritchie, Edel Walsh, and Fiona Rowan. An agenda will be shared in advance.	Catherine / Gillian
8	2025 PiP Award Ceremony	
8.1	The 2025 PiP Award Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, 17 September 2025 in the Lisburn Civic Centre from 11am – 2pm. GMcA confirmed that following a request from the I&D Forum to be able to provide lunch to attendees have been agreed by the SCC. GMcA opened a discussion around a theme for the Awards Ceremony. Members noted the introduction of the Outstanding Contribution Award and suggested: belonging and connectedness and co-operation could be the central focus that could then include aspects such as early career, and research, leadership etc.	
9	AOB	
	Catherine's slides on Legislative and Policy Context from the February Partnership meeting to be shared from previous meeting.	Nicola

10	Matters for Reporting to the Board	
	Details shared from the Business Report.	
11	Dates of Meetings:	
	Strategic Meeting (In Person): 3 September 2025 2025 PiP Awards: Lisburn Civic Centre 17 September 2025 Business Meeting: 11 December 2025	

Signed: Roslyn Dougherty, Chair of PiP Partnership Committee (on behalf of Davy Hayes, Acting Chair)



3 September 2025

5 December 2024:**NB the item 6.1.1 – 6.1.7 below have been carried over from the September 2024 meeting**

Item	Owner	Action	Status
6.1.1	AMcG/ MOR	The Chair articulated the role of the Research and Evidence Partnership in taking forward strategic position and funding issues with a need to establish a productive working relationship with the PiP Partnership as part of a workplan	Ongoing as part of Strategic Plan
6.1.2	CM/DOH	MC suggested consideration be given to the evidence associated with AYE (and potentially PRTL Audit) as a starting point for establishing a career continuum with links to PiP recognition.	Ongoing as part of Strategic Plan
6.1.3	CM/DOH	The Chair noted the discussion on links between career progression and research methods. Follow up with the work of the DOH is required to discuss potential opportunities.	Open
6.1.7	MO'R/MG	Proposal for a Social Work Award to be developed to recognise an individual or team's active commitment to research and evidence.	Open

19 February 2025

Item	Owner	Action	Status
3.2	NL	Accountability Report to be shared.	Closed
5 /5.1	Chair / NL	Make agreed amendments to TOR before bringing to Board for approval	Closed
5.1	NL	Seek nominations for a deputy from each member.	Open
	Chair	Explore possibility of a deputy and additional board members to join Partnership.	Open
6.1	CM/NL	Legislative and Policy Context. A copy of the slides to be shared with the minutes of the meeting.	Open

Item	Owner	Action	Status
6.1	CM/NL	Key departmental members to be invited to attend the September 2025 Strategic Partnership Meeting.	Closed

21 May 2025

Item	Owner	Action	Status
5 /5.1	NL	Business Report to be shared with Members along with minutes.	Open
6.1	NL	External Assessor report to be circulated prior to the September Partnership Meeting.	Open