

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING
MINUTES OF BALLYMONEY LOCALITY GROUP**

**FRIDAY 3RD JULY 2015 AT 10.00AM
BALLYMONEY COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE**

Attending:	Gerry McDonald	<i>Think Drink NHSC</i>
	Aislinn Delaney	<i>Steps to Cope</i>
	Cynthia Currie	<i>Ballymoney High</i>
	Gemma Lutton	<i>CYPSP (Minute Taker)</i>
	Indu Callaghan	<i>N-GAGE</i>
	Leanne Abernethy	<i>Active Communities Network</i>
	Maire Buckley	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i>
	Maxine McLean	<i>Network Personnel</i>
	Sabrina Lynn	<i>NHSC</i>
	Sandra Anderson	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Tanya McVicker	<i>EA NI</i>
Apologies:	Iain McAfee	<i>Parent/Comm Rep (Chair)</i>
	Pat Purvis	<i>PHA</i>
	Sharon Lyons	<i>Early Years</i>
	Tessie O'Hagan	<i>Mencap</i>
	Tommie Linton	<i>CHEERS</i>
	Veronica McKinley	<i>NACN</i>
	Sharon Kirk	<i>Dalriada Rural Surestart</i>
	Karen Millar	<i>Homestart Causeway</i>

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Gerry agreed to chair today's meeting in Iain's absence. A round of introductions took place from all members present.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate recording of the previous meeting held on **Friday 15th May 2015**.

MATTERS ARISING

Play Parks Letter

Selena hasn't heard anything more regarding the letter and will check with Iain on progress. It was suggested to invite councillor to attend meeting regarding play parks.

Action: Iain

AISLINN DELANEY – STEPS TO COPE

Aislinn provided information regarding the Steps to Cope programme. Aislinn noted 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 website 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 also has a website where young people can access and self-refer. The website will be fully monitored. The 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.

MAXINE MCLEAN – NETWORK PERSONNEL

Maxine is the Family Liaison officer covering Causeway Coast and Glens. Maxine provided information on a new Community Family Support Programme which is funded by Dell. The aim of the programme is to support families to develop their ability to reach their full potential in addressing: employment, educational, training, health, social and economic issues that impact their daily lives. The programme also aims to reduce the number of young people who aren't engaged in services or employment.

Maxine's role will involve meeting with families in their own home and will draw up an action plan depending on their particular needs. The Education Employment Officer will meet with the young person and other members within the family. Some of the examples of the support offered within the Community Family Support programme were outlined:

Education and employment support:

- Developing young person's skills to find work and help with completing CVs, job searching and preparing for interview etc.
- Access suitable education, employment and training opportunities.

Support to address health and social needs

- Parenting skills, alcohol and drug misuse, healthy eating, stress and stress management and money management and support with grant applications.
- Referrals to specialist support organisations

The eligibility criteria for the programme were explained. For a family to participate in the programme there must be a young person aged 16-24 years in the NEET category (not engaged in education, employment or training). The definition of a family can include:

- A family with a 16-24 year old NEET
- Single parent families with a 16-24 year old NEET
- Young parents aged 16-24 years who fall into the NEET category
- Legal guardians with young people 16-24 years who fall into the NEET category

If anyone would like to make referrals or for further information contact Maxine on 028 7963 1032 or email maxine.mclean@networkpersonnel.org.uk

UPDATE – BELIEVE IN YOUTH

Gerry provided an update on the Believe in Youth project. Phil Lennon has taken over post within the project and has spoken with Tommie for local knowledge. Phil is working with 16 young people aged 13-16 years. Feedback received from young people has been excellent. A date has been set for Mid-August for completion of evaluations.

It was noted those young people living in Stranocum area are not able to get to Cheers. A lot of the focus should be engaging these young people. Selena noted a community capacity worker would be key. There is a community centre in the area. Gerry is meeting next week to see about community engagement/training/alcohol awareness. Further feedback will be given.

UPDATE – YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Subgroup met with Schools and Tanya taking along the model in Bushmills. Another initiative chill and spill was discussed. This is for Year 11 & 12's has this worked best. Worked well in Carrickfergus and continues to run and it is also up and running in Larne. Simon Community has taken the model and have one running in Belfast. Start360 has agreed to be involved in Ballymoney High and Simon Community for Our Lady of Lourdes. It is very important to have a lead agency. The Chill and Spill initiative is providing a space for young people to come to when they need it. It is offered on a lunch period one day a week every week for the school year. Different organisations are brought in each week to deliver information to the young people.

Sandra noted peer educators are to come each week to each school and will also be looking for additional support from locality group for additional help. Sandra noted support to date has been received from EA NI, Health Visiting, Cheers and CYPSP. It is a great opportunity for each service to promote themselves. It benefits both the pupils and agencies.

FEEDBACK – EDUCATION SUBGROUP

To help with the initiative want to get young people involved on the offset. Sandra organised focus groups in Ballymoney High and Our Lady of Lourdes. The purpose of this was to meet with year 11 pupils. Identify if good idea. How to sell the initiative.

Both focus groups were so excited by the idea, and loved they could self-select to attend. An overview of the focus groups outcomes were given to the group.

Ballymoney High focus group confirmed Scream, Shout & let it all out as the name of the initiative. Posters were designed for the purpose of advertising to their peers. Our Lady of Lourdes came up with the name of Discuss with No Fuss as what they would like to call this initiative and designed posters to reflect what will be involved.

It is to be decided by the lead agencies what day suits them best to run the initiative in each school. Start 360 and Simon Community are to get Access Ni checks before September. There will be School assembly organised to promote each initiative to young people within each School. This will ensure everyone is getting the same information at the beginning. This will be for Year 11 and 12's. It was noted Ballymoney High have an assembly on Monday. Sandra agreed to organise an assembly in each School in September.

Action: Sandra

Sandra provided feedback on questionnaires for parents that were completed. These results will be put into survey monkey over the summer months. It will be a good guide on what to target from this. Sandra delivered prizes to the selected prize draw winners as part of their completion of questionnaires.

MEMBER UPDATES

Gerry McDonald – Think Drink NHSCCT

Believe in Youth Peer Education group working with detached young people and building the young people's skills. Gerry provided information on the Think Drink project and the 4 components of the programme.

Sabrina Lynn – NHSCCT

Sabrina is new in post with NHSCCT as an Obesity Coordinator funded by PHA. This is in the early stages and Sabrina is trying to develop partnerships and coordinate actions. Her role will be to coordinate programmes and make better links with joining up working. Sabrina will work with teams across the Trust to deliver programmes. Information was given on one programme 'Weigh in & Measure'. Overall health assessment with young people weighed in year 8 & again in year 12. Once a young person has been identified as out of weight range the school nurses will try to provide a programme with the family. Sabrina expressed the barriers to this programme and noted she would like to make improvements to existing programmes.

Some statistics were provided. 25% of young people in Year 8 are overweight/obese in NI. In Northern Trust over 28.59% of young people are obese. The average in Ballymoney is nearly double the NI average with the NI average being 17%. Sabrina is keen to do something in Ballymoney to address these statistics and wants to address this with the Ballymoney Locality Group.

Members agreed they could support this as a locality group. But this would need support from Health visiting and School Nurses.

Next Steps were agreed as the following:

- Sabrina to have a meeting with School Nurses to put forward proposal
- Going to focus on Ballymoney due to statistics. Food Choices, Cook It etc. could be tailored to parents.
- Cynthia expressed School would be happy to be involved. School will be open 2 nights a week and happy for use of School premises.
- Sabrina will update the group on developments

Maire Buckley – Our Lady of Lourdes

Maire noted any initiatives the School can be involved in the school would be keen to do so. Any agencies are more than welcome. Maire noted this is her 2nd meeting and is excited to be involved in the Ballymoney Locality Planning Group.

Cynthia Currie – Ballymoney High

Ballymoney High now has an extended Schools programme. Cynthia noted 2 Schools are in it for the 1st time this year. The first thing primarily doing with funding is appointing a family liaison officer to go out to work with families. It is hoped someone will be in post by October 2015. The school will also be offering English and Maths courses directed at parents. There will be a coursework club running from 3.30pm-6.30pm 2 nights per week. Permission has already been gained to have the School open in order to facilitate this. Cynthia would like more of the community in school. Extended School money is welcome and money could be available. From March 2016 there will be an economics suite in the School.

Cynthia also noted she has been attending Ballymoney Locality Planning Group before Christmas. The amount of information gained and the work that has been done as a result of this is fantastic. Cynthia thanked the group for this.

Indu Callaghan – N-GAGE

Indu provided information on a number of things happening in N-GAGE One Stop Shop. There is a walking group, Cook It, fishing group and football happening throughout the year. Anyone wanting to join the Cook It group can do so. Friday night's people from Coleraine/Ballymoney come to Ballymena for Live Music night. There is also a Smoking Support group running for young people. Indu said to the group if there are any young people who would have access to Ballymena to send them to N-GAGE. Wednesday 3pm-5pm is Tea & talk. This is a young person led discussion slot and is taking place over the summer. It is a great opportunity for young people to get engaged on how society works.

Maxine McLean – Network Personnel

Maxine distributed leaflets and noted she is based in Riverhouse in Coleraine.

Leanne Abernethy – Active Communities Network

Leanne is employed by Active Communities Network funded by Asda. Her role is to go and engage with young people and keep them active. Also involves talking to young people about health & wellbeing and signposting them to appropriate services. Over 16 young people have been put through accredited training. Leanne also helps young people get on courses and helps with work experience. She is there to support and mentor young people and will be in role for 2 years. Leanne noted she is very new to the role as she started in June 2015.

Information was provided on BREF. Information was also provided on a Community Leadership Sports Award. Over 16 young people can do the course. Leanne expressed she would like to meet with Schools and agencies. The role will be covering Casueway Coast and Glens. Cynthia noted she is attracted by the training for Year 12's leaving School.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Strengthening Families

Strengthening Families will be starting on Tuesday 28th July and running until 8th September in Vineyard Church Coleraine. There is a crèche and taxis available throughout the programme. Referrals are now open for families. Contact Emma McElhone SFP Coordinator on 028 2563 6600 for further details.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on **Friday 18th September 2015 at 10.00am in Ballymoney Resource Centre.**