

Laing SG (Shirley)


From: Minister for Health and Community Care
 Sent: 07 February 2005 17:54
 To: McLeod DG (Dave)
 Cc: Maclellan J (Jean); PS/ED; PS/JD; PS/DD; Henderson G (Gregor); Gordon IW (Ian); PS/HD Health; Minister for Communities; Minister for Education and Young People; Minister for Justice; Freeman J (Jeane); Clark M (Matthew); Phillips D (Danny); Clark M (Matthew)
 Subject: Meeting: Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse: 2 February 2005

Dave

Copy as above

MEETING: SURVIVORS OF CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE: 2 FEBRUARY 2005

Please find attached the note of the above discussion.


 lb070205 scsa.doc
 (31 KB)

During the meeting, the following actions were agreed,

1. An internal group of officials from each Department is to be formed to pursue this work.
2. Consider report and advise what we are, and are not, currently delivering, and what might be delivered
3. Provide advice on Barnardos' work on resilience
4. Ask HD Researchers to carry out a literature review
5. Provide advice on the journey faced by those who have suffered from emotional, physical and sexual abuse
6. Provide advice on what the proposed £1m over 3 years would buy, together with advice on the current funding provided for related issues

I would be grateful if you would ensure this is provided by 7 March.

Thanks

Lindsay Blakemore
 PS/Minister for Health and Community Care
 7 February 2005

MEETING: SURVIVORS OF CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE: 2 FEBRUARY 2005

Mr Kerr and Ms Brankin met Ms Jamieson, Mr Chisholm and Mr Peacock on 2 February to discuss the handling of the recommendations of the Short Life Working Group on Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse. During the meeting, the following points were made,

- The needs of survivors require a co-ordinated response, touching on policies within Health, Communities, Education and Justice. The Cross Party Group is not pressing for extensive additional resources, but rather, better co-ordination. Executive officials from all relevant Departments need to pull together, with Vulnerable Adults Division taking the lead.
- Many survivors do not have specific additional needs and so lessons should be learnt from this. However, the survivors need to feel that they have ownership and so the Executive should help them to develop solutions.
- There is a further group considering In-Care survivors, with funding already committed to this work, but there is a need to ensure the work links closely with the more general approach, whilst being aware of the sensitivities of 'badging' the groups together.
- Individual problems are all very different, but they are currently treated very differently in different parts of the country.
- Funding some of the recommendations, eg homelessness, would show Executive commitment.
- Ministers should agree a way forward before any external work is pursued, including the appointment of any consultants.