

**Minutes of the 122nd South Eastern Local Commissioning Group
Public Meeting held at 2.00pm on Thursday 2nd February 2023
St. Comgall's Parish Centre, Bangor**

PRESENT:

Cllr Richard Smart (Chair)	-	Local Government
Cllr Terry Andrews	-	Local Government
Cllr Alex Swan	-	Local Government
Mr Nicholas McCrickard	-	Community/Voluntary
Ms Kate Fleck	-	Community/Voluntary
Dr Jonathan Howe	-	General Practitioner
Dr James McGlew	-	General Practitioner
Ms Frances Dowds	-	Public Health Agency

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Paul Turley	-	SELCG, Commissioning Lead
Ms Sian Campbell	-	SELCG, Commissioning Officer
Ms Karen Toogood	-	Business Support Manager, SPPG
Dr John Winter	-	Chair, Ards Integrated Care Partnership
Ms Sharon Heffron	-	Corporate Secretariat Manager, BSO
Dr Peter Ryan	-	Medical Advisor, SPPG

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllr Ray McKimm

APOLOGIES: Jane McMillan, Brendan O'Hara, Michael Taylor, Jenny Palmer, Heather McFarlane, David Calvin

<u>Number</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Action</u>
1.	<u>Apologies</u> Apologies were noted.	
2.	<u>Welcome & Opening Remarks</u> The Chair, Councillor Richard Smart, welcomed members to the SELCG's 122 nd public meeting which took place in St. Comgall's Parish Centre, Bangor. All members introduced themselves and gave a warm welcome to Councillor Ray McKimm attending as a member of the public.	

<p>3.</p>	<p><u>Chairman’s Business</u></p> <p><u>3.1 Declaration of Conflict of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest noted.</p> <p><u>3.2 Correspondence</u></p> <p>Commencing, Mr Turley noted correspondence received from the Chief Medical Officer, Professor Sir Michael McBride and Maria McIlgorm, Chief Nursing Officer acknowledging the work of professional staff in the past year, emerging from the Pandemic and also in looking forward and recognising the significant challenges that the Health and Social Care system is facing, particularly over the winter period. He added that it is both important and appropriate that the professional leads within the system reflect the good work that is taking place in very challenging times.</p> <p>A similar communication issued from the Permanent Secretary, Mr Peter May, as a press release on the 18th January 2023 acknowledged the winter period ahead and paid tribute to the intensive efforts of staff right across the Health and Social Care system. Also noted, was the challenges encountered by Health and Social Care in Northern Ireland is being mirrored across the UK and Southern Ireland. In addition, the Permanent Secretary has underlined the opportunity to plan and map a way out of this process over a period of time and highlighted a number of areas which will be subject to consideration and support, both financially and in terms of resource, such as the importance of increasing capacity within domiciliary care and wider social care capacity to meet increasing levels of need. A focus on community based care to support communities to help individuals live healthier was reiterated alongside continued support to enhance the GP system. Opportunities to rebuild and reconfigure the services was also emphasised. However, it was pointed out that to work effectively the system will require additional investment and political leadership.</p> <p>In relation to service investments, Mr Turley said Members would be aware of the high-profile area of abortion services recently legislated for in NI in the absence of an Executive and of the investment to be received by all Trusts to secure abortion services. Project oversight arrangements will be put in place given the challenges with implementing this service.</p> <p><u>3.3 Engagements</u></p> <p>The Chair, Cllr Smart, confirmed the LCG Chairs meeting did not convene in January 2023. Another date to follow.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>Minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st December 2022</u></p>	

	<p>Members reviewed the minutes from the last meeting on the 1st December 2022 and all confirmed correct and accurate.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>Matters arising from the minutes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Turley updated the Committee on the “For Now and For the Future” - Advanced Care Planning policy which was published by the DoH in October 2022. He noted that the department was working on an implementation process for 2023/24 and circulated copies of the Advanced Care Planning booklet. • Mr Turley confirmed Helen Moore, SE Trust Director of Planning, Performance and Informatics will attend the next SELCG public meeting planned for 2nd March 2023 to provide an overview of Trust objectives and services. • Mr Turley informed the group of the progress being made on the development of ICS (NI) and the update of the test pilot planned from April 2023 in the Southern Trust area. • Mr Turley updated the committee that he will sit on the regional working group for the ICS pilot. He confirmed Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs) will be stood down 31st March 2023. 	<p>Action: Paul Turley to confirm invite Helen Moore to a future SELCG meeting</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><u>Report by Commissioning Lead</u></p> <p>The Chair welcomed Dr John Winter, Integrated Care Partnership clinical lead in the South East and invited him to say a few words on the role of ICPs to date.</p> <p>Dr Winter referenced some of the highlights over the last 10 years of the ICP which included Enhanced Care at Home, Falls Pathway and the support to the MDT roll out. Dr Winter confirmed that the experience and relationships developed as part of the ICP and LCG networks will be invaluable for the new ICS and the Area of Integrated Partnership Board (AIPB). The Chair thanked Dr Winter for his contribution.</p> <p>Mr Turley went on to discuss recent issues relating to the <i>Priory and Springhill GP Practices</i>. It was noted that the practice had recently experienced issues after the resident GPs handing back their contract to the Department of Health and this has now been taken over, temporarily, by the SE Trust.</p> <p>Mr Turley welcomed Dr Peter Ryan, Medical Advisor Primary Care, SPPG, to provide and update on the most recent developments. Dr Ryan who has been involved in the transfer process provided a positive picture of the transfer to date, pointed out that it was well staffed, solutions have been put in place to mitigate any potential issues for patients and that the Trust will hold the contract until another partner is found.</p>	

	<p>Dr Michael Johnson, advised that the primary care model itself required more radical changes to be put in place to try to fix the problem, mainly associated with the change in the GP workforce rather than temporary fixes. He also added in his opinion, the use of out of hours GPs resource was a short-term fix which is not sustainable and has consequences of possibly affecting other practices.</p> <p>Dr Ryan added that any changes of policy would need legislative changes and that the role of SPPG is to operationalise policy and provide solutions to mitigate further issues.</p> <p>Mr Turley discussed the planned Consultation paper on <i>Unscheduled Care Services in the South East</i>. He confirmed that further detail on this will be made available anticipated w/comm 6th February. There will be planned events to run alongside these which he will be attending and updating LCG Members.</p> <p>Mr Turley referred to the <i>Service Delivery Plan</i> (Performance & Transformational Executive Board: PTEB) set of statistics 3rd Quarter data (Dec 2022) and reviewed SE Trust performance. Mr Turley noted that comparing the previous quarter to the most recent results, SE Trust's performance was declining in some areas. It was noted that it is the expectation that all Trusts return to pre-Covid (March 2020) across service levels. There are 31 target areas which are RAG rated.</p> <p>Mr Turley then moved to the area of <i>Domiciliary Care</i> and the Information analysis of the service level in Northern Ireland. He confirmed that based on current statistics, the SE area has 70%+ of sub contracted services in the independent sector. This is high and it is encouraging that there is a move to rebalance this going forward. This approach points for a more stable service model. A report on Domiciliary Care Service was shared with members.</p> <p>Mr Turley confirmed that HSC system resources remain one of the key challenges for the year ahead and that forthcoming meetings will welcome finance leads to discuss budgets and the challenges that health and social care face.</p>	<p>Action: Invitation to finance leads to attend SELCG</p>
7.	<p><u>Questions/ Discussion with the public on local health issues</u></p> <p>The Chair welcomed <i>Cllr Ray McKimm</i> to discuss his experience of the Domiciliary Care Sector on a personal level. Cllr McKimm noted that he is a wheelchair user and challenged the average current rate of £18.08 paid to independent providers of Domiciliary Care provision when the figure as a minimum should reflect £25.00 per hour based on his research. He called on the group, acknowledging that the group in itself could not effect changes in policy, to lobby for change to recognise the brilliant work of care workers, being paid a low salary. There followed a general debate with members thanking Cllr McKimm for his contribution at the meeting.</p>	<p>Action: Paul Turley to contact Ann Marie Fox (Social Care Lead) Ref: Domiciliary and the rate of pay</p>

	Mr Turley agreed following the discussion between the group and Cllr McKimm to follow up as an action with the social care sector on the discussion around Domiciliary Care and the rate of pay.	
8.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>Mr Nicolas McCrickard raised the increasing numbers of asylum seekers being placed in more rural areas with no obvious assistance to support to help these vulnerable groups of people. The Chair added a similar experience of which he has been involved in Ards & North Down. They developed a policy on this and happy to share for the benefit of other areas.</p>	<p>Action: Richard Smart to share policy from Ards & North Down Ref asylum seekers</p>
9.	<p><u>Next Meeting Date:</u> 2nd March 2023</p> <p><u>Venue:</u> Ards Art Centre, Town Hall, Conway Square, Newtownards BT23 4NP</p>	

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____