



Parental Mental Health and Child Welfare Network Steering Group Meeting  
Minutes of meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

**Present:**

Richard Anderson  
Terry Bamford  
Dorian Cole  
Judy Foster  
Jean Healy (Notes)  
Philip Jones  
Oliver Kianchehr  
Drew Lindon  
Vicky Nicholls  
Nicky Stanley (Chair)  
Louise Wardale  
Tara Weeramanthri

**Apologies:** Jan Pearson, Paul Ramchandani, Mary Killick, Anna Bird, Nathaniel Plange, Rose de Paeztron, Ruth Jordan and Gill Williams

**Introductions and Information Exchange**

**Richard** (Cape Project) concerned that funding coming to an end in March 2008. The project can continue but will need to be re-assessed after March 08. Interim report due out in September is very positive. Richard would be happy to share with steering group members. Final report by National Children's Bureau due in March 2008.

**Dorian** involved in the SCIE/NICE guidelines.

**Vicky** updated on behalf of Clare Mahoney. Hopeful for one off payment of between 16-20K from the Social Inclusion Programme to continue the network as useful in implementing the guidelines.

**Oliver** - Rosie Loshak had sought funding for team specialists in child and adolescent mental health. His post (funded for one year) was a result of this. The pilot project seeks to provide a point of contact for families and links to schools in the area. It will be evaluated both externally and internally.

**Judy** - joined the steering group after stepping down as Co Chair of SPN. At present doing a doctoral thesis and involved in two child and family voluntary organisations. She reported back from one that suggested children were not emphasised enough in the network title.

**Louise** - working with SCIE on guidelines. Children's fund has been extended but don't know the new criteria. Parents in hospital - summary given to steering group - plan to send out with a formal letter to Chief Execs of Mental Health Trusts. The [full report](#) is available on the Barnardo's website. Keeping the Family in Mind is being reprinted as a second edition. Postcards from Merseycare shown to group and would be put in with the letter to MH

Trusts. These cards will be available in schools in the area. Vicky wondered if they were available as a template with generalised information - could then be put on the website as a resource. Need to contact Barnardo's for permission due to copyright issues.

**Terry** - Chairing Westminster Safeguarding Children Board where two cases had mental health components. Community based assessment of families at risk, significant national implications when the report is published re family placement issues. Terry happy to share Executive summary with the group.

**Philip** - working on safeguarding leads network.

**Drew** is the mental health carers lead with the Princess Royal Trust for Carers which involved a small amount of work with children and supporting the network carers online, linking policy and practice. Involved in partnership research with the Mental Health Foundation on young carers coping strategies - how they cope and lessons learned from this. He is putting together a steering group and asked if anyone was interested to let him know. There will also be a steering group made up of young people. Drew was attending World Health Day and running a Q and A session with Louise on YC Net, and working with the Royal College of Psychiatrists Children and Emotional Wellbeing Education Board, publishing a young carer's booklet "[Mind, Myths and Me](#)" - available on the Glos Young Carers Site. This should go on the PMH website.

**Tara** was in the preliminary stage of setting up more systematic links with a children and adult group and setting up the Building Bridges project with the Family Welfare Association. Southwark Family Strategy launched on 28<sup>th</sup> September.

**Nicky** suggested that with the new Mental Health Act an approach an appointment should be made to the new AMHPs to ensure training encompassed work with children. To discuss with the GSCC regarding training for the role and wondered if the network could have a role in this training as there were not many initiatives at this level. Philip felt that Claire Barcham would be the best person to ask and agreed to invite Claire to the next steering group meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> October to update on what is happening re training. Could the network be used for consultation by Sue Christie managing the Code of Practice project

Tara suggested putting a sample half day training module together and offer training rather than advice. Marie Diggins to come to next meeting also.

### **Minutes of last meeting**

These were agreed after noting Drew's name was Lindon. Vicky thought that Anna Bird was MHF not Mind - to check which organisation.

### **Matters arising**

Vicky was to contact Claire Henshall re stakeholder day on 12<sup>th</sup> October.

Nicky received invitation to launch of Building Bridges project on 11<sup>th</sup> October in London.

No matters arising.

### **Safeguarding Study Day**

28<sup>th</sup> November so far was preferred date and Marion Brandon confirmed for this date. Concerns regarding event on same topic on 27<sup>th</sup> (BASPCAN)  
Terry asked for advice on balance between workshops and plenaries.

- Possibility of workshop spec for MH Trusts safeguarding leads - formation of network
- Parents in Hospital - fragmented families
- Marlborough Family Centre

Potential six areas for workshops - felt important to involve users/carers in the day.

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- Various suggestions were made for other workshops.

Judy felt that workshops should be presented jointly with users - gives ethos of working together and day has chance to grow and spark interest.

Nicky has access to publish papers in Child Abuse Review. If enough workshop leaders could produce articles rather than PowerPoint presentation, would be possible to produce a "themed" issue.

Publicity - to send out to safeguarding leads nationally, mental health trusts and the PMH website. Drew offered to send to carers centre. Philip suggested that Paul McGettigan attend the next planning group meeting as SCIE providing support on the day. Terry asked if anyone from the steering group interested in joining this small group to develop and finalise the programme. Dorian and Nicky volunteered.

Tara mentioned another event with similar subject area on 8<sup>th</sup> November. She would find out who was running and forward on to Terry - thought to be London Child Protection Committee.

### **Website Development**

Vicky updated on the website, and areas to be developed. Asked for contributions from the group - more substantial articles, good practice examples. Judy volunteered Louise to write a piece and Drew offered also.

### **Safeguarding Leads Progress**

Philip reported that Lorraine Wiener had joined SCIE as Network Coordinator for 1 day per week for one year. Lorraine would attend next steering group meeting and had offered to run a workshop at the study day - content to be advised. She would be based mainly in Hertfordshire.

A session at the study day would be a chance to explore the best way of mutual support and a further study day for members of the network - linked to Jan Pearson who already has established a London network.

### **Resources**

Terry spoke of Vicky's S64 application "Keeping Mum" Dorian spoke of PCTs and early intervention in mental health where a huge amount of work was being done. Need to get people involved in existing services.

Nicky felt would be interesting to find a way to use less clinical language.

Opportunity to revisit if application got to stage 2

### **Corporate Membership**

Discussion on Terry's paper. It was felt letter should have more emphasis on good practice, engagement with the network and engaging at front line. Felt would be good to get a testimony for a Director - saying how important the network was. To seek advice from Paul Curran, (Director of Children's services, Islington) who was working on the SCIE/NICE guidelines. Terry said that the network would also be applying for funding under the Vulnerable Children and Families Grant and the deadline was the end of September.

### **SCIE/NICE guidelines update**

Phase 2 findings tested using PMHCW network. Louise said there should be linkage with SCIE resource on disabled parents as impacts of disability impacts on parenting. Vicky to ask Marie.

### **Newsletter**

Hard copy valued as had substance and presence. Cost 3K per issue to print - if received funding, should reconsider hard copy. Felt pdf version would be better than email version. Nicky suggested someone review of book written by a teenage girl whose father had mental health issues. -

### **Perinatal Mental Health Study Day**

Vicky gave out details of a conference on 2<sup>nd</sup> October = Maternity and Mental Health - Making a Difference

Possible title for study day "staying in touch" - sub group to start planning for the day.

Richard reported on a perinatal clinic in Queen Elizabeth Hospital set up by a multi disciplinary team with no financial resources. Evaluation of this could be used for conference.

Nicky could give workshop on antenatal depression - examples of good practice

Glasgow cited as place with well developed career pathways. Dorian suggested collaboration with midwives.

### **Logo**

No strong views on logo - Dorian suggested existing SPN logo using PMH title - branding the network with SPN.

Idea of asking young people to design logo

### **Steering Group**

Vicky talked of gaps in representation on the steering group- with apologies to CAMHS people

Areas needed to cover were

Forensic Mental Health

Service Users and Carers -targeting users and carers from membership suggested.

Need more than one service user as invaluable input and also so wouldn't feel daunted by group

Drew suggested that Vicky send TOR for PMHCWN and how it fits into the SCIE/SPN set up. He offered to sell the network to carer projects. Oliver also requested this and he would send to his contacts.

**AOB**

Drew and Louise presenting at Community Care Live 11<sup>th</sup> October on impact of mental health and families

Date of next meeting

17<sup>th</sup> October at 1230 for 1pm at SCIE.

Louise and Drew sent apologies for the next meeting.