



NORTHERN IRELAND ACTION PLAN FOR LEARNING DISABILITY NURSING REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

August 2014

BACKGROUND

In June 2014, the Chief Nursing Officer launched The Northern Ireland Action Plan for Learning Disabilities Nursing which sets out a clear direction of travel and proposed priorities for registered nurses - learning disabilities in Northern Ireland for the next three to five years.

It is the first such professional action plan to be published by the DHSSPS in Northern Ireland for the learning disability nursing profession. It has equal relevance to learning disability nurses in the statutory, independent, or voluntary sectors and within education and is also intended to provide impetus and direction for the development of an effective, competent high quality health care support workforce.

The action plan provides focus and direction on how local learning disability nurses working in practice, education, management and/or research, can best contribute to the care of service users in the future.

Within the action plan, it is stated, *“To lead, drive, support, monitor and deliver this action plan the DHSSPS will establish a N.I. Learning Disabilities Nursing Regional Collaborative by May 2014 to support delivery of the actions. The group should have representation from service user groups; the independent sector; all five of the health and social care organisations; educational providers, NIPEC; the Health and Social Care Board, Public Health Agency and take into account other stakeholders as necessary.”*

The Chief Nursing Officer has asked Dr. Glynis Henry, CBE, Head of HSC Clinical Education Centre to chair this group and has requested that the group be facilitated by NIPEC, specifically by Frances Cannon.

This regional collaborative will aim to identify key priorities for action, both on a short term and longer term basis and will secure implementation of the recommended actions on a priority basis.

Membership

The regional collaborative will be comprised of individuals from a range of relevant organisations and sectors and will involve service user and carer representation as part of the process of implementation.

Membership currently, is as follows:

- Dr. Glynis Henry, CBE, Head, HSC, Clinical Education Centre: Chair
- Frances Cannon, Senior Professional Officer, NIPEC (Project Lead)
- Maurice Devine, MBE, Assistant Head, HSC Clinical Education Centre
- Bryce McMurray, Director of Mental Health & Disability (Acting), SHSCT
- Sharon McRoberts, Assistant Director of Nursing, Workforce & Education, SEHSCT
- Eileen Dealey, Head of Service & Professional Lead Nurse, WHSCT
- Donna Morgan, Head of Service Learning Disability, NHSCT
- Gordon Moore, Community Services Manager, SEHSCT
- Esther Rafferty, Associate Director of Learning Disability Nursing, BHSCT
- Barbara Tate, Lead Nurse, for Children's Learning Disability, SEHSCT
- Carol Cousins, Managing Director, Four Season Health Care
- Lorraine Kirkpatrick, Regional Manager, Four Seasons Health Care
- J.P. Watson, Director of Operations, Four Seasons Health Care
- Laurence Taggart, (RCN LD nursing forum rep)
- Wendy McGregor, Mental Health & Learning Inspector, RQIA
- Peter Griffin, Nurse Lecturer & Learning Disability Nursing (Professional Lead), Queen's University of Belfast
- Professor Owen Barr, Head of School of Nursing, Ulster University
- Briege Quinn, Nurse Consultant, PHA
- Leslie-Anne Newton, NI Director, ARKNI
- Lauren Bell, Pre-registration rep students, Queen's University of Belfast
- Mary Neeson, Community Learning Disability Nurse, Post-registration rep students WHSCT/UU
- Anne Campbell, Network Lead, RCN LD Network NI
- Rosemary Dilworth, Operations Director NI, Craegmoor

Amended June 2016

The Regional Collaborative will meet quarterly and its aims are:

- To initially carry out a baseline scoping exercise of current progress and achievement in meeting the recommendations within the Northern Ireland Action Plan across all relevant organisations.
- To identify local and regional priority areas for action, establish local action plans and be accountable for delivery of same within the host organisation.
- To take responsibility for providing awareness and encouraging participation across all specific and specialist areas relating to learning disability nursing within the host organisation.
- To provide a regional resource through the sharing of knowledge, expertise, service development, and innovation that will promote, influence and enhance best practice and consistency in learning disability nursing practice within services across N. Ireland.

- To provide strategic direction and leadership for all of the nursing fields of practice and specialisms who work with people with learning disabilities in Northern Ireland.
- Where required to identify and co-opt other members on to the regional implementation group.
- To ensure that Northern Ireland is fully and adequately engaged with the other 3 countries of the UK in the context of the national Strengthening the Commitment review of Learning Disabilities Nursing.
- To agree and ensure a robust and formal process of feedback to the DHSSPS.

Individual group members of the collaborative will:

- Take a leadership role for specific elements of the work stream on behalf of the group
- Work to identified timescales for specific workstreams
- Act as advocates for the implementation of the action plan in local areas, facilitating action and communicating progress to relevant others
- When requested give timely feedback to the group or to those in work streams on proposals, decisions or actions
- Engage actively and regularly with the process of implementation
- Provide a briefed replacement when absence from meetings is unavoidable.

Review and evaluation

Review and evaluation of progress will be a continual dynamic of the work of the regional collaborative. However, there is a formal requirement for the collaborative to provide a formal report of progress on an annual basis to the Chief Nursing Officer. The format and structure of the reporting template will be for collaborative members to agree and develop.