

**MINUTES OF THE WEST BELFAST LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE 2015 AT 2.30PM
IN THE UPPER SPRINGFIELD DEVELOPMENT TRUST, 689
SPRINGFIELD ROAD, BT12 7FP**

PRESENT:

Name:

Tina Gregory
Una Casey
Laura Rankin
Elizabeth Gracey
Carolyn Stewart
Karen Burns
Dympna Johnston
Anne Donnelly
Pamela Hughes
Mairead Gilmartin
Nikki Terlik
Tracey Wilson
Tony O'Neill
Mairead McCrea
Katherine Wylie
Irene Cooke
Jim Girvan
Marie-Therese Cassin
Tish Holland
Christina Black

Organisation:

Clan Mor Sure Start (LPG chair)
CYPSP
CYPSP
Action Ability Belfast
MENCAP
BHSCT
Greater Shankill Partnership
Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid
Kids Together
Outer West Sure Start
Libraries NI
Oasis Caring in Action
Youth Justice Agency
Kids Together
Employers for Childcare
Shankill Sure Start
Blackie River Community Group
Cedar Foundation
Upper Andersonstown Community Forum
Grosvenor Community Centre

APOLOGIES:

Jackie Redpath	Greater Shankill Partnership
Sue Pentel	Ionad Uíbh Eachach
Kelly Maxwell	NIACRO
Colm Walsh	Extern
Penny Ambrose	Beechmount Sure Start
Pauline Kersten	Conway Education Project
Declan Morris	Simon Community NI

Welcome and Introductions

Tina welcomed everyone to the meeting and a round of introductions took place.

Apologies

Were noted as above

Presentation: Libraries NI – Nikki Terlik

Nikki is the TSE Community Project Officer for Libraries NI. Nikki outlined the main services which Libraries NI provides. She gave the group an overview of the facilities libraries provide, to support all adults and children in their learning including large print books, braille, ClearVision and tactile books. Nikki also outlined the initiatives and activities which they are involved in, in the local community, running various courses and engaging in events

Action: Next presentation to be given by Colm Walsh - Extern

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes were agreed as a true and accurate representation of the meeting.

Matters Arising

Roisin McCooey to attend the October meeting, when she will give feedback on the Brightstart funding process. Members also enquired about a new stream of funding for children with disability which may be coming from OFMDFM.

Action: Una to clarify with Martin Terell if there is upcoming funding available.

Karen outlined that there will be no additional family support funding this year. The group voiced their disappointment.

Action Plan

Outcome 1- 'Consistent key messages and information, accessible to all and delivered effectively pre-pregnancy and all the way through early years'.

The Outcomes Group advised the Locality Planning Group to speak with Siobhan Slavin who is the change manager of Work stream 1 of EITP, focussing on equipping parents to give their children the best start in life.

Action: Siobhan to meet the sub group

Action: Action Plan to be updated from last sub group meeting

Action: Katherine from Employers for Childcare to send colleague's details, to join the group and Pamela to join group

Outcome 2- 'All children and young people have good family lives'

The group intend to carry out a longitudinal study to find out what people consider to be a happy life. May be able to extend the 'healthy hearts' survey, which already exists to find out how happy children are. Integrated services has a questionnaire which may be able to be used.

Action: Dympna/ Una to find out more about the integrated services questionnaire

Members agreed that an important aspect of this outcome is both parents and children aware about internet safety as children are becoming more independent.

Action: Una to get a date for the sub group to meet

Action: Involve NINIS in the work of this outcome

Action: Christina Black and Marie- Therese Cassin to join group

Action: A member of Queens research team and CAHMS to be invited to join sub group

Outcome 3- 'All children and young people will have access to inclusive community services and social activities'

Members expressed a desire to make the local area a 'disability friendly zone'. The tourist board have funding to do 'Welcome host' training with community groups. All organisations would have a 'statement of excellence' to show inclusion of all children. A concern was raised that if this statement was rolled out across all settings, it would be hard to resource the additional extras needed to make sure the setting is fully inclusive. It was discussed that this idea would be to promote the branding that West Belfast is a friendly and welcoming place, more of a visual statement than a policy.

Action: Una to circulate the Action Plan.

Action: Una to set a date for next sub group meeting

Chill and Spill

Una outlined a new piece of work the Simon Community will be undergoing called 'Chill and Spill'. It began as part of the Larne and Carrickfergus locality groups and was adapted for St Mary's High School in Newry. It will now be rolled out by Simon Community in North and West Belfast. 'Chill and Spill' is an early intervention project for post-primary school students. The aim of the programme is to raise awareness of different issues that affect young people and what local services can provide support and to provide a safe space for young

people to discuss what can often be challenging issues. Declan and Damien will be carrying out the project, and if anyone would like more information on the project or would like to get involved, get in touch with Declan or Damien. Members were happy that this would achieve outcomes on the action plan.

Action: Information about Newry pilot to be circulated

Action: Simon Community contact details to be circulated

Family Support Hubs Updates

Shankill- Dympna

The latest meeting of the Shankill hub took place last week, around action planning. There are 18 new referrals, and 44 referrals overall. Dympna emphasised there is an increase in ethnic minority usage of the hub with few services to refer them to. There are certain issues which are repeatedly being referred to the hub, including ADHD, ASD, poverty issues, debt problems, food parcels and emotional support. Due to the rise in the number of mental health related issues, the emotional mental health hub co-ordinator will be attending the next hub meeting. There are also concerns around supporting the staff around the table as they are becoming overworked, due to the high demand.

The Shankill hub will be holding a publicity event in the autumn for members, to try and increase membership. Overall there are around 40 members, with about 15 attendees at the hub meetings each month. All referrals are tracked, so it is easy to see where the most need is. The group expressed concern that there are no counselling services in the Shankill hub area, as there are so many mental health referrals. It was made clear that the role of the Locality Planning Group is to feed unmet need back to Outcomes Group, so it is beneficial to track the services in the hub.

Action: Una to report unmet need to the Outcomes Group

Greater Falls- Jim

Blackie River Community Group has been awarded the lead body group for the Greater Falls hub. An information meeting was held 2 weeks ago, and the hub will be up and running in 3 months. Following this there will be a public launch in September. Karina McErlain is the Hub Co-ordinator for the Greater Falls.

Outer Falls- CRJ

Community Restorative Justice has been awarded the lead body group for the Outer Falls hub. It is important for the Locality Planning Group to

link with CRJ. Tish expressed her disappointment that Upper Andersonstown Community Forum weren't successful with their bid to be lead body for this hub.

Action: All Hub Co-ordinators to attend the LPG meetings.

Members expressed concern in that they have been informed to send all referrals to the hub, and they will be referred back to their service. Members of the Outcomes Group emphasised that as far as they were aware that this is not the case, as it would delay a service and there would be a chance the service could be referred to a different organisation.

Members were also concerned that in some contracts recently awarded through the Family Support Funding from the Belfast Outcomes Group, they have to hold places on programmes for 100% hub referrals, which means all families will need to be referred into the Hub to get a place in the service. This is particularly concerning for services in areas where the Family Support Hubs aren't taking referrals yet and also, if they are associate members of a hub and aren't receiving referrals from the hubs. Members were also concerned that this will have a negative impact on their monitoring returns. Members expressed their concern around this; the issue needs to be clarified. Karen advised that she will try and get some clarification from Gerry Largey around the contracting and will circulate via Una.

Tracey noted that it may be a positive thing, if families need to be referred into the hub, they will have access to a wider range of services and if there are more needs in the family they can be addressed.

Action: All Hub Co-ordinators to attend LPG meetings

Action: Karen/Una/ members of BOG (Tina & Anne) to raise this at the next meeting on 30/6.

Feedback from Belfast Outcomes Group

Commissioning- Karen Burns

Members expressed their disappointment about being unsuccessful in their applications to the Belfast Outcomes Group family support funding. They felt that the process was difficult. Disability groups in particular were alarmed that they weren't successful, whilst other organisations that do not specialise in disability have received funding for disability programmes.

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Action: Co-ordinators to attend LPG meetings

Action: Karen/Una/ members of BOG (Tina & Anne) to raise this at the next meeting on 30/6

Any Other Business

- Libraries NI are having an art exhibition to raise awareness about autism.

- Blackie River Community Group has an autism summer programme running for 8 weeks over the summer for primary school age children.

Action: Una to circulate details about these events

Date, Time and venue for Next Meetings

Dates for future meetings are as follows:-

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday 12 th August 2015	2.30pm	Frank Gillen Centre
Wednesday 14 th October 2015	2.30pm	Spectrum Centre
Wednesday 9 th December 2015	2.30pm	TBC