

## MINUTES OF THE SOUTH BELFAST LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2013 AT 10AM IN CRESENT ARTS CENTRE

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|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>Present:</b>   | Joy Poots         | South Belfast Surestart (Interim Group Chair)  |
|                   | Una Lappin        | South Belfast Area Partnership                 |
|                   | Carolyn Stewart   | Mencap   |
|                   | Kelly Cochane     | NIACRO   |
|                   | Gerard Rice       | Lower Ormeau Residents Action Group            |
|                   | Jim Potts         | South City                                     |
|                   | Una Geelan        | CYPSP  |
|                   | Joan Rodgers      | BHSCT  |
|                   | Grainne McHugh    | South Belfast SureStart                        |
|                   | Alison Robinson   | South Belfast SureStart                        |
|                   | Tom McEneaney     | Aware Defeat Depression                        |
|                   | Joan Henderson    | Sólás  |
|                   | Briege Arthurs    | South Belfast Area Partnership                 |
|                   | Geraldine O'Regan | East Belfast Surestart (Belfast OG)            |
|                   | Dermot Magorrian  | Youth Justice Agency                           |
|                   | James Scott       | CAST   |
|                   | Anne Hardy        | CYPSP  |
|                   | Mary Murphy       | BHSCT  |
|                   | Alana McCullough  | FASA   |
|                   | Shirley Simpson   | WWC  |
|                   | Eóin Dawson       | Ballynaveigh Community Development Association |
| <b>Apologies:</b> | Gabi Mornhinweg   | Belfast HSC Trust Community Development Team   |
|                   | Ruth Livingston   | South Belfast Childcare Ltd                    |
|                   | Glenda Davies     | Sandy Row Community Forum                      |
|                   | Roisin McGrann    | Early Year South and East Area                 |
|                   | Natasha Brennan   | South Belfast Sure Start                       |

### 1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Introductions and apologies as above.

Joy welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the South Belfast Locality Planning Group and said that she hoped the establishment of the group makes a real difference to the children and young people and families of South Belfast. Joy

explained that she would be the interim chair for the next two meetings until permanent chairing arrangements were decided.

Anne Hardy explained that the South Belfast Locality Planning Group is the 25<sup>th</sup> CYPSP locality planning group and that there would, with members' approval, some publicity to raise awareness of the group. She also added that the group will have a page on the CYPSP Website.

Geraldine O'Regan explained that she was the link person for the South Belfast Locality Planning Group to the Belfast Outcomes Group.

## **2. Purpose of the Group**

- **Existing Provision/Information Sharing**
- **Gaps in Provision**

Anne discussed how the CYPSP and Outcomes Groups use outcomes based planning which involves examining statistics at local level, these statistics will show trends, but for Early Intervention it is important to know what the emerging issues/trends are before they are captured or become a statistic. The CYPSP uses bottom up and top down planning. Anne highlighted that great things can happen when services work together with the support of an overarching structure, this helps if an issue arises at a local level and cannot be resolved at a local level then this issue can be raised with the Outcomes Group or escalated to the partnership level.

Joy explained that membership of the Locality Planning Group should reflect membership of the Outcomes Group in all sectors, it will be important to look at who is missing from the South Belfast Locality Group and raise this with the Belfast Outcomes Group and also key local stakeholders are.

Members highlighted that there was good representation of the 0-4 age group services and that there was a good existing structure but that over this age group there was no structure only through Neighbourhood Renewal groups. Members also felt that there was a gap in membership from the BME sector and also from Inner South Neighbourhood Renewal Area, particularly for the 10-14 age groups.

Briege pointed out that it was vital for local buy-in and important that the education sector was involved. She said that there was a lot of educational underachievement and the group needs to know who is doing what to address this issue. She said it would be great to be able to pool resources towards improving educational outcomes in the area.

Mary Murphy described a piece of work that the Belfast HSC Trust had carried out around gateway referrals. This work examines referrals of families who do not meet the threshold for social services interventions. These families would fall into the Tier 2 category; these families who could find themselves in crisis due to issues such as sickness, domestic violence, economic, disability. Often these families self-refer. One example Mary gave was of a child aged 9-12 years; there may be gaps in after schools provision and they young people becomes involved in anti-social behaviours and the parents don't know where to turn for help. Mary will present this information to the next locality group meeting.

Mary also explained how there was huge levels of need in Belfast and that there was a lack of joined-up-working and information/responses. She added this can cause competition for families and resources. She added it is important that funding is used properly. CYPSP is the most significant change since the Children's Order. Mary stated that the Belfast HSC Trust was completely committed to the process.

**ACTION: Mary Murphy to present Gateway research to the LPG**

Joy highlighted that Adult Services also have an impact on children and families.

Joan Rodgers explained that the BHSC Health Visiting focuses on the 0-4 year's age group although they do have a remit up to 19 years age group. She explained that there are often limited places to refer a family to for example SureStart but she felt that older young people are getting lost as there isn't the same focus on them. She also felt that parents often lose an interest or involvement in their young person's life. She also explained that attendance at school often is a problem for this age group too.

Una Geelan tabled some statistics that showed school attendance in the area (see attached). These statistics demonstrated that low school attendance was highest in some of the wards in South Belfast compared with all of the Belfast Outcomes Group. A member stated that there were no post-primary schools in South Belfast which causes a lack of ownership within the area.

Joy stated that there was a need for school representation on the group. Briege highlighted that there had been a poor turn out from Protestant Schools at a recent event SBPB had organised. Briege felt that there was a need for an Education Strategy for the area to raise aspirations. Joy explained that the Locality Group will possibly hold thematic meetings or have working groups looking at specific issues, such as education.

Gerard Rice highlighted that there were Neighbourhood Renewal Groups with an existing structure. Briege highlighted that Neighbourhood Renewal Areas didn't cover all of South Belfast. Mary stated that it was important that there will be a 2-way flow of information between the Locality Planning Group to the Neighbourhood Renewal Groups. Gerard explained that engagement with parents was also a massive issue; he felt that there would be huge benefits in the processes being joined up.

Anne discussed how it would be useful for the group to look at the profile of the area. Mary suggested that all the members could share some information about numbers of families etc. that they are working with in the area. Alana agreed that she should be able to bring information about drugs and alcohol. Anne also highlighted the importance of recognising the great innovative work that is going on locally.

**ACTION: Members to bring profiles for the area to the next meeting**

Carolyn Stewart explained that a lot of families are in need of family support who aren't reaching crisis mode. For example they may be in need of afterschool clubs,

summer schemes, and “fun” programmes for older young people, siblings and parents with disabilities. There are many hidden families with regard to disabilities and ensuring that they are accessing the right services. The special needs schools in the area do not offer summer schemes. Joan Henderson also reiterated this point regarding the individuals she supports in Sólás. Joy felt that it was important to build on existing groups and other partnerships.

### **3. Process/Structure**

Members felt that there were gaps in membership including representation from Councils. Issues of Membership i.e. terms of reference, can be raised at the next Outcomes Group meeting. Members agreed that it was important that they should be highlighting LPGs at every meeting.

### **4. Strategic Developments**

#### **• Family Support Funding**

The Belfast HSC Trust is managing the funding call on behalf of the Belfast Outcomes Group. NICVA recently hosted an event for around 100 organisations about the funding stream. The closing date is 26<sup>th</sup> April. This funding will run from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2013 on a non-recurrent basis for up to 18 months. The funding is for family support interventions. All further information, application forms guidance can be found on the Belfast HSC Trust’s website.

#### **• Social Investment Fund/Early Intervention**

Joy explained that the Social Investment Fund (SIF) is for £80 Million for 9 areas until March 2016. The South Belfast area has a steering. Consultation was carried out to examine the needs of the area. There are themes around capital and revenue. The steering group has submitted a 10 point Action Plan. Two of the revenue themes are Youth and Early Intervention. Joy highlighted that she didn’t want to raise expectations but the community groups need to be prepared and people can get together. Specific priority areas include Minnowburn, Carryduff and Woodstock.

The Early Intervention themes include:

- peri-natal
- Transitions (2/3 years to nursery; primary to post-primary etc.)
- Family Support for school aged children; (there would be four family support workers for this)
- Special needs e.g. further services, afterschool’s etc.

There will be a lead body for each bid including the bid administration. The lead body of the steering group is the PHA. She added that information regarding success of projects will be around July and then the tendering process will begin. Joy further added that the South Belfast SureStart is developing a consortium across South Belfast and if anyone is interested to get in touch with her.

### **Action: Invite a representative to join LPG**

#### **• Family Support Hubs**

There was a discussion around someone via the Outcomes Group to be made available to co-ordinate the activities/referrals.

#### **5. Date of Next Meetings**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting - Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June, 10am to 12pm, venue TBC
- 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 10am to 12pm, venue TBC

#### **Actions Summary**

- Mary Murphy to present Gateway research to the LPG
- Members to bring profiles for the area to the next meeting
- Invite a representative to join LPG

*Minutes taken and written by Una Geelan, Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership.*