

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING
LARNE LOCALITY PARTNERSHIP**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12TH MAY 2015 AT
10.30AM IN SIR THOMAS DIXON BUILDINGS, LARNE**

PRESENT:	David McAllister	<i>Mid & East Antrim Borough Council</i>
	Aislinn Delaney	<i>Steps to Cope</i>
	Bill Sheridan	<i>BACCS</i>
	Gemma Lutton	<i>CYPSP (Minute Taker)</i>
	Ian McKenzie	<i>YMCA Health Hub</i>
	Leigh Whittle	<i>EA NI</i>
	Maria Martin	<i>Women's Aid ABCLN</i>
	Sandra Anderson	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Shirley Loughlin	<i>NHSCT</i>
	Tracey Colgan	<i>PHA</i>

APOLOGIES:	Claire Roper	<i>NHSCT</i>
	Gerry McDonald	<i>Think Drink - NHSCT</i>
	Maureen Morrow	<i>Larne Borough Council</i>
	Shirley Clarke	<i>NHSCT</i>

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

David welcomed the group to the meeting and a round of introductions took place.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate recording of the previous meeting held on **Tuesday 3rd March 2015**.

MATTERS ARISING

None noted.

STEPS TO COPE – AISLINN DELANEY

This is a regional service funded by Big Lottery Impact of Alcohol Project. Steps 2 Cope works with 11-18 year olds living in NI who are dealing with parental alcohol misuse. Steps to Cope will look at 5 steps when working with young people and this will cover:

- What living with parental alcohol misuse is like for young people
- Information: Learning more about alcohol and alcohol misuse
- How young people cope
- What supports they have
- Where young people can get further support

6-7 sessions are offered to each young person and workers will travel to meet them. Aislinn noted the team is made up with her and 3 social workers. In NI over 40,000 young people are living with substance misuse. There is an interactive and this is being finalised and the 5 steps will be available online. Young people who wish to use the website will have a login and the website takes their full name. They can use the steps online and workers will have full access to their answers and can act on it due to identified need.

Aislinn provided information on practitioner training. Steps 2 Cope want to train 40 practitioners per year. This is 2 day training for anyone engaging with young people and is delivered free of charge. They also want to complete training for trainers and train 30 trainers to carry out the practitioner training.

Steps 2 Cope held a consultation with young people for the website. This is really exciting for them and it is currently being piloted with young people. Overall outcome is to better protect young people from harm. Steps 2 Cope operate an open referral process and young people can refer themselves. A lot of evening work is completed with young people. All outcomes are monitored with pre and post questionnaires.

Leaflets were distributed with further information on Steps 2 Cope.

FEEDBACK – COMMUNITY INFO SHARING EVENT

Selena provided feedback regarding the Larne Family Fun and Information fair. This took place on Tuesday 31st March in Larne Market Yard from 4.00pm – 8.30pm. This was offered to let people in the area know what services was available to them. There was a good turnout of organisations at this providing information and people engaged well with the exhibitors. Sandra noted the venue was brilliant for the event and worked well.

Pictures were distributed to the group including activities that were available for young people, Counsellor Martin Wilson, Counsellor Maureen Morrow along with service providers, Roy Beggs MLA with Ballymena Area Children's Contact Service along with Selena and a number of other pictures from the event. Evaluation feedback was very positive from people who attended the event, with many saying there was excellent information about local services which was very helpful and it is great to see how many services people in Larne can access.

UPDATE – 0-4 ENGAGEMENT

Sandra explained the Larne Locality Group identified the need to complete engagement with parents living in rural localities to clarify what support is needed for parents with children of 0-4. Engagement was completed via questionnaires. The target areas were Glenarm and Carnlough. Sandra went out to playgroups and received feedback from 23 parents. Questionnaires were completed with parents who have children aged 0-4 years.

Services that parents use for their children were outlined. Barriers for parents accessing services were also explained. Sandra provided information on additional support needed for parents which included a park closer to where they live, extended opening hours for the library, sensory support, and more classes i.e. exercise, baby massage/yoga, courses on managing child's behaviour, parent support groups and information sessions.

Sandra provided recommendations from this engagement and what the next steps are for the Larne Locality group. Next steps are:

- Share engagement feedback with local libraries and community centres.

- Liaise with local health visiting team regarding sourcing funding for additional support for parents:
 - Child Development
 - Behaviour Management
 - Surestart programmes locally
- Support for parents who have a child with a disability
- Increased activities for children
- Funding opportunities - North Antrim Community Network was mentioned as a possibility. Shirley provided info on a new mums group with the potential to run around that area. Shirley agreed to liaise with Gail for a new mums group to be established.

Action: Sandra

UPDATE – BELIEVE IN YOUTH PROJECT

Selena noted Maurice is currently off sick and will be for another 4-5 weeks. Seasonal youth workers have started to carry some of the work forward. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

Action: Selena

RELAX AND CHILLAX – UPDATE

Ian provided an update for Relax and Chillax running in Larne High School. He noted it is continuing to run well. The young people are attending and finding it very useful and a good opportunity for them. Ian has discussed providing tea/coffee for half of the duration which will be the first half of lunch. Ian and Karen are currently discussing the School taking more of a role with the initiative. Ian will suggest another meeting with the link teacher. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

Action: Ian

LARNE / CARRICKFERGUS HUB UPDATE

Claire McKay, Family Support Hub co-ordinator provided feedback regarding the emerging needs from referrals to the family hubs:

- Provision for 0-4 outside of Surestart area.

- 5-8 year olds
- Provision for 14+ (choices no longer taking referral's due to capacity)
- Family breakdown

These were the key themes in this area and all referrals are being picked up. There is limited staff at present and it is not possible to attend Locality groups due to capacity issues.

UPDATE FROM MEMBERS

David McAllister – LBC

Continuing to work face to face with young people and are trying to get programmes for the summer.

Ian McKenzie – YMCA Health Hub

Starting Princess Diaries with teenage mums which is a 6 weeks programme with Larne Parental Support. There is a group of 6-7 teenage mums from Larne Parental Support signed up for the programme and is starting this afternoon. The programme is based on personal development/changing attitudes.

Leigh Whittlely – EA Youth Service

The consultation is now completed. The NEELB are no longer and is now EA Education Authority. Leigh noted his role hasn't changed for Larne and action plans are completed and submitted. These are due to be uploaded online and the Larne needs analysis will be updated and sent to all members. There is a new group in Carnlough Methodist Church with 20-30 young people engaging in this new group. It is open on Friday evenings for under 14's. Leigh noted 2 groups no longer exist in Craighill as they couldn't get the help and support needed to continue. Antiville group closed also. Trying to put measures in place for this. Leigh will provide an update at the next meeting regarding this.

Shirley Laughlin – NHSCT

Running 3rd new mums group and evaluations back to date have been very positive. These are for mums not involved in Larne Parental Support due to waiting lists. 6+ mums come to every group. All mums who meet want to continue meeting and the aim is for mums to meet up themselves. Shirley noted programmes will continue over the summer.

Maria Martin - Women's Aid

Maria's role is one to one work with young people aged 6+ and Maria covers Larne and Newtownabbey. Maria runs different interactive programmes depending on children's age. Helping Hands, Bully Busters and Transformers training is delivered exploring domestic violence. There is currently no groupwork within Larne due to staffing issues. Maria noted there is a homework support club running in Larne with a group of 8-10 attending. This will continue into the summer with something running every fortnight.

Bill Sheridan – Ballymena Area Children's Contact Service

This is a registered charity with 2 paid staff and 45 volunteers. A service is provided to separated families who can't see eye to eye. A safe and friendly environment is provided in order for family members to have contact with their child / children. There are 3 centres running with 40 families using the service at present. The numbers have dropped for the Larne area and may be due to the court closing. Referrals usually come from court where a contact order has been put in place or a family makes a written agreement. Bill noted he wants to set up self-referrals as well. There has been an advert in Ballymena papers for volunteers and there has been 11 enquires. 75% of volunteers have been there since the service started 10 years ago.

This service is core funded and finds additional funding in order to run the service. 70% on average families move on to a positive relationship and continue contact with children when they leave the service which is very positive. After a suggestion from Roy Beggs the service are looking at rebranding.

Tracey Colgan – Public Health Agency

Tracey is the representative for Larne covering health improvement issues. Tracey noted a lot of work is delivered by third party organisations. Tracey is responsible for home accident prevention operating within Larne council. The target for this is over 65's. Tracey noted PHA are expanding into food poverty which used to be fuel poverty. Trying to build on best practice and get a strategic approach to tackle food poverty. If anyone needs any links/ info around health improvement to contact Tracey and she will be able to help with queries.

AOB

CAMHS Service

Selena met with Nadine Simpson from CAMHS service. It was noted the CAMHS service has changed to a tiered approach and is now tier 2. There is a satellite run from Carrick YMCA. They are also aiming to have satellite clinics in other areas and are hoping to have one in Larne. Selena will identify if a space is available in Larne so this could be provided. It was noted this would be very positive for the area and Selena will update on this at the next meeting.

Action: Selena

Start360

David suggested inviting Claire Campbell to the next meeting. David agreed to send Selena contact details.

Action: David / Selena

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 30th June 2015** at **10.30am** in **Sir Thomas Dixon Buildings, Larne.**

Please note start time for future meetings will be 10.30am.