

MINUTES

**EAST BELFAST LPG MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY
20 May 2015 AT 10AM IN EBP OFFICE**

PRESENT:

Maggie Andrews	EBP (LPG Chair)
Laura Rankin	CYPSP
Una Casey	CYPSP
Michele Bryans	East Belfast Alternatives
Tracey Wilson	Oasis
Aine Kelly	Save the Children
Claire Humphrey	Barnardos
Su Finch	Nettlefield Primary School
Gerry Largey	BHSCT
Emma Harvey	Youth Justice Agency
Liz Greer	Extern
Sharon Traynor	EBCDA
Irene Blanchard	East Belfast Community Counselling
Sara Houston	EBP

APOLOGIES:

Linda Armitage	EBCDA
Karen Purdy	Bloomfield Community Association
Kelly Maxwell	NIACRO
Geraldine O'Regan	East Belfast Sure Start
Lorraine Brennan	BHSCT
Carolyn Stewart	Mencap
Yvonne Cowan	BHSCT
Gareth Beacom	Charter NI
Mary McManus	EBIAC
Lorraine Brennan	BHSCT
Ashlea Berryman	Early Years Organisation

In Attendance:

Jacqui Montgomery- Devlin	Barnardos
Laura McDonald	Belfast Healthy Cities
Joona Monaghan	Belfast Healthy Cities

- 1. Welcome and Introductions** Maggie welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting on the 18th March were agreed as accurate by the group.

3. Presentation by Belfast Healthy Cities: Laura McDonald

Laura presented the key elements of 'A Call to Action: Shaping Healthier Places for Children in Belfast' a document produced by Healthy Cities and currently being consulted on. She outlined their Vision for Belfast and the priorities for space identified by children in the city. As a consequence of this work Healthy Cities plan to develop guidelines to support active involvement of young people in planning spaces, develop resources to support children understanding of health and place, develop a profile that identifies the distribution of children in the city, develop criteria for child friendly places and identify a demonstration project.

The group were referred to the consultation link www.belfasthealthycities.com/shaping-healthier-places-children and encouraged to submit their views before the 26th June deadline. Reference was made to the recent 'Belfast Conversation' event arranged by Belfast City Council and the need to connect discussion on this issue across the city.

Action: All interested LPG members to submit response to consultation

4. Child Sexual Exploitation 'The Real Story' - Jacqui Montgomery - Devlin

Jacqui from the Barnardos 'Safe Choices' project had been invited to show the video 'The Real Story' to the LPG and explain how this project highlighting issues surrounding Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is delivered to groups. Seven trained practitioners are currently employed by Barnardos to undertake this work, using the associated resources. Delivery of this programme requires training which has been supported by the various Trusts. Places can be allocated to voluntary and community sectors; Jacqui suggested that if members are interested in accessing this training in future to e-mail her directly.

Members agreed that the resource was excellent and should be used more widely in East Belfast. Jacqui highlighted another resource being launched by Barnardos on May 21st – the False Freedom DVD & resource pack; again dealing with CSE issues Sessions using this resource could be facilitated by everyone. Jacqui again suggested that members contact her directly if they want to attend this launch.

Sharon Traynor Health Development Worker from EBCDA outlined some of the work that had been undertaken by EBCDA on sexual health issues and CSE, and the partners involved. EBCDA is supporting other organisations to deliver their programmes in east Belfast. Sharon had taken some parents and carers to see the play "Chelsea's Choice" in City Hall, performed by young people. She felt that it would be useful to have this performed in east Belfast. The potential to secure funding to do this is to be discussed soon.

It was agreed that the key for all these CSE messages are parents but they can be difficult to get involved. It was recognised that various LPG members have contact with parents in different contexts and this could present an opportunity. Maggie suggested that all those interested should meet to see what might be possible – to raise awareness among local parents of CSE and combine efforts.

Action: Maggie to arrange meeting for interested LPG members

5. Action Plan - Feedback from working groups

5.1 Infant Dental Health project

Maggie updated the group on this project. The resource developed by Elizabeth Dalton from SureStart and Anne McKeown from BHSCT had been demonstrated at the Early Years Network meeting on the 7th May. Several LPG members had attended this and all agreed that the resource is fantastic and the EYN is very excited by the possibilities it offers. Maggie has arranged a meeting on 22nd June with Bryan Nelson from BHSCT, Elizabeth and Anne to discuss the resource and the potential for the trust to offer support for rolling it out. The EYN has also agreed to make arrangements to enable the Network to become eligible for funding.

Action: Meeting with BHSCT in June

5.2 Networking event arrangements

This event had originally been planned for April but had to be postponed. A paper outlining the purpose and format of the event had been circulated previously and no changes were being suggested for this. It was agreed that the event would still be desirable; particularly to inform new councillors etc. of the work of the group. Involving schools would be important so it was agreed to focus on arranging the event for September.

Action: Una/Maggie to reconvene sub group asap

5.3 Poverty sub group

Una reported that the Poverty sub-group had not met. It had become clear that other work on this theme has been happening in the city and the group are making plans to ensure east Belfast is connected to this.

Action: Sub group members to report back as necessary on citywide initiatives

6. Inner East Family Support Hub Update

Michele provided an update on the progress of the Inner East Family Support Hub and advised the LPG that a standard approach for reporting Hub activity is being discussed. There have been 54 referrals in total since mid- November: numbers are steadily increasing and referrals have been varied with referrals with no pattern emerging to date. There are currently 30 Hub members. The commitment of Gateway to attending has been poor. Michele was congratulated on the excellent job she has been doing.

Action: Michele to advise on new reporting process

7. Feedback from Belfast Area Outcomes Group

The focus in the Outcomes group has been the plans for EITP Early Intervention Service and funding issues. The process for allocating Early Intervention Service across the city has been difficult in some places; fortunately the process has been

smoother in East. The Early Intervention Service programme is currently out for tender.

Gerry reported that the funding panels to allocate the family support funding had been meeting until the last day of April. Decisions are being communicated to groups and meetings arranged to take place before 8th June. The programme start date for some groups will be the 1st June and payments should be made by 1st July. It was noted that the application process had proved difficult for many groups. There was a discussion about expectations; what does a successful application look like? Gerry advised that he plans to provide the LPG with detail on what the funded projects are going to deliver. He would also like to share learning from the selection process to inform future applications at a post-funding event similar to the pre-application event.

Action: Gerry to advise LPG on successful applications.

8. Any other Business

There was no other business. It was noted that future meetings should involve a maximum of one presentation.

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for the 15th July – it was agreed that as many people would be on holiday that week the meeting is brought forward to Wednesday 8th July at 10.00 a.m.in EBP.