

**MINUTES OF THE WEST BELFAST LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP
HELD ON 15 JANUARY 2014 AT 2.30PPM IN THE SPECTRUM
CENTRE SHANKILL ROAD**

PRESENT:

Tina Gregory	Clan Mor SureStart	Community
Una Casey	CYPSP	Statutory
Mairead McCrea	Kids Together	Community
Joe Coneré	Digital Media Choices	Community
Sue Pentel	Ionad Uíbh Eachach	Community
Penny Ambrose	Beechmount SureStart/Blackie	Community
Irene Cooke	Shankill SureStart	Community
Dympna Johnston	Greater Shankill Partnership	Community
Janice Clarke	Girls Model	Statutory
Renee Crawford	Lenadoon Women's Group	Community
Tish Holland	ANP	Community
Rita Simmonds	Early Years - Toybox	Voluntary
Anne Donnelly	Belfast & Lisburn Women's Aid	Voluntary
Emmet Norris	Save the Children	Voluntary
Jackie Redpath	Greater Belfast Partnership	Community
Karen Burns	BHSCT	Statutory
Gerry Largey	BHSCT	Statutory
Denise Dorrian	LifeStart	Voluntary

APOLOGIES:

Ann-Marie Doyle	Prince's Trust	Voluntary
Carolyn Stewart	MENCAP	Voluntary
Marie-Therese Cassin	Cedar	Voluntary
Liz Brown	NICMA	Voluntary
Joan Davis	Family Mediation NI	Voluntary
Angela Mervyn	WBPB	Community
Lorraine Morrissey- McCann	Upper Springfield Devt Trust	Community
Jim Girvan	Blackie	Community
Annette McCann	Save the Children	Voluntary
Michael Doherty	Glen Parent Youth Group	Community
Christina Black	Roden Street Com Devt	Community
Nicola Verner	Integrated Services (Shankill)	Community
Kelly Maxwell	NIACRO CAPS	Voluntary

Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Tina welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Dympna Johnston at the Greater Shankill Partnership for providing the meeting room. A round of introductions took place and apologies were noted as above.

Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 December 2014 were agreed as an accurate account of the meeting.

Matters Arising

Tina informed the group that she had received a letter from Colm Donaghy to advise that the £70K that had been removed from the Family Support funding commissioned by the Belfast Area Outcomes Group had been returned. This was discussed at last week's Belfast Area Outcomes Group and members discussed ways of using the funding, which will be spent after April 2014.

Una had produced a members directory from the information presented by each member at the meeting on 11 December. Members felt that this was a useful document. Tina reminded everyone to check the details on this document, and add more detail if needed.

Action: Members to review their information on the LPG member's directory and contact Una if more detail is needed.

Una tabled a scan of the family support database - she advised members of the importance of having their services information on this. The website is www.familysupportNI.gov.uk.

Family Support Hub Presentation - Gerry Largey

Gerry gave the attached presentation and circulated copies of the Regional Family Support Hub Handbook (see attached). He noted that the regional model was based on more rural areas where poverty wasn't as prevalent and where there weren't as many responses as there is in Belfast. He explained the challenges that have been faced in getting the hubs set up. Gerry discussed the purpose of family support hubs, the nature of the hubs, membership and gave examples of possible presenting issues. He also explained how the hub structures need to be fit for purpose to deal with the issues affecting the families that will be referred to them. There will be information sharing protocols and a lead body from the community/voluntary sector to lead the hubs.

Outcomes Based Planning - Una Casey

Una gave a presentation about Outcomes Based Planning (see attached). In her presentation she explained the need for common language when talking about outcomes, indicators and early intervention. She also discussed the importance of using quantitative and qualitative indicators. She highlighted that there was a lot of statistics available on www.cypsp.org many of which are available at ward level which are useful to look at for trends, and that the members knowledge and information is vital in explaining the story behind the trends which is used in the action planning process.

Una explained the planning cycle for the next regional, and Belfast Area Outcomes Group plans and how the LPG plans would inform these, and therefore the LPGs need to have their plans completed before the end of March 2014 therefore the next West Belfast LPG meeting would be used to work on the action plan.

Key Issues Action Planning

At the previous meeting in December the members had been informed that the group would have to produce an action plan before the end of March to fit and inform the CYPSP action plan. Members had been asked to bring key issues to this meeting for discussion.

Jackie Redpath explained that he is a member of the Belfast Strategic Partnership (BSP) which has a number of themed groups and have a number of key agencies as members. There is synergy with the Belfast Area Outcomes Group which is the Early Years, Early Intervention themed group for the BSP. A piece of work has been carried out to look for common themes running through all the BSP groups action plans, the main one identified was resilience. He gave examples of how resilience was an issue for children, young people, parents, families, older people and whole communities. He suggested that this could be something that the Belfast Area Outcomes Group could think about when commissioning the £70K.

Sue suggested a key issue was children with a parent in prison. She is aware that Extern do work with this group of children but this is for children older than 8 and that there is nothing available for younger children. She also suggested that it would be really useful to know how many children have a parent in prison. She also said that there was a lack of services for children who had been affected by bereavement.

Members also discussed the need for a whole family approach for children with a disability and the need for organisations and services to be more disability friendly.

The need to train those working with children to self-regulate and address their own needs was another issue suggested by Rita.

A discussion took place about the gap between parents and children's IT skills. Parents are unable to keep up with their children's knowledge of IT and cannot support their children. It was agreed that this would interlink back to the discussion about building resilience. The terminologies used for parenting and basic skills training was highlighted as being off putting to many parents and they feel it is labelling them as bad parents.

A discussion took place about very young teens with accelerated adult behaviour and the detrimental effect this is having on them.

Behavioural management of a diagnosed condition such as ADHD was raised as an issue as many children and young people with such conditions are falling out of main stream, there also seems to be a "de-schooling" of these young people.

Members Update

Lifestart are going through a restructuring. They deliver services for children aged 0-5.

Digital Media Choices are running a programme funded by DCAL in the Colin Neighbourhood renewal area which includes 10hrs of digital training. Joe highlighted that some of their core work is with NEETS young people and that through the medium of digital media the young people have asked to improve their numeracy and literacy. The courses also improve their transferable skills such as confidence, team work, explore their personal issues and make them more employable. Joe's service can also work with parents groups. If anyone would like more information on Digital Media Choices please contact Joe Coneré on 028 9030 7986 or email joeconere@yahoo.com.

It was highlighted that Integrated Services will be finishing on March 31st 2014.

Any Other Business

Sue asked that when the Belfast Outcomes Group are considering the commissioning of the £70K funding could they take into account the applications that were made in the previous tranche of family support funding as some services were unsuccessful due to applying for too small an amount of money but met all the criteria. Tina agreed that this would be raised with the Outcomes Group.

Members also raised the issue of changes to the electoral boundaries in Belfast and how this might disrupt services such as SureStart.

Dates of Future Meetings

Wednesday 12 February 2014	2.30pm	The Frank Gillan Centre 1A Cullingtree Rd, Belfast, County Antrim BT12 4JU
Wednesday 12 March 2014	2.30pm	TBC
Wednesday 16 April 2014	2.30pm	TBC
Wednesday 11 June 2014	2.30pm	TBC
Wednesday 6 August 2014	2.30pm	TBC
Wednesday 8 October 2014	2.30pm	TBC
Wednesday 10 December 2014	2.30pm	TBC