

Improving Life Chances Implementation Group 14th May 2018

<p>In Attendance: Gill Robinson (Chair SPS); Debbie Nolan (CYCJ); Alison Melville (SG Youth Justice); Christine Walker (Robertson Trust); Carole Dearie (St Mary's Kenmure); Brian Reid (Police Scotland); Fiona Bennett (Barnardos); Vonnie Sandlan (Colleges Scotland); Mairi Tulbure (Up to Us); Russell Hamilton (Action for Children); Jackie Deas (Care Inspectorate); Gemma Fraser (Community Justice Scotland); Jan Green (Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists); Aileen O'Hagan (Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists); Lynne McNiven (Child Health Commissioners) by phone</p>			
<p>Apologies: Alan McCloskey (Victim Support Scotland); Iain Macaulay (NYJAG/North Lanarkshire Council); Liz Murdoch (SG Youth Justice); Alan Milliken (ADES); Craig French (SACRO); Peter Imrie (SG Youth Justice); David Doris (SG Youth Justice); Michelle Gibson (Skills Development Scotland); Ann Kivlin (Education Scotland); Jenny Leishman (Justice Analytical Service); Michael Shanks (Includem)</p>			
	Agenda Item	Notes of Discussion	
1	Welcome and introductions (All)		
2	Membership update (All)	<p>New representatives welcomed to the Group: Jan Green (Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists) Brian Reid (Police Scotland) Mairi Tulbure (Up to Us)</p> <p>Christine Walker introduced as new Deputy Chair.</p> <p>It was acknowledged this is the last meeting for Alison Melville (SG Youth Justice). Alison was thanked for her hard work and contributions to the ILC Agenda. A new representative is TBC.</p>	
Actions		By Whom	Status
1. SG rep TBC		AMe	ASAP
3	Note/Matters arising (All)	<p>Note agreed. Most action points completed.</p> <p>VS provided an update on retention and attainment. Vonnie advised that there have been concerns across the sector and Scottish Government about recruitment and attainment in Further Education for some time. In some courses this is as low as 50% and this can be higher for vulnerable students. As a result 5 colleges were invited to participate in a pilot improvement project funded by Scottish Government and with full time support from Liz Schevlin (SG). This project has now completed 1 year and some dramatic shifts have been achieved (e.g. in 1 course retention has increased by 25%). The 5 colleges will continue involvement for a further year. It was noted this approach may be useful, with DN highlighting this has been utilised in CYCJ/Staf LAC and Offending Next Steps project and GF in a Diversion Project in Aberdeen.</p> <p>CW and VS agreed to link re: Robertson Scholarship</p>	

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		<p>Project.</p> <p>There is also scope for group to influence the Learner Journey Agenda.</p> <p>Laura Faulkner is unable to contribute to SLCN work but remains interested.</p>
Actions	By Whom	Status
1. LM to send minutes of YJIB once agreed	LM	Prior to the next meeting
2. Send copy of needs analysis to GR	CD	Prior to the next meeting
3. VS to provide a further update on the above at the next meeting	VS	Next meeting
4. VS to circulate brief on learner journey	VS	Prior to the next meeting
5. AMe to discuss with SG how group can best contribute to learner journey	AMe	Prior to the next meeting
4	Update from the Youth Justice Improvement Board Justice Board; and High Impact group (GR)	<p>GR reiterated the YJIB is responsible for actioning the youth justice strategy Preventing Offending Getting it right for children and young people, supported by the work of the 3 Implementation Groups, with the Groups having influence on various levels (strategically, as a group via the workplan, and as individuals within our own organisation and other areas of work we are involved in). The connection between these groups was with personnel brought together at quarterly Chairs meetings, YJIB, and CYCJ project managers work closely.</p> <p>The Justice Board is the equivalent to the YJIB but for community justice and at times both Boards have met. At the last joint meeting on 23.2.18 a range of opportunities for change in youth justice were identified including YOYP, revisions to Sentencing Guidelines, Inspection including on the prosecution of young people, and understanding about ACES, brain development and maturation. However, various concerns were identified that could destabilise progress, including the prioritisation of YJ and funding models, with the task being to utilise available opportunities while protecting from risks.</p> <p>The High Impact Group has been established to explore the biggest issues facing youth justice and how change can best be effected e.g. in filling data gaps, utilising planning cycles.</p> <p>At these different levels, people have been struck in particular by the work of the group on school inclusion and Looking behind the data paper and support in</p>

		principle the work on SLCNs. It is important to keep this context in mind and how and where the ILC group is best placed to help inform future discussions.
5	Work of the Group	<p>GR verbally thanked and updated all members for their contributions to discussions with DN and GR ahead of this meeting. In terms of the work of the group thus far and going forward, a number of themes had emerged:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Good representation on the group, with organisations and individuals supportive of the work of the group. Although it can be hard to physically attend the meetings, members reported that they remain committed to the group and want to contribute, requesting more virtual connection and one-to-one contact between meetings. It was suggested virtual platforms like basecamp may be useful for sharing documents and questions. •The broad agenda of the group means we need to be clear how we can best channel our energies and focus, with the reprioritisation of the workplan and re-energising of work welcomed. We also need to ensure that we are not duplicating work, including that of other implementation groups. •The group are keen to take work on, start and finish subgroups could be useful and we should not be afraid to hold group members to task <p>VS advised that as Colleges Scotland is a more outward facing, membership organisation and College Development Network is more focused on supporting colleges and closer to practice, CDN could be represented on the group. Agreed this would be discussed outwith this meeting</p>
Actions		By Whom
6. VS and GR/DN to discuss CDN		DN/GR/VS
		Status
		Prior to next meeting
6	Review of the workplan and agreed future priorities	<p>Amendments to workplan agreed (see attached). In addition, it was agreed that:</p> <p>School inclusion: capacity building and supporting champions is being pursued with Scottish Government education team and therefore will not be included in the workplan;</p> <p>Relationships: Information re: risk assessment be passed to DCI group who are focusing on this area (Update-START:AV was designed for females as well and a large sample will be used in the evaluation of this tool); pathways, needs, supports and best practice for young people presenting high vulnerability was deemed to go beyond the theme of relationships;</p> <p>Community confidence: suggestions around media, messaging and reach will not be covered by this group in</p>

		light of other areas of work and those with expertise in this area; Reintegration and transitions: Importance of data and monitoring of this pass on to DCI and WSA groups (Update-SCRA referrals are being monitored by the WSA group); suggestions on reframing transitions included in key messages.	
Actions		By Whom	Status
7. Any issues with content of workplan to be raised with DN/GR		All to GR/DN	ASAP
7	Impact Document	2015-17 document agreed. MS and GF thanked for their involvement in this. Efforts have been made to begin extending this to capture 2018 information (we will try to rationalise information on outcomes in the workplan and impact both achieved and intended ahead of the next meeting).	
Actions		By Whom	Status
8. Updated document to be shared with note-any comments to be shared		All to GR/DN	ASAP
9. CW agreed to share Robertson's Trust work on impact		CW	Prior to the next meeting
10. Rationalise how we present information on outcomes		DN/GR/CW	Prior to the next meeting
8	Key messages document	Suggested format and contributors to the document suggested: -School inclusion: CW to draft in next 2 weeks so example can be shared with group. Others to then complete sections in 4 weeks. -Relationships: RH -Victims: AMc and community confidence: GR -Health: LMc -Opportunities for all: MG (on subgroup) and VS on FE -Transitions: DN/GR JG to check SLCN through full document This should enable a good draft to be developed by next meeting.	
Actions		By Whom	Status
11. If anyone is unable to complete section please advise		All to DN	ASAP
12. CW to start and DN to circulate to group for individual section		CW to All by DN	2 weeks and 6 weeks

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completion		
9	Update on areas of work	<p>•Health and wellbeing-Following the Speech Language and Communication Needs event, as agreed at the last meeting, an SLCN subgroup has been established. The first action of this group was to have a SLT identified to represent on the ILC Group (JG has agreed to do so) and to present to the group. JG did so, highlighting why SLCN is a core matter for YJ, the insufficient resource and attention that has been devoted to these matters thus far, and introduced the proposed action plan for the subgroup.</p> <p>Members advised that they were supportive of enhanced attention being given to this area, recognising that this is a matter effecting most of the youth justice population; key to improving life chances and promoting wellbeing; and resonated with their experiences of working with yp. It was recognised that the YJ Strategy commits to “Improve awareness and support of speech, language and communication needs of children involved in offending”, which may include identifying and addressing barriers and risks to the strategy not being delivered but there are limits to the strategy. JG and Aileen O’Hagan facilitated discussion, with the key points highlighted by the group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLCN needs to be integrated into all work (building the capacity of the workforce, including those who have most time with young people; increasing access to SLT is important but so too is recognising when additional professionals can overwhelm a child/family; make links with trauma informed practice recognising this is impossible without being communication informed and stressing that being communication informed benefits all) and across the justice system (e.g. screening at first contact and at different stages; helping sentencers to communicate and young people to understand what language of court means); • Given the current attention to ACEs, attachment, brain development and relationships, it should be easier to make the link to SLCNs. However, skilful integration of knowledge and understanding re: SLCNs into these discussions and areas of work is important; • The need to establish what work is already going on re: SLCNs (including earlier in childhood, while acknowledging that such services can miss those who need them most e.g. as a result of nonattendance at school, family circumstances

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		<p>and confidence, intergenerational cycles, service structures); in YJ (e.g. schools using funds for SLT, SG funding for training to secure care staff, possible pilots of SLT links in teams, Cyrus Tata and Fergus McNeill's proposed research on how people understand sentencing); and more broadly (e.g. the care review and language) to avoid duplication. The need for universal and targeted interventions, within and outwith the justice system, to reach the right people with the right service was noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a clear link to the work of the Developing Capacity and Improvement Group (DCI) in terms of training and to the groups key messages document. <p>Also discussed during the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening relationships and engagement-SQA Vulnerable Girls and Young Women course to be launched at YJ conference; Event on LGBTI young people in the justice system on 18th May; • Opportunities for all-Community Payback Order information sheet amended with feedback from ILC Group and published in April; Scotland Works for You guidance to understand the Disclosure System launched in April; Debating Disclosure event took place 25th April; Management of Offenders Bill call for views complete; Disclosure consultation launched with 18th July deadline- ILC response will be drafted. 	
Actions		By Whom	Status
13. CW to share details of Sarah Dobbs (ACEs network)		CW to JG	ASAP
14. SLCN subgroup to meet		To include LMc; GF; a member of the DCI group; Laura Mulchacy (Criminal Justice Voluntary Sector Forum).	Early June
10	Date of the next meeting	<p>Monday 27th August 1pm-4pm Room 104a, Lord Hope Building, University of Strathclyde</p> <p>Wednesday 21st November 10am-1pm Room 104a, Lord Hope Building, University of Strathclyde</p>	