

Greater Shankill Family Support Hub Launch

Following a series of information workshops facilitated by the Belfast Trust and a lot of follow up work on the ground over the summer the Greater Shankill Family Support Hub was formed. The Hub was officially launched by Greater Shankill Partnership (GSP), Lead body for the area, on 15 October 2014 in Spectrum Centre, Shankill Road. This was the first of the Belfast Hubs to launch and it is now ready to receive referrals. There was an excellent turnout with approximately 50 attendees from Statutory, Voluntary and Community Sectors who have a presence in the area.

After the welcome and introductions Helen Dunne, Regional Manager for Family Support Hubs (CYPSP) set the scene for the launch by way of providing a Regional perspective as well as explaining the different structures from hubs to the CYPSP. Helen was followed by Jackie Redpath, Chief Executive of GSP. Jackie described how the Shankill has had a long history of involvement in and commitment to early intervention and family support initiatives. It has been prioritised in Shankill as the key to real improvement in a range of indicators for the area from education to health and employment. Jackie went on to outline the potential significance of the Family Support Hub particularly in light of the recent designation of the Shankill area as a 'Children and Young Peoples Zone'.

The functions of the Hub are currently met within the GSP wider team. For further information contact the Coordinator, Joanne Menabney or Ashleigh Barr, Administrator on 028 9031455