

Minutes of the East Belfast Locality Planning Meeting held in the Skainos Centre on Friday 4th October 2013

Attending: Maggie Andrews EBP,
Linda Armitage EBP,
Lawrence Bellew WPCA,
Lorraine Brennan BHSCT,
Liz Brown NICMA,
Lauren Belshaw EB Alternatives,
Kelly Cochrane NIACRO,
Sara Cook EBM,
Liz Dalton EB Sure Start,
Mark Davis EBM,
Rachel Davison Walkway CA,
Michelle English EB Alternatives,
Liz Greer Extern,
Anne Hardy CYPSP,
Claire Humphrey Barnardos,
Cliff Kennedy Oasis,
Michael Logan Lagan Village CA,
Ann Martin Tullycarnet SS,
Jackie McBrinn BH DU,
Matt McGinn Youth Initiatives,
Dermott McCorrigan Youth Justice Agency,
Roisin McGrann Early Years Org,
Brenda O'Neill EBM,
Geraldine O'Regan EB Sure Start,
Gillian Presho Cedar Foundation,
Roberta Richmond EB Community Counselling,
Denise Rodgers EB Sure Start,
Pauline Smart East Belfast Area Project,
Debbie Sterritt BHSCT,
Carolyn Stewart MENCAP,
Alison Templeton New Life Counselling,
Eelco Westerhuis EB Homestart
Tracey Wilson Oasis

Apologies: Sandra Buchan BRO,

Yvonne Cowan BHSCT,
Jonny Currie EBCDA,
Tanya Hughes Ballybeen,
Patricia Johnston Short Strand Partnership
Gerry Largey BHSCT
Una Casey CYPSP

Introduction:

Maggie Andrews introduced the meeting explaining that it was a follow up to the meeting held almost a year ago to discuss the planned roll out of Locality Planning in Belfast. A note of that meeting was circulated for information. Progress has been slow in Belfast because of the very different structures throughout the city and the need for the Belfast Outcomes Group to develop a standard approach. Today's meeting aims to begin the process of setting up an East Belfast Locality Planning group. The agenda will focus on the purpose of the group: Terms of Reference, what is involved in developing an Action Plan and who needs to be involved.

Purpose and Terms of Reference

Anne Hardy Children's Services Planning Officer, who is leading this work in HSCB, provided several documents for consideration; Terms of Reference for Locality Planning Groups from the CYSP Governance Framework, information from the induction pack on roles and responsibilities of members and examples of the format and content of an Action Plan. She also set the context within the CYPSP and the Belfast Outcomes Group.

To ensure that all local groups are included in the process Anne recommended that they complete the Family Support NI register – copies of the registration document were provided. Alternatively these can be completed online at www.familysupportni.gov.uk

Developing the Action Plan

The initial work of the Locality Planning Group in East will be to develop the Action Plan based on evidence of need and the knowledge of local service providers; issues and priorities will be fed into the Outcomes group which meets bi-monthly. Anne stressed that the Actions will not all require funding, providing a few examples of actions that just required more integrated working. It had been planned to have information re. the nature and numbers of referrals across east for this meeting but this information is

not yet collated. Karen Burns from BHSCT who has been leading on this work will provide these for the next meeting. Relevant baseline stats and interactive maps are available on the CYPSP website – participants were encouraged to use this resource www.cypsp.org. There was a discussion about the electoral wards that need to be included in the East Belfast Locality Planning group – there could be overlap with South Belfast. Maggie agreed to check the current understanding of boundaries before our next meeting.

Membership

There was a discussion about who should participate – particularly as some people are more likely to want to participate in the Family Hubs once they are established. Larger organisations may ask a Manager to participate at Locality Planning level and for local practitioners to be involved in family hubs. For smaller groups getting the time needed is an issue. It was agreed that good communication is critical top groups being involved at the right level. Groups were reminded that hubs will be dealing with services at level 2 – not Gateway level. BHSCT has appointed Gerry Largey to lead the establishment of Family Support Hubs in Belfast. It was agreed that it would be useful to reconvene this group of interested people and invite Gerry to outline the purpose of Family Support Hubs and update on progress.

Other Issues Raised

Concern was expressed that the funding approved by the Belfast Outcomes group had not yet been received by groups. It was noted that this is totally unsatisfactory and needs to be sorted out as matter of urgency. Effective systems need to be put in place for future opportunities. Anne agreed to pass these concerns to the Outcomes Group.

There was a brief discussion on the apparent failure of significant partners to bring their resources to the table so far. This is contrary to the principles of why the CYPSP was established in the first place. It was agreed that this needs to be focus for implementation of the Action Plan.

A further meeting of the group is planned for Friday 22nd November in Skainos at 9.30 a.m.