

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING
MINUTES OF ANTRIM LOCALITY GROUP**

**TUESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 2.00PM
CIVIC CENTRE, ANTRIM**

Attending:	Mervyn Rea	<i>Antrim Borough Council</i>
	Chris Lindsay	<i>EWS</i>
	Laura Dillon	<i>Women's Aid ABCLN</i>
	Gemma Lutton	<i>CYPSP (Minute Taker)</i>
	Marie Donaghy	<i>NRC</i>
	Joyce Kinnaird	<i>PHA</i>
	Joanne Cleary	<i>Antrim Surestart</i>
	Sharon Harvey	<i>Early Years</i>
	Petr Zvolsky	<i>NHSCT</i>
	Andrew Irwin	<i>Antrim PCSP</i>
	Pamela Shields	<i>Oasis Antrim</i>
	Sarah Best	<i>SACN</i>
	Kerry Brady	<i>Antrim Borough Council</i>
	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Margaret Thompson	<i>Home-Start Antrim</i>
Apologies:	Jason Jordan	<i>NEELB Youth Service</i>
	Pam Nugent	<i>The Laurence Trust</i>
	Nora McKnight	<i>First Church Antrim</i>
	Alison Briggs	<i>Antrim Borough Council</i>
	Kerry McDowell	<i>Newlife Counselling</i>
	Alison Briggs	<i>Antrim Borough Council</i>

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mervyn welcomed everyone to the meeting today and apologies were noted.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate recording of the previous meeting held on **Tuesday 20th May 2014**.

MATTERS ARISING

Antrim Learning Together

It was noted the Antrim Learning Together haven't met since July. Selena and Chris to meet with them in advance of the next meeting.

ACTION- Selena/ Chris

Ward Boundaries

Selena agreed to get the new ward boundaries for Antrim. It was noted Surestart as staying with the existing wards at present.

GERRY MCDONALD – THINK DRINK

Gerry McDonald is the Impact of Alcohol Portfolio Manager covering the Northern Trust area. This is a Big Lottery funded programme with the aim to reduce the harm to individuals, families and communities directly affected by alcohol misuse. It was noted NI has a serious problem with alcohol. 72% of people in NI drink alcohol. Gerry distributed a leaflet 'Think Drink'. The leaflet has a self-assessment questionnaire and if answered correctly will identify what at risk category the person completing scores.

Gerry also distributed a copy of a presentation to the group. The presentation highlighted that the Northern Trust wants to leave a legacy after the portfolio has ended of empowered communities who will deliver the vision:

- “That individuals, families and communities throughout its area will confidently take the initiative to reduce the impact of alcohol misuse”.

Statistics were noted in the presentation with one given: it is estimated that alcohol misuse in Northern Ireland costs 900 million every year to areas such as healthcare, policing, prison and social services.

Gerry explained the 4 projects which form the Impact of Alcohol Portfolio.

- Believe in Youth

Peer education and specialised alcohol intervention programmes delivered directly when and where young people congregate and socialise.

- Relationships and Alcohol Misuse

Supporting and improving family relationships through counselling and reducing financial, work pressures and poverty: through advice and advocacy for families most affected by these issues.

- Healthy Body, Healthy Mind

Recognise, understand and support individuals and families affected by both mental health and alcohol problems through mentoring, education and targeted support interventions.

- Older Focus

Increasing recognition, understanding and skills around the hidden problem among care providers and families and providing specialist intervention support for older people.

Gerry noted he is looking for champions within the community. Community Champions Programme is for anyone who wants to do what they feel is needed in their community. Training and resources are

provided to champions. Gerry noted within any community there are people that have capacity.

A workshop will take place on 28th November. This will focus on how those involved could collectively improve the services available. There has already been significant change since the Impact of Alcohol Portfolio started but progress still needs made.

Discussions took place on how the project identifies what locations to focus on. Gerry noted the idea was to go to once council area but it was recognised this model didn't work. Gerry is talking to community groups / youth sector and councils who have an interest in identifying target areas.

For more information on this Initiative contact Gerry McDonald on 028 8672 3937 or 028 2563 6606. Email gerry.mcdoanld@northerntrust.hscni.net

UPDATE – ANTRIM SURESTART

Joanne provided information to the group on the developments regarding Antrim Surestart. A Coordinator is now appointed and started in June. Antrim Surestart are in the process of recruiting 4 new staff members.

Surestart are getting to know the community and the families in the area. Programmes are starting in the community and will be running in 3 areas which will be Steeple, Farranshane and Ballycraigy. A newsletter has been sent to the community to make parents aware of what programmes are running.

Joanne expressed the difficulty in getting suitable premises. Margaret agreed to contact Joanne with information on possible premises / contacts.

Action: Mary

If anyone wishes to make referrals please contact Joanne on 028 9446 9644 or email: Joanne.Cleary@actionforchildren.org.uk.

ACTION PLANNING MERGE / REVIEW

Selena informed the group the Action Plan has been merged from discussion points from the previous meeting held. This was distributed to everyone present.

It was agreed Selena will update Community Data within Mental Health section in the Action Plan. Chris and Selena will follow up regarding Antrim Learning Together to see if it can be progressed.

Action: Selena / Chris

Discussions took place and actions are as below:

Community Integration

- Youth Fair is usually run around May time. Need to look at funding for the buses for this. Selena and Sarah agreed to look at funding for this and submit a proposal early.
- Sarah to follow up on drama production.
- Sarah to chat with Gabrielle regarding mapping services in Antrim.
- Selena to speak to Jayne Colville who is involved in Mental Health Hub.

0-4

- Community data – 3 wards for Antrim Surestart
- Promote Family Support database
- Fun and Facts morning/ support for parents of 0-4s was suggested. This would involve having organisations there for parents. This would be something fun for parents to attend in the morning and this could also be linked with promoting the family support database. Selena to link with Margaret Thompson.
- The group agreed to work on the actions for this heading.

Empowering Young People

Sandra has completed some engagement with young people and they are not aware of services available for them locally. Youth Fairs have been beneficial as it highlights the services that are available.

- Selena to highlight a priority at the next outcomes group regarding young people not knowing services available.

Celebration Event

Selena provided information on a celebration event that was recently held for young people in a different area. Young people were nominated for positive contributions to their community. The event was a success and it is run by young people with help from Sandra completing engagement.

Andrew noted they have a youth provision steering group to link in with if necessary for engagement. He also noted that they are planning a similar event. Selena will link with Andrew to avoid duplication.

Funding was discussed in order to facilitate this event in the Antrim Locality area. Funding for the Magherafelt event was from PCSP, CWSAN, CYPSP and NEELB. It was suggested to identify when the best date would be to run this event for young people and then progress.

Action: Selena/ Andrew

FAMILY SUPPORT HUBS

It was noted Antrim and Ballyclare hubs are going strong. They are a more direct referral channel and it works well. It was noted different agencies take the referrals if they have capacity. A Coordinator is currently being recruited and it is hoped they will attend the Antrim Locality group when appointed. The next meeting for the hub is Tuesday 7th October 2014.

MEMBER AGENCY UPDATE

Chris Lindsay – EWS

Chris noted he will be linking with Selena to progress with Antrim Learning Together over the next few months.

Marie Donaghy – NRC

Marie informed the group NRC are holding an information event on 17th September in Crumlin from 11am – 3pm. This will be showcasing what information is available. Marie is also completing a Big Lottery Supporting Families Bid. The expression of interest has been submitted and the next deadline is the end of December for the application and progress is being made with this.

Kerry Brady – Antrim Borough Council

Kerry noted assemblies have taken place in Schools. There was a queue in schools to get speaking to Kerry and Kerry noted this was very encouraging to see.

Petr Zvolsky – NHSCCT

Peter noted he would like to link with Marie's parents group.

Andrew Irwin – PCSP

Andrew informed the group of a Youth Intervention Programme which was formed. This started in July / August in 6 different areas and was very well attended. The programme took place on Friday / Saturday nights during August and ran for a total of 8 nights. This aim was to engage with young people who were in the town centre and to attract them into something positive. Workers from OASIS and NEELB were

there each week. Andrew noted the programme started slow but was a success.

At Risk Youth run by NI Youth Forum is up and running. Andrew noted they are continuing to work with a group of young people in Springfarm. This is a small group causing trouble and known to Police. Groups in Rathenraw, Massereene and Crumlin (Antrim) have been identified and workers have been sent there to engage with the young people.

Andrew explained workers will go to these areas identified and talk to young people about their issues. Wardens are also in the community. The aim is to reduce anti-social behaviour. Wardens are also chatting to young people to direct them away from alcohol etc. and talking about issues that may be affecting their behaviour.

However, all programmes will end in March 2015. PCSP are in the process of identifying how to centralise all work as wanting to keep service delivery on.

Gerry McDonald – Impact of Alcohol

Gerry noted the Think Drink website will be going live in the next few weeks. Community Champions are now in Ballyclare and one community champion is in Coleraine. Information was given on Professional Development Training starting in Antrim next week.

Pamela Shields – OASIS Antrim

OASIS continues to grow. There will be a 12 week programme 'It's Time for the Girls' starting on 16th October 2014. This is for women to get together and discuss various topics.

Live and Learn – a men's programme will be starting on 2nd October from 1pm – 3pm and this will be a 8 week programme. Pamela noted NRC are running free English and Maths classes starting on 8th October. English is from 9.30am – 11.30am and Maths from 12.30pm – 3pm in

OASIS Antrim. It is good to have the opportunity to run these in the town centre. Pamela agreed to send leaflets for distributing to the group.

Action: Pamela

Margaret Thompson – Home-Start

Margaret informed the group the Outreach Family Group has ended as there was lack of funding. There will be a group run by a mother and they have been given toys / equipment to help facilitate this.

Information was provided on a Community Facilitator Programme. WRDA are currently recruiting for this programme, aimed at women who wish to be peer facilitators in their community. The programme will be delivered in Antrim, commencing mid-October and delivered one day a week for 12 weeks. Information will be circulated.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Chris Lindsay

Chris noted at a previous meeting that there are a group of young people meeting in the Antrim area for football / recreation. It is a group of between 80-100 people and there are challenges with gathering resources/services for such a large number.

Football is targeted at 5-16 year olds. This started with 38 children attending now there are over 100 young people attending. Chris has to run this over 2 nights instead of one to accommodate the large numbers.

It was noted Antrim are struggling with facilities. Chris has tried to establish this. Chris noted the issue of struggling with funding for this to continue running. Chris is currently doing a fundraising event to try and raise funding. There will be over 25 prizes with the top prize being a laptop, and various vouchers to be won. Money raised from this will buy children a kit for winter. This will ensure children have the necessary clothing. Local businesses are helping to support this fundraising event.

Chris noted if anyone knows anyone wanting to contribute to pass on details.

Chris provided information on the work being delivered to the groups of young people. Football is divide into 2 nights, Tuesday night is the young group and Thursday night is the older group. £1 is taken from both groups and this covers costs of the pitch and insurance etc.

Andrew agreed to link with Chris with info on accredited coaches. It was also noted there is a joint bid being submitted for 3G / 4G pitches.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Mervyn thanked everyone for attending today's meeting and noted the forum is only as good as what each member puts into it.

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on **Tuesday 18th November 2014 at 1.30pm in Antrim Civic Centre.**

Gemma agreed to check room availability with Antrim Civic Centre and email details to the group.

Action: Gemma