



Dates for your diary

Dec. 2010/Early 2011.

The Project Reference Group is comprised on Staff from a wide range of profession and Agencies [See membership list] the meetings for the next few months are;

27th Project Reference Group Meeting – Monday 6th December 2010 at 2pm in Council Suite 2, Millennium House, Belfast

28th Project Reference Group Meeting –Monday 7th February 2011 at 2pm in Council Suite 2, Millennium House

29th Project Reference Group Meeting –Monday 4th April 2011 at 2pm in Council Suite 2, Millennium House

30th Project Reference Group Meeting –Monday 6th June 2011 at 2pm in Council Suite 2, Millennium House

The Implementation Group is comprised of staff from the Regional Health & Social Care Board / Trusts / Public Health Agency / DHSSPS/NIPSA. The dates for meetings are :

35th Implementation Group Meeting – Wednesday 15th December 2010 at 1.30pm Council Suite 2 Millennium House, Belfast

36th Implementation Group Meeting – Wednesday 19 January 2010 at 1.30pm in CR5, RHSC Board, Linenhall Street, Belfast.

37th Implementation Group Meeting – Wednesday 16 February 2010 at 1.30pm in CR5, RHSC Board, Linenhall Street, Belfast.

38th Implementation Group Meeting – Wednesday 16th March 2010 at 1.30pm in Council Suites, Millennium House, Belfast



RIT Team

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Project Reference Group

Chair: Brian Dornan, Director Southern HSC Trust
Marian Hall, RIT Development Manager (Secretary)
Aideen McLaughlin, Youth Justice Agency
Alistair Wallace, PSNI
Alison Hume, Northern Trust
Angela McLernon, DHSSPSNI [Nursing]
Brendan Johnston, NISCC
Cecil Worthington, Northern Trust
Fergal Bradley, DHSSPSNI
Fionnuala McAndrew, Health & Social Care Board
Heather Livingston, DHSSPSNI [Medical]
Hugh Hamill, PBNI
John Doherty, Western Trust
Kate Thompson, South Eastern Trust
Kevin Lawrenson, NIPSA
Lesley Walker, Belfast Trust
Maureen Bennett, DENI
Sean Holland, DHSSPSNI [Office of Social Services]
Tony Rodgers, Health and Social Care Board

Implementation Group

Chair: Tony Rodgers, Ass Dir. Health & Social Care Board
Marian Hall, RIT Development Manager (Secretary)
Carol Diffin, Belfast Trust
Damien Maguire, NIPSA
Deirdre Mahon, Western Trust
Fergal Bradley, DHSSPSNI [Child Care Branch]
Francesca Leyden, Southern Trust
Gerry Largey, NIPSA
Jacqui McGarvey, South Eastern Trust
John Gillespie, Western Trust
John Growcott, Belfast Trust
John Toner, South Eastern Trust
Linda McConnell, South Eastern Trust
Margaret Burke, Belfast Trust
Marie Roulston, Northern Trust
Mary Donaghy, Health and Social Care Board
Maura Dargan, Northern Trust
Michael Murray, South Eastern Trust
Paul Kearney, NISCC
Paul Mc Conville, DHSSPSNI [Office of Social Services]
Paul Morgan, Southern Trust
Tom Cassidy, Western Trust
Deirdre Webb, Public Health Agency

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**REFORM
IMPLEMENTATION
TEAM**

Copies of the policies/ guidance issued by the RIT are available to download from our webpage at: <http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/oss-childrens-services.htm>

RIT News R.I.T. News

The Newsletter of

the: **REFORM
IMPLEMENTATION
TEAM**

Dec. 2010

Edition 1

REFORM IMPLEMENTATION TEAM (RIT)

RIT was established in Nov.2006 to help strengthen our Child Protection Services following the publication of the DHSSPS report 'Our Children and Young People – Our Shared Responsibility'.

The reform process led to the development of an assessment model –

UNOCINI

Understanding the Needs of Children in N. I. which aims to become the universally accepted model in N.I. for referring, assessing and reviewing the needs of vulnerable children. Together with this, a range of other RIT products and policies have been developed. The objective is to promote consistency throughout all Agencies/ disciplines.

The RIT Workstreams

The original ten [now nine] Workstreams of RIT have variable levels of current work. Some work has been merged into other Workstreams i.e. W 5 while others have a lot of ongoing activity. Some are progressing through other types of groups e.g. W4 SBNI & W 7 Children Services Planning however reports are made monthly on all of these at the RIT

Dear All,

Welcome to this first edition of the Regional Implementation Team News. Change Co-ordinators prepare their own internal RIT Updates but I thought in my role of developing/ improving RIT regionally that I should prepare a Regional RIT E-Newsletter encompassing a range of developments. Hopefully this will be an easy way for staff from a wide range of Agencies and professions, to get an update on the current RIT work being done.

I am fortunate that our RIT Project Administrator, Grace Hamilton, has been a Reporter/Editor in a previous life so has kindly assisted with setting up the format for this. I am also grateful to NISCC for hosting RIT and providing any assistance we may need.

I hope you find this Newsletter both informative and interesting.

Marian Hall

RIT Improvement / Development Manager.

RIT WORKSTREAMS

Workstream 1:

INFORMATION
SYSTEMS

Chair: Michael
Murray

Workstream 2:

ROLES AND
GRADES

Chair: John Toner

Workstream 3:

EVALUATION

Chair: Brendan
Johnston

Workstream 4

Safeguarding Board
for Northern
Ireland [SBNI]

Chair: Patricia Nicholl

Workstream 6:

TRAINING

Chair: John Growcott

Workstream 5:

ASSESSMENT
FRAMEWORK.

Functions absorbed
into W1/W9

Workstream 10:

CASELOAD
MANAGEMENT
MODEL

Chair: Deirdre Mahon



Workstream 7:

CHILDREN'S
SERVICES
PLANNING

Chair: Fionnuala
McAndrew

Workstream 8:

GUIDE TO CASE
MANAGEMENT IN
PUBLIC LAW
PROCEEDINGS

Chair: Tom Cassidy

Workstream 9:

LOOKED AFTER
CHILDREN.

Chair: Jacqui
McGarvey

Workstream 1- Information Systems.

Chair; Michael Murray. This Workstream is very complex hence the detail and space given to this Workstream. The plan is now to make UNOCINI products available electronically.

Phase 1 – Registration, Referral and Initial Assessment

Phase 1 Part 1 – Registration and Referral

(including supporting information on preliminary assessment)

Testing of this software was completed by the Business Services Organisation [BSO]. Some issues were raised & have been addressed as part of the development work.

Phase 1 Part 2 – Initial Assessment

The Initial Assessment software has been developed by the supplier. This software and the outstanding items from Phase 1 Part 1 were delivered to BSO. Testing is currently ongoing and, whilst a number of issues have been identified and are with the supplier for resolution, the vast bulk of the software is working as required.

Phase 2 – Pathways

Phase 2 – Pathways User Requirements Specification

Family Support Pathway

All three forms in the family support pathway have been reviewed and the specification agreed by the Development Team. The FS2 - Family Support Pathway Assessment Form was signed off by Quality Assurance [Q.A.] Group. The specifications for the remaining Family Support Pathway assessment forms FS1, Initial Family Support Plan & FS3, Review Family Support Plan also signed off. The User Requirement Specification [URS] is with the system suppliers and the design specification is being finalised.

Child Protection Pathway

The main pathway analysis for Child Protection has been completed. There is still outstanding work to be done on reporting and letters. This will be completed once the analysis of the LAC forms has been finished. The final versions of the Child Protection forms were presented to the Q. A. Group. Formal acceptance of the forms has been obtained for all forms except one. The usage of Core Group Meeting Record is to be examined following discussions at the Q.A. meeting. Any amendments will then be presented for final Quality Assurance. Following final write up, the URS for the Child Protection Pathway will be passed to the company, BRM for design and development.

Looked After Children and Leaving and Aftercare Pathway

The RIT Workstream 5 Looked after Children [LAC] Sub-Group was stood down and the analysis required on the LAC UNOCINI formally transferred to the UNOCINI Development team. The members of the RIT group have joined the Development Team. Work has now begun on the LAC Assessment document. Questions about permanence planning /panel process, resource panel, independent visitor/advocate are being resolved. To assist the professional sub group in W1, this has now been referenced to W9 Looked After Children.

Implementation

The Southern Trust has established their implementation team. Membership includes professional, information & ICT, training and BSO representative. They have an initial plan in place and are working on the more detailed version. Any learning from their pilot project will be factored into the regional implementation planning process. The Northern Trust has established a project board including BSO representation. The S.E.Trust has established a project board. Plans are being made to agree their priorities. Work within Western and Belfast Trusts will take a bit longer as account has to be taken of existing IT systems which are operating within these Trusts.

Secure Exchange of information between Agencies.

This Workstream is also progressing work to allow for a secure electronic exchange of information within and between a number of Agencies e.g. PSNI, PBNI & Youth Justice.

Nursing/UNOCINI

In addition to the above, nursing colleagues have also progressed work regionally on the development of a Family Health Needs Assessment (FHNA) model. The FHNA will also be included as part of the electronic solution. This will be progressed at a slightly later stage and it is hoped there will be a capacity to cross populate information from the FHNA into UNOCINI.

Other Workstreams

W'STREAM 2

ROLES & GRADES

Chair John Toner

This Group has been re-introduced to address issues about job descriptions needing review. These include Family Support Worker, Team Assistant, Team Leader, Senior Pracs & Prin Pracs.

W' STREAM 3- EVALUATION

Chair Brendan

Johnston

This Group is evaluating UNOCINI and includes staff from Trust S.W. / Nursing, from Teaching, PSNI, PBNI, CiNI VOYPIC & QUB.

The plan is to establish how far UNOCINI training/ implementation has progressed & agree methods to obtain parents & children views.

W'STREAM 4 -

SBNJ Chair Patricia Nicholl

Working on legislation to establish a Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland (SBNJ). The Group is on target in relation to primary & Secondary legislation & Evidence.

Other workstreams

Workstream 9 Looked after Children [LAC]

Formerly Residential Child Care

Chair: Jacqui McGarvey,

Workstream 9 had been doing a lot of work and this has included producing a range of Papers on both Care and Juvenile Justice. However, this Workstream has now been extended to incorporate all Looked After Children hence the change of name.

Work is being undertaken on Papers re Children/Juvenile Justice. A Child Care Workstream sub group also met in October to ask various Trust representatives to update/complete six Policy Papers in regard to Admission Policy, Child Protection, Misuse of Substances, Anti Bullying, Use of Resource Panels and Use of Physical Restraint. Another Group is now being convened to consider material produced in relation to LACE [Looked after Children in Education.]

Workstream 10 Case Management Model [Chair: Deirdre Mahon]

Workstream 10 has been working on Case Management Models in a plan to assess and equalise workloads. This has been difficult to finalise because of its complexity and in an attempt to be realistic, fair and equitable to all aspects of work. It is hoped that the schemes will be finalised by December so that the Implementation Group can consider and hopefully agree these. This would then move on to the Project Reference Group for approval and after that to the DHSSPS for approval and recommendation to Trusts to implement. A Training Plan and Implementation Plan will then be prepared.

Trust Change Co-ordinators [see page 4 for details] act as the liaison persons for RIT within each Trust. They work on developing/updating RIT Policies and Products as required. They meet fortnightly and work together on whatever is required. They also meet with the Project Development Manager once per month to review progress and plan further work. The RIT Change Co-ordinators take all issues back to their own RIT Trust Project Groups for discussion and planning how RIT plans are to be implemented within their Trust. Currently the Change Co-ordinators have just completed work on updating the Administrative Policy and SOS CARE arrangements and are now updating UNOCINI Guidance. Change Co-ordinators also work alongside some Workstreams to assist them in moving issues forward, e.g. with Workstream 1 on the plan to make electronic formats for UNOCINI pro formas and prepare Trusts for these new I.T. developments. Change Co-ordinators are also members of Workstream 3, Evaluation

Workstream 6 Training

[Chair John Growcott]

This Workstream's function is to consider the training implications arising out of the various Workstreams /other RIT products. A Strategic plan on how training should be provided by Trusts will be agreed by this Workstream. This will then go for consideration/approval at each Trust RIT Project Board. Training plans will need to be incorporated into Trust Training Bids so that the required training can be provided within each Trust.

Workstream 8

Guide to Case

Management in Public Law Proceedings

[Chair Tom Cassidy]

A successful training programme highlighting the requirements of the Children Order Advisory Committee [COAC] Best Practice Guidance was written and delivered by this Workstream. They are now closely involved in monitoring the required statistics to indicate how far Trusts are adhering to these new arrangements.