

# Minute of the Children and Young Persons Advisory Group

Friday 26th February 2021

Video Conference Meeting

**Present:** Colin McKay, Karen Martin, Jackie McRae, Aileen Blower, Kathleen Taylor, Rebecca Irvine, May Dunsmuir

**Secretariat:** Sophie Ryder, Adele Farwell

## 1. Welcome and apologies

- There were no apologies
- Becky was welcomed to her first meeting of the group. Members commented that her note of her own experiences was very powerful and highlighted many important themes for the review.

## 2. Note of last meeting

The minute of the last meeting was agreed.

## 3. Oral update on work of review

### *Reference Groups*

- The Practitioners and Lived Experience reference groups are in the process of being set up.
- An introductory meeting for the Practitioners Group is due to be held at the end of March/beginning of April.
- The deadline for the lived experience group has been extended to 10<sup>th</sup> March and the introductory meeting will therefore be a little later.
- In addition to this there will be a rolling programme of engagement
- It was suggested that the Advisory Groups come together after the Reference Groups to discuss emerging conclusions.

**Action: Sophie to circulate the finalised list of representatives on the reference group**

### *Staffing Update*

- The review will shortly be welcoming a new member to the Secretariat
- The review is also in the process of appointing a new lived experience member to the Executive Team

### *Comments on the Interim Report*

- It was highlighted that the definition of Compulsion on page 51 of the interim report focused on detention. Important to recognise that compulsion also happens in the community - community based compulsion orders, require individuals to live somewhere else or get consent to change address, and also

can require someone to accept treatment (even if it cannot be forced on them).

- It is also important to look at the different ways children and young people can be detained or required to live somewhere, for reasons which may include mental health difficulties, even if the detention is not under mental health law. This
- includes Children and Young People who are detained at unregistered placements through the inherent jurisdiction of the English courts – some of whom are in Scotland.
- The importance of clarifying terms and ensuring this is consistent was highlighted.
- It was noted that the Secretariat are currently working on a Glossary to make sure this is the case.
- It was suggested that we should come back to areas of expertise for clarification on language
  
- It was suggested that it would be helpful for all the advisory groups and the Executive to come together at a future date. There were many overlapping issues, and colleagues may need to be informed about the complex world of under 18's.
- It was questioned whether the Review has looked at advance statements. The Capacity and SDM Advisory Group are looking at this, but it is important that this is considered from the perspective of Children and YP, alongside the role of the named person (which children cannot choose).
- This is of particular importance with Children and YP as a younger person is more likely to be in their first episode and less likely to have made a statement in advance.
- From a lived experience perspective it was highlighted that children and young people are often reluctant to provide too much information for the purpose of an advance statement for fear of being judged. Saying too much can be seen as manic and saying too little can be seen as not engaged which could result in a change of medication.
- Where statements are made, they may not be reviewed enough to reflect changed circumstances. An option alternative would be to incorporate YP reviews into the legislation

#### **4. Update and discussion of work plan**

##### *Appointing a new lived experience member to the team*

- Becky has now been appointed to the group as a lived experience representative.

##### *Questionnaire for Children and Young People*

- The meeting in respect of the questionnaire for Children and Young People couldn't go ahead as planned.

- **Action** This will be rearranged to include Becky.

#### *Case Studies from the Royal College of Psychiatrists*

- The group discussed how they might use the scenarios from the Royal College of Psychiatrists, and those developed by members of the Group.
- **Action:** This is to be confirmed by the Secretariat.

#### *Questionnaire for GP's*

- Contact has been made with the Royal College of GP's regarding the survey to be circulated.

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#### *Gathering evidence from teachers*

- It was agreed that in undertaking this research it was important to look at different geographical areas
- This could also include hospital schools and secure schools
- There was a discussion on whether this would work better as evidence sessions or a questionnaire or both
- It was agreed that whatever format the evidence gathering takes it should be focussed and specific
- Some of the evidence has also been gathered in Angela Morgan's review. It was agreed that Angela should form part of the discussion
- **Action** Colin and May to work up the proposal with the secretariat.

#### *Questionnaire for Professionals – The Triangle of Care*

- Karen presented the findings from the questionnaire. The full report will be available shortly. It highlighted the lack of awareness of carers' legislation, gaps in the identification of carers, training issues, and ongoing problems about the appropriate sharing of information
- **Action** Karen will consider doing something similar specifically for CAMHS professionals

#### *UNCRC*

- The secretariat have recruited an additional member to provide support on an academic analysis of UNCRC.

#### *Mapping Judicial System*

- A meeting has been scheduled with members of the Scottish Government in this regard. This will be an initial meeting to discuss who should part of the discussion and how we might begin to take this forward.
- It was acknowledged that this would take a long time and the event would be the beginning of a journey to get people's attention and reach a consensus about how our objectives might be reached.

- **Action** Once the initial conversation has taken place Colin and Jackie will feedback to the group to help shape planning.

#### 4. Reference Groups

The group discussed ideas that they would like to put forward to the reference groups

- It was agreed that the group would like to seek opinions on the role of the named person and advance statements however it was acknowledged that the question needs to have specific focus

##### *Other*

- There was a general discussion around improving communication between professionals within the system.
- It was noted that this was something that the communication and engagement advisory group had planned to take forward.
- This issue has cross over with other Advisory Groups including ESC.
- It was noted that medical professions looking at physical ill health have systems to equip safe prescribing of medication and safe communication between primary and secondary care, this is not mirrored in the mental health sector.

**Action** Karen, Colin and the Secretariat will refine these ideas and circulate to the CYP group before submitting to the Reference Group