Governance Arrangements (Draft v 11 10/08/25)

Proposal for Consideration at RCRP Silver Operational Group

Governance Structures

PSNI and HSC organisations have collective responsibility for ensuring the RCRP regionally agreed policies, memoranda of understanding and the revised Mental Health Order Code of Practice guidance, in relation to Article 129 and 130, are implemented in a safe and effective manner which improve outcomes for service users.

The following groups will provide the framework for the governance structure and the relationship between these are described later in this document.

* RCRP Strategic Group
* RCRP Silver Operational Group
* Regional RCRP Governance Group
* Local RCRP Governance Group

During the first two years of implementation, the Silver Operational Group will have responsibility for monitoring the effectiveness of the workplans established through the RCRP Silver subgroups, to enable RCRP deliver on the agreed pathways.

There should be no duplication with existing governance arrangements that focus on day to day delivery of service, and which are already established within the full range of agencies involved in the RCRP Partnership approach. The RCRP governance arrangements will overlay existing arrangements and focus solely on the arrangements specifically set out under RCRP partnership arrangements.

Performance measures

The RCRP Outcomes and Data subgroup will clearly define the measures that will be collated to report on activity and enable analysis to show how well RCRP partnership arrangements are working. The agreements and provisions outlined within the RCRP Memorandums of Understanding will be monitored by all Agencies with Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) put in place across each provider network.

The higher level measures and feedback on effectiveness of RCRP have been structured in line with the four pillars framework as set out below. Each area will be worked through in more detail by the RCRP Outcomes and Data subgroup but will include elements of the outcome measures referred to below.

## Concern for welfare

(Measurements still to be agreed as well as how these will be collated. Could include near misses)

Art129/130 compliance with revised code of practice

\* Number of Patients brought to a place of safety by police

\*Time from arrival to handover from PSNI to HSC

\* Time between arrival and first medical assessment

\* Time from arrival and second medical assessment under MHO

\* Time between request for ASW and the ASW initial response and assessment being completed

\* Issues in relation to conveyance

\* Issues in relation to access to the patient for police, medical practitioners and ASW

Walk out and Missing from Healthcare Protocol

\* Number of referrals made to PSNI for assistance

\* Number of noncompliance incidents reported and agency responsible for noncompliance

\* Trends in relation to situations of noncompliance with policy

Conveyance arrangements

\* Number of times where conveyance issues resulted in delays of transferring patient to agreed destination

\* Number of times where delays in securing a bed resulted in delays in conveyance

\* Number of times police assistance was requested by NIAS

\*Number of times police assistance was requested by NIAS

\* Number of times police assistance was not provided as PSNI assessed the request as not meeting the agreed threshold for their involvement

\* Trends of when police assistance was requested and not provided

\*Number of times noncompliance with agreed MOU was reported and by which agency

\* Number of times each agency was reported to have behaved in away that did not comply with MOU

\*Trends identified in incidents of noncompliance

Proposed Governance Structure

RCRP Locality Governance Group

1. Each Trust currently has an arrangement in place to discuss interface issues with their police colleagues. The membership and issues vary across the Trusts and the main discussion tends to centre around interface issues in relation to people with lived experience of mental health. The intention is to build on these already established interface meetings rather than create a separate assurance structure. Membership should be extended to include NIAS and ED representatives. Consideration should also be given to including staff from services that provide care and support to vulnerable adults and child related issues.

The group should be chaired by senior representative(s) at Head of Service/ Assistant Director or above, who are in a position to support effective working relationship across agencies and hold to account when necessary.

The multi-agency RCRP Locality Governance Group will perform the following roles:

* Consider the RCRP interface processes and how well they are working
* Discuss individual cases where issues have occurred across the pathway to ensure learnings across the system from these specific cases.
* Maintain a Local Action Plan and report back to the Regional RCRP Governance Group
* Monitor any local issues that arise specific to the geographical area
* Monitor performance in the local geographical area
* The chair / co-chairs of each group will provide a report on a quarterly basis to the RCRP Regional Governance Group on the implementation of RCRP in their area, best practice, areas of noncompliance and unresolved disputes.

1. A regionally agreed TOR will be developed to support the reduction of unwarranted variance in the operation of these RCRP locality interface groups. The groups should be chaired by HSC building on the current model existing within geographical areas.

Regional RCRP Governance Group

1. The RCRP Regional Group will be made up of representatives from each of the RCRP Locality Groups.
2. The Regional RCRP Governance Group will analyse the information provided to them by the Locality RCRP Governance Groups and prepare a regional summary for sharing at the RCRP Silver Operational meetings during the first two years of implementation, and until RCRP becomes business as usual. They will also have a responsibility to work together to find resolution for points of conflict.
3. The Regional group will be co-chaired by SPPG Director of Mental Health and a PSNI senior officer. The terms of reference will be approved by the RCRP Silver group.

Dispute Resolution

1. Public services have competing and different demands upon them, which can lead to operational delays. However, each Agency will make every attempt to manage their own responsibilities appropriately to ensure that personnel and resources can be made available to respond to new calls from the public.
2. Where any Agency is unable to respond in a timely manner then an agreed escalation process will be followed to ensure effective contact at management level to resolve the matter expeditiously. To reflect the urgent nature of this issue, the escalation process must be executed in accordance with the specific operational demand - this must take precedence over any formal escalation process.

This will be achieved, in the first instance, by contact being made between the relevant parties.

1. Should this contact fail to resolve the matter satisfactorily, then each agency will escalate the matter to the on duty (or on call) Senior Manager. Full details of the identified individuals and contact details are at Appendices
2. Where there has been significant disagreement over a specific case or to any element of RCRP implementation, a post incident debrief review will be held to inform future actions and agreements within a time period suitable to the parties. Such a meeting will be chaired by an independent individual from a differing area or service and will be negotiated through the Regional RCRP Governance Group. This process will work parallel to and be supported by agency specific operational governance arrangements.

Diagram to show RCRP Governance Reporting lines

BHSCT Area RCRP Locality Group

RCRP Strategic Group

NHSCT Area RCRP Locality Group

RCRP

Silver Group

RCRP Regional Group

SEHSCT Area RCRP Locality Group

\*Note these are not new groups – they are building on the already stabilised Trust – PSNI interface groups

\* the Regional RCRP group will be a newly established group

WHSCT Area RCRP Locality Group

SHSCT Area RCRP Locality Group

**Appendix 1 – PSNI Escalation Pathways and Contact Details**

**Trust Area v Policing Districts**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Belfast Trust | SE Trust | Southern Trust | Western Trust | Northern Trust |
| A District | B District | D District | G District | J District |
| B District | C District | E District | H District | F District |
|  | D District | F District | J District | K District |
|  |  |  |  | L District |

A map of different colored areas

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

If an extension number is provided please ring 101 option 1 enables you to input the extension you require.

**Live incident Pre Deployment** – police have not accepted the call or disagreement between partners on deployment

Escalation to CMC (Contact Management Centre) Supervisors:-

|  |
| --- |
| A District North and West Belfast – Ext 19805 |
| A District South and East Belfast – Ext 19825 |
| B District – Ext 19845 |
| C District – Ext 19865 |
| H and J District – Ext 59536 |
| K and L District – Ext 59599 |
| D and E District – Ext 34595 |
| F and G District – Ext 34596 |

Further escalation through duty/on call CMC Inspector – no on call mobile specifically, however the CMC Supervisor will have access to the rota and be in a position to provide details.

**Live incident Police at a call – community/hospital/custody –** an ongoing incident which needs immediate attention

Duty Sergeant

Duty Inspector

Duty Officer

**Non – Live Ongoing localised operational issues –** matter’s that need raised but not specifically linked to a specific ongoing incident or individual

Vulnerability Inspector

Justice Healthcare

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| District | Police Points of Contact |
| A | Police mobile numbers and names removed for purpose of sharing with RCRP Silver |
| B |  |
| C |  |
| D |  |
| E |  |
| F |  |
| G |  |
| H |  |
| J |  |
| K |  |
| L |  |
| Policy |  |

Version date 090725



