

Minute of Meeting

Interim Adult Protection Board NI – Tuesday 27/08/24 @ 2pm via Teams

Present:

| |
|--|
| David Petticrew, Deputy Director, SPPG |
| Randal McHugh, Programme Head for Learning Disability & Adult Safeguarding |
| Ursula Murray, PCC |
| Amanda Burgess, Assistant Director for ASG, NHSCT |
| Majella Fegan, SEHSCT |
| Karen Harvey, RQIA |
| Ann-Marie Doone, PCC |
| DCI Jill Duffie, PSNI |
| Caroline Holloway, Social Care Lead, SPPG |
| Stephen McLaughlin, Assistant Director of Social Work, WHSCT |
| Heather Reid, PHA |
| Catherine O'Reilly, WHSCT |
| Sandra Aitcheson, Asst Director of Nursing, PHA |

Apologies:

| |
|--|
| Tracy Reid, Interim Executive Director, Social Work, BHSC |
| Patricia Higgins, Chief Executive, NISCC |
| Karen O'Brien, Director Mental Health and Disability, WHSCT |
| Briege Donaghy, Chief Executive, RQIA |
| Tom Cassidy, Acting Director Women Children's Services/Ex Dir SW, WHSCT |
| Maura Dargan, Director WCF/Ex Dir SW, NHSCT |
| Brian Beattie, Director of Older People and Primary Care, SHSCT |
| Mary Emerson, Lead AHP Consultant, PHA |
| David Robinson, Exec Director of Nursing & Midwifery, Director of AHP & Patient Experience |
| Colm McCafferty, Interim Director of CYPS, SHSCT |
| Colin McMullan, Director of Adult Community and Older People Services, BHSC |

| |
|---|
| Petra Corr, Director MH & LD Community Wellbeing, NHSCT |
| Lyn Preece, Director of Children's Services, SEHSCT |
| Lynn Long, Director of Mental Health & Learning Disability, Children's Services and Prison Healthcare, RQIA |

In attendance

Bronagh Wilson, minute taker.

1. Introductions

David Petticrew welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies were noted. David notified the group that Brendan Whittle is moving on to another post and will be replaced by Ciara McKillop as Director and IAPB chair.

2. Minutes from the last meeting

Minutes from the last meeting (17/4/24) were circulated and the group agreed that they were an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising

- **Share SHSCT presentation.**

At the last meeting, Deborah O'Hanlon gave a presentation that was well-received in relation to the Southern Trust LASPs workplan. The presentation has been distributed with the agenda for this meeting.

4. Update on Sub-groups

Data & Performance

Caroline gave an update on the Group: the data template has now been agreed by the 5 Trusts. The CRIT process limits the sub – groups ability to make significant changes to the data set at this stage. However, it is likely changes will be required once the legislation is enacted and we have a different set of data requirements. Caroline elaborated on the work and the inherent difficulties in gathering accurate data so far. Next steps - the data report with will be shared with the sub-group members and further analysis undertaken of the domains. Caroline shared some headline figures for Adult Protection referrals in quarter one, 2024 /25, with the Board.

Caroline agreed to give Heather Reid a brief summary of the pathway for data entry with case definitions etc.

Policy & Procedures (Adult Joint Protocol)

Randal advised the meeting that the sub – group was at the stage of finalising the draft AJP, Aine Morrison (Chief Social Worker) OSS department have some additional comments to make. Also, Peter Toogood asked SPPG to follow up on the

role of Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS) in the revision of the AJP and Draft Bill. There will be a meeting with PSNI colleagues to discuss the role of NIPS within the AJP and the Draft Bill. This is expected to bring the revision of the AJP to an end point.

Training & Development

Caroline explained the challenges the group have in trying to develop Adult Protection training while unable to share the detail of the draft legislation more widely without the Minister's approval. In the interim, the sub-group have been examining ASG training in its entirety, including community voluntary and independent sectors. Members reviewed the proposed, trusts regional adult safeguarding framework and are now at the point where the sub - group should be able to agree the framework and recommend it to IAPB.

OSS are working on the specific training needs of the APB and the APSW role. Randal proposes that the T&D Group joins forces with the OSS Group once their respective pieces of work are completed.

Serious Case Reviews

Caroline Holloway gave the meeting an update on the progress of the SCR Group. (brief paper attached). The paper outlines the sub – groups efforts to identify research relating to SCR models. In the absence of specific research and evaluation of models, the sub – group sourced and reviewed a sample of SCRs models from other jurisdictions. The members agreed that x2 of the models represented a good foundation upon which to develop a NI version. In the absence of the legislation, the sub – group recommend commissioning a draft SCR model for NI, based on the work completed and in readiness for appropriate revision when the legislation is enacted.

David queried whether work had been completed on fully comparing and contrasting the different models in use to settle on which would be the ideal model to follow in Northern Ireland. Randal explained that that work hadn't been finished yet but he agreed to contact Professor Preston-Shoot to obtain more specific details from him and then share that information with colleagues. David emphasised that it would be necessary to have this work completed and collated as a body of completed/ background work for when the work is taken forward via an agreed lead. David asked could all the work be brought together as a package of progress and what has been completed.

AP: Randal to contact Professor Preston-Shoot to get the details of his research on SCRs.

AP Work of the group completed to date to be collated as a package of material for future use by SCR lead.

Engagement Hub

Caroline related the progress of the Engagement Hub work to date. She referred to the proposal shared and agreed at IAPB around 12 months ago. The aim was to recruit people who had an interest in adult safeguarding/protection, such as service users, carers and family members in partnership, to support the IAPB work. There would also be core members from the Trusts and LASPs. Its focus would be on work generated by the sub groups and wider developments in ASG and Protection.

The Engagement Hub's remit is concerned with promoting learning and development and making changes to the system. Members would be expected to share and liaise on the work with within the sub - groups / agencies / fora, they represent. Unfortunately, the Engagement Hub did not receive any EOI from the wider ASG community, the approach now requires reviewing.

Anne-Marie Doone PCC provided an update on the work of PCC Engagement platform. They continue to support efforts by IAPB to recruit to the HUB and keep members informed of developments with the APB and the recent Health Committee hearing. The next meeting of the PCC Platform is in September with input from APB team and SPPG.

Caroline to reissue the Engagement Hub framework to all members.

Randal to speak to Linda Craig about Care Opinion and the possibility of recruiting lay members to the Hub. This could be shared with all the Groups.

5. IAPB – Prevention Objective

David deferred this agenda item to the next meeting in September. David stated that the remit of IAPB has been solely concerned with adult protection. However there had been concern by IAPB members that it had been exclusively focused on protection and further attention should also be paid to the prevention agenda.

6. Communications Plan/IAPB Webpage Link

The IAPB web-page is now live, link provided. Work will continue to build the webpage as a resource.

7. AOB

- **Publication of IAPB Minutes**

In the interest of openness and transparency David advised the meeting the minutes of IAPB meetings will be published on the webpage. Minutes need to be screened and approved by information governance to remove any personal or confidential information.

- **Encompass**

Caroline outlined that there has been discussion at TASS and LASP chairs meeting regarding Encompass and the operational challenges for Trusts. The issues are being highlighted through the appropriate management process but, there remain concerns for duplication of effort and the accuracy of data.

Majella Fegan SET confirmed that data was one of the biggest issues and it appears that adult protection paperwork that may not be able to accommodate AP requirements. Stephen McLaughlin echoed Majella's concern that Encompass, as it currently stands would not meet the WHSCT's needs.

- **Role of ASC**

Randal and Caroline outlined that SPPG has become aware of an issue relating to Adult Safeguarding Champions, especially in the community / voluntary and independent sectors. Some ASC have reported that Trusts are not always accepting their ASG decision making, asking that referrals, already assessed and screened by them are sent to the DAPO for completion of section 2 on the APP1 form.

The TASS leads noted similar queries coming to them. Further, they advised that the same issue was noted in some hospital settings, where the HSW was completing section 2 of the APP1 and not the ASC. TASS are of the view that Trust staff should be clear about the parameters of their respective responsibilities. In agreement with the TASS leads, RM and CH have drafted a memo to be circulated to IAPB members reminding Trust staff in all directorates of the process and procedure.

Randal to review and finalise draft memo regarding the responsibilities of ASCs to members. Memo to also be sent to Karen Harvey at RQIA, as requested.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 23 October 2004, 2.00 pm via Teams