

**THE MENTAL HEALTH AND LEARNING DISABILITY REVIEW
(NORTHERN IRELAND)**

**THIRD STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, TUESDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2003
AT THE FITZWILLIAM INTERNATIONAL HOTEL**

Present:	Professor Roy McClelland (Chair)	Mr Brendan Mullen
	Dr John Owens	Dr Fred Browne
	Mrs Martha McClelland	Mrs Mary O'Boyle
	Dr Raman Kapur	Dr Walter Boyd
	Professor Tony McGleenan	Mr Patrick Convery
	Dr Oliver Shanks	Mrs Eileen Sherrard
	Mr Leslie Frew	Rev Trevor Williams
	Ms Marie Crossin	Mr John Hunter
	Mrs Maureen Dodd	Mrs Maureen McCartney
	Dr Paschal McKeown	Mr Roy Keenan
	Mr Colin Beck	Mr Michael Kelly
	Ms Joanne McDonald	Ms Vikki Greenwood
Apologies:	Professor David Bamford	Professor Alan Ferguson
	Mr Mark Timoney	Dr Janice Thompson
	Mr Martin Daly	Mr Geoff Shepherd
	Mr Winston McCartney	Det S/tend Andrew Bailey
	Mr Brian Dornan	

Welcome and Introductions

1. Professor McClelland welcomed everyone to this third meeting of the Steering Committee. He asked that, for the benefit of the new members (Joanne McDonald and John Hunter) everyone briefly introduce themselves.
2. Updating members on the work of the Review since the last meeting, he said that this still centred on 3 main areas:
 - the continuing initial meetings with stakeholders (Paper SC3/03 (Feb) refers);
 - membership of the first 4 expert Working Committees; and
 - preparing for this third meeting.
3. The meetings with stakeholders were still proving very informative and useful. They were almost completed. Responses to Professor Bamford's initial letters in October were also still producing a rich source of information. The papers for this meeting included the latest replies to these letters. Some of this material has already been made available to the members of the Adult Mental Health Expert Working Committee. In due course it would be issued to all the Working Committees to inform their work.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

4. These were agreed without amendment.

Matters Arising

5. The main matter arising was to finalise the membership of the Steering Committee. Members were informed that the Department of Education had nominated Dr. John Hunter. The Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) has nominated Detective Superintendent Andrew Bailey, who was unavailable for this meeting. Ms Joanne McDonald was the user representative, while it is hoped Mr Neil Wilson will be the carer representative, both on the learning disability front. Any remaining possible imbalances in the Committee's membership (eg on old age or young people with mental health needs) could be addressed in the composition of the relevant Working Committees.

Proposed Terms of Reference

6. Introducing Paper SC11/03, Professor McClelland said that the Terms of Reference had been further revised to take account of members' comments at the last meeting. Members agreed the document with one further refinement:
 - Paragraph 2, bullet point 7: the word "problem" should be replaced by "need".
7. In response to questions about the relationship between mental health and learning disability in the Review, and on the definition of the latter, Professor McClelland said that the 2 elements were completely complementary parts of the task. The definition of learning disability was something which that Expert Working Committee would need to examine.

Mission Statement and Strategic Framework for the Review

8. Professor McClelland introduced papers SC12/03 and SC13/03, which had been revised in light of detailed comments at the last meeting. Members suggested the following revisions:
 - (a) Paper SC12/03 :**
 - Paragraph 2 – swap this paragraph on "Integrity", with paragraph 3 "Confidentiality".
 - the "Confidentiality" paragraph should be revised to refer only to the issue of the attribution of statements.
 - (b) Paper SC13/03**
 - 3rd line - "A New Vision for Mental Health", should be the first section heading.

- 1st paragraph, 1st line – change “prioritisation of” to “priority to”.
- 1st paragraph, 3rd line – the words “of mental health problems” should be removed.

On Values and Principles:

- to enhance presentation, list the points mentioned in the first paragraph.
- a reference to the need for Government, providers and society at large to accept their respective responsibilities should be added to paragraph 1.
- first bullet point – after development add, “evaluation and monitoring”.

9. Professor McClelland thanked members for their helpful comments. The papers would be revised for the next meeting and would be looked at again after the Social Justice and Citizenship Committee had reported.

Proposed Remit, Structure and Membership of the Initial 4 Working Committees

10. Paper SC14/03, an update on paper SC7/03, was discussed. Professor McClelland advised that good progress had been made in trying to finalise the membership of the First Wave of Committees. The position was as follows:

(a) Adult Mental Health Working Committee

This Committee met for the first time on Monday 24th February.

(b) Learning Disability Committee

Work was proceeding with the aim of establishing this Committee in March. It would consider its remit and the best structure to fulfil its task.

(c) Social Justice and Citizenship Committee

This Committee was also taking shape. In discussions with the Convenor and Lady Eames, it was now proposed to have only 2 sub-groups – one on Human Rights and Equality, and one on Social Inclusion.

(d) Legal Issues Committee

Work was well-advanced. The first meeting was set for Thursday 6 March.

11. Members welcomed the establishment of the Adult Mental Health Committee and were content with the proposals on the Social Justice and Citizenship Committee. On the Learning Disability Committee, the main comments concerned the need to consider representation from:

- education
 - nursing
 - professions allied to medicine
 - advocacy groups.
12. On the Legal Issues Committee, the meeting approved Master Hall as Convenor and that Alistair Rankin (Law Society) should be a member. Paschal McKeown advised that her preference was for the Social Justice and Citizenship Committee. It was pointed out that there was no nursing representative: thought needed to be given to this and to whether a Departmental nominee was necessary; and to the possibly of the Chairman of the Mental Health Commission. How to include users and carers in this Committee was also raised.
13. Professor McClelland thanked members for their comments. Work on these Committees would continue, with reports provided at the next meeting.

Management of Working Committees, Role of Convenors, Communication Issues

14. This was deferred until the next meeting.

Verbal Report of the first meeting of the Adult Mental Health Committee

15. This was also postponed until the next meeting.

Consultation with Users and Carers

16. Referring to Paper SC9/03, which was carried forward from the last meeting, Professor McClelland said that 3 options were being suggested as to how best consult users and carers. These were:
- a. Establish one Reference Group comprising users and carers across the spectrum of age, gender, etc.
 - b. Each Working Committee and the Steering Committee establishes a separate Reference Group.
 - c. Establish a larger central “pool” of, say, 100 - 150 people from which smaller groupings could be chosen for particular consultations events/exercises. This could be done either by each Working Committee using its own selection criteria, or by asking members of the “pool” to self-select. All those interested may sign up for any consultation event, although in extreme cases there may have to be a restriction on overall numbers attending.
17. Members raised several points, including the possible need for a user/carer project worker and the possible involvement of Barnardo’s, the benefits of a seminar approach, and to the resources issue. As a means of “testing the water” the meeting agreed to initially establish a Reference Group for the Steering Committee. The Support Team would take this forward and bring a further paper to the next meeting. On a minor point, the third sentence in paragraph 3 of the paper would be deleted.

Any Other Business

18. Professor McClelland drew members' attention to an invitation (which was circulated) to the launch of the Human Rights Commission's Review of Mental Health on Friday 14th March. Members were asked to attend, if possible.
19. Colin Beck advised that he had brought several documents from Scotland which could be of use to the Review. Professor McClelland said that these would be added to the list of documents received in response to David Bamford's letter of 16th October, and be made available to the Working Committees in due course.

Date of Next Meeting

20. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 25th March 2003 in the Seagoe Hotel, Portadown, starting at 10.00am.