

**MINUTES OF CARRICKFERGUS CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S
LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP MEETING**

**FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 10.00AM
IN COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL BUILDINGS,
CARRICKFERGUS**

Attending:	David Gilliland	<i>YMCA</i>
	Ann Doherty	<i>NHSCT Hearty Lives</i>
	Kerry McDowell	<i>Newlife Counselling</i>
	Gemma Lutton	<i>CYPSP (Minute taker)</i>
	Gerry McDonald	<i>NHSCT</i>
	Maurice McLaughlin	<i>NIYF / Believe in Youth</i>
	Martina McCooley	<i>Youth Justice Agency</i>
	Phyllis Lewis	<i>NEELB</i>
	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Elaine Roden	<i>Women's Aid</i>
	David Norris	<i>NEELB Youth Service</i>
 Apologies:	Roy Beggs	<i>MLA</i>
	Anne Thompson	<i>SACN</i>
	Gabrielle Nellis	<i>PHA</i>
	Liz Brown	<i>NICMA</i>

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

David Gilliland agreed to chair today's meeting in Roy's absence. David welcomed everyone to the meeting today and invited a round of introductions.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The group reviewed the minutes from the meeting held on **Friday 13th June 2014** and agreed they were a true and accurate recording.

MATTERS ARISING

None noted.

PRESENTATION – JONNY MITCHELL, ACET

Jonny Mitchell works for ACET as a Health Education and Training Co-ordinator covering the Northern Trust area. Targeted Education and Prevention is provided focusing on drugs and alcohol and this is accredited training through Open College Network OCN. Part of Jonny's role is to make young people aware of what programmes are available and how they can access them.

CRUN, TIPSA and ACET have taken over the Community Support Service. These organisations will be working together to support communities in each area where there are concerns regarding drugs and alcohol and signposting to existing drug and alcohol support agencies. This will be free of charge to anyone interested in this service. Contact ACET on 028 9032 0844 for further information.

Jonny noted a huge amount of work is taking place in terms of treatment and support services. Jonny distributed a hand-out on the Voluntary, Community and Statutory organisations detailing the services offered.

A leaflet was also distributed with details on services available offering mentoring, counselling and residentials etc. Contact details are listed on this leaflet of all organisations. Some can take self-referrals and some are through the normal channels of contacting the GP.

Look after yourself and others was distributed to all present. Jonny noted poster versions are also available of this. Information was given on a range of apps which are due to launch and some are in the early stages of development. An app has recently launched which Jonny noted was useful and very user friendly. This app is Here2Help and provides information on services and support available to anyone in a crisis.

Jonny noted 10 OCN sessions can be delivered free of charge as costs are covered in the funding. These can be delivered to groups of young people if they wish to take

part in the programme. There also is the option for young people to do an unaccredited programme. Discussions took place on the different programmes available.

Jonny noted the project has been running for 4-5 years and throughout this time young people have been targeted in Carrickfergus. 15 young people have completed the 12 programmes that have run in the past year. Further Education is targeted for bigger numbers.

David thanked Jonny for providing information to Carrickfergus Children and Young People's Locality Planning Group.

If anyone would like further information contact Jonny Mitchell on:

Phone: 028 9032 0844

Email: jonny@acet-ni.com

PRESENTATION – GERRY MCDONALD

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 has previously presented to the group and since this meeting Gerry had thought a more direct approach was needed and a tool for people to use with themselves and others. Gerry distributed a new leaflet 'Think Drink'. There is a good tool in this leaflet as it has a self-assessment questionnaire and if answered correctly will identify what at risk category the person completing scores.

Gerry noted he will be developing further resources around this leaflet and a website will be up and running in coming months.

Gerry introduced Maurice to the group who will be providing information on the Believe in Youth Project. Maurice provided information on the peer education

programme. 8 peer educators are involved in this work and there are 3 main elements to the project.

- Intervention element – engaging with young people already using alcohol
- Signposting – signpost to other services
- Preventative – one goal is to delay the onset of drinking behaviour. Targeting 10-12 year olds for early intervention.

Peer Educators are currently working in communities around Ballymena. Maurice is involved in mapping and consultation to extend the project. It is hoped to have 8 target areas across the Northern Trust area and one being CarrickFergus for the Believe in Youth Project. Whitehead and Greenisland were previously discussed as target areas for Carrickfergus. It was noted 2 detached workers will be based at the skate park. Sunnylands was another area identified and young people tend to congregate in and around the subway at the train station as well as a few other areas around Sunnylands.

Maurice provided information on Community Champions. Community Champions are interested in reducing the harm of alcohol to young people. The Community Champions will go through a range of training programmes, OCN Drug and Alcohol training in order to build their knowledge. They will be supervised when completing work with young people.

Discussions took place regarding peer educators and the resources being developed for young people which are young person friendly. Apps are also a good way in delivering information and these are being developed.

Gerry noted he would like to establish the areas in Carrickfergus for Believe in Youth Project to focus on. Feedback was given to Maurice and Gerry for Greenisland and Sunnylands as the areas to be targeted by the project.

Maurice provided details for anyone wanting to get in touch for further information or to link with. Contact Maurice McLaughlin on 075 8788 0386.

FEEDBACK – YOUTH FAIR 2015

A date has been set for the Carrickfergus Youth Fair which will take place on Tuesday 10th February 2015. Hedley agreed to consult with the schools regarding this. A number of potential themes to use for this Youth Fair have been discussed.

- Commit to Commitment
- Focus on Social Media and use of Social Media
- Study Skills
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing

Selena noted a subgroup will be formed and this will narrow possible themes down. Sarah Best informed the group NICH I have previously financed the buses. Sarah noted an application will need to be completed for the buses. Oakfield Community Centre will also need booked for the Youth Fair.

A save the date will be drafted and circulated when ready.

Action: Selena / Gemma

ACTION PLAN

The action plan was reviewed and discussions took place. David expressed that he is keen to identify in each area 1 or 2 things which the group hope to achieve. Actions will be discussed at the next meeting.

MEMBER UPDATES

Kerry McDowell – Newlife Counselling

Kerry noted it is a busy period and Newlife Counselling are currently waiting on a new contract. Kerry would like to link with Maurice as people have been asking for additional information regarding alcohol.

Phyllis Lewis – NEELB

Phyllis noted there is not a lot of change in terms of education welfare. Phyllis is now also responsible for managing the Project Officer. It is hoped to deliver more of this type of work with the Project Officer in place. Phyllis is lobbying to have a youth court in the area but it is proving difficult.

Gerry McDonald – Taking the Initiative

Gerry informed the group leaflets can be requested if anyone needs more copies.

Anne Doherty – Hearty Lives

Anne provided information on a Stakeholder event scheduled for 9th October 2014. The aim of this event is get people from voluntary, statutory organisations as well as local people to look at where the project is and plan the way forward. The Hearty Lives project has 2 years remaining. Work is on-going regarding postnatal depression and mums and ante-natal classes. This work will be evaluated in December.

The Flames programme is now running in 4 schools. Workers are trying to encourage those not already participating to take part. Another programme delivered to new mums – cooking demonstrations very well attended. Buggy walking was also completed with mums. A nne is hoping to set up Early Movers which will look at physical activity from day one of the birth of a baby.

A Cook IT will begin in October. Anne expressed she would like to run a mother and toddler Cook IT but this time it will be for everyone to participate in. It is hoped the next Cook IT will focus on mothers and toddlers. Anne noted Florence Hand would like to have a slot to feedback at the next Carrickfergus Locality meeting.

Elaine Roden- Womens Aid

Homework clubs started this week and will run on Thursday's between 3pm – 5pm. These classes are for children and young people who are affected by Domestic Violence and both girls and boys and attend. The young people are referred in if mums are working with staff in Women's Aid or if mums aren't getting supported.

Elaine distributed a leaflet to the group detailing the services provided for children and young people. Details for the Programme Coordinator are on the leaflet for further information.

One to One support is also provided. A free support group will be starting up in Carrickfergus. Elaine asked if anyone is working with a child who has experienced domestic violence to refer them to Women's Aid.

Martina McCooney – Youth Justice Agency

Martina noted that the Department of Justice are taking away community grants. A lot of discussions will be taking place to look at new potential sources of funding. Information was given on Youth Disability Forums – collecting of agencies to come together to look at young people who are at risk of offending. Good communication to refer young people to services at early stages. It was noted good communication is key.

David Norris – NEELB Youth Service

A very successful summer programme was run over the summer months. This was an inclusive summer programme targeting 110 young people who were gathering locally. Those attended were Polish, Catholic and Protestant. There will be a follow up with young people and agencies to look at a Training Calendar running from September – June. There will be a 6 monthly report to be completed of how workers have achieved targets set. David noted the Needs Assessment will be updated.

Youth Intervention Programme will be delivered and will target young men. Programmes offered will focus on issues related to young men. This programme will be delivered in Larne YMCA, Whitehead, Greenisland and Ballyclare. NEELB are funding transport and hire of pitches etc. as part of the programme.

Unit Staff training will be held in October. 72 leaders will be looking at programmes available for young people. Training programmes will be set out for the year which will include Alcohol and relationships etc.

David Gilliland – YMCA

David noted work is on-going.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nothing noted.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed the next meeting will take place on **Friday 5th December 2014** at **10.00am in Community Forum Meeting Room, Town Hall Buildings, Carrickfergus.**