

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

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

PRESENT: David McAllister *Mid & East Antrim Council*
Gemma Lutton *CYPSP (Minute Taker)*
John Clements *Action For Children*
Maria Martin *Women's Aid ABCLN*
Selena Ramsey *CYPSP*
Shirley Loughlin *NHSCT*
Yury Fleming *EA NI*

APOLOGIES: Deborah Neill *LCDP*
Gail Anderson *CFSP – Network Personnel*
Karen Graham *Larne YMCA*
Leigh Whittlely *EA NI Youth Service*
Sandra Anderson *CYPSP*
Maureen Morrow *Mid & East Antrim Council*

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

David welcomed the group to the meeting and apologies were noted. 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 **Tuesday 30th June 2015.**

MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising.

UPDATE – BELIEVE IN YOUTH PROJECT

Believe in Youth have now recruited a new coordinator. This person will be feeding back to Larne Locality Planning Group on what the project are delivering in the area. It was noted further peer mentors are required and have 6 places to fill at present.

RELAX AND CHILLAX – UPDATE

Karen has been in touch with one of the teachers within Larne High School and has established a good relationship with the Child Protection Teacher. Organisations are coming each week and the initiative is continuing to run well and further develop.

Sandra provided Karen with evaluations to be completed by the year group at the end of the last school year. During this time most of the year 12's were no longer in the school due to revision / exam leave etc.

LARNE / CARRICKFERGUS HUB UPDATE

John provided an update on the family support hubs. They are very busy at present putting support to 100+ families per month. John expressed concerns workers being part time and they are only getting busier. Flyers along with referral forms were distributed. John noted support can be given relatively quickly to families. There will be an information event in Asda on Thursday 5th November from 11am – 1pm, an event on 12th November in Dunanney Centre and 16th November in Asda Ballyclare. These events are to promote the family support hubs with the aim of making as many families as possible aware of the service available.

John would like more community groups in Larne representing the hubs. If anyone could think of contacts in the Larne area please contact Claire

McKay on 028 9446 7345 or email
Claire.mckay@actionforchildren.org.uk

ACTION PLANNING – SETTING THE PRIORTIES

Selena noted the Larne Locality Planning Group was launched in 2000 and are collectively working for the same families. Selena outlined the achievements to date which included recent developments including Relax and Chillax, Directory of Members, Family Fun and Information Fair, Sandra has completed engagement and developed a Top Tips Leaflet. If anyone would like documents circulated again contact Gemma.

Selena asked members what they as an organisation can't do on their own but there is still an unmet need for. This will form key priorities the Larne Locality group can work on achieving.

Issues Identified:

- Support for children under 11 who have experienced sexual abuse
- Rural support- parents programme
- Parents with learning difficulties
- Employability scheme for young parents both mums and dads
- More counselling support eg Antrim counselling
- Gaps for families outside the surestart area
- Knowledge of what is being delivered in the community and how long for
- Young mens health – and a possible venue to meet young people
- Maths and English homework clubs for P5 and P6 and Year 10 in particular

- Gaps in behavioural support for children and young people who may not meet CAMHS threshold
- Self esteem issues with parents
- Support for general SEN issues - direct family, children and young people support
- Young people – drugs/alcohol and child sexual exploitation

Discussions took place and Selena noted the group will have to revisit the action plan at the next meeting to allow other members to contribute. Once all issues have been identified and agreed Selena will put in an action plan context along with statistics to reflect the needs identified

UPDATE FROM MEMBERS

Maria Martin – Women’s Aid ABCLN

A Christmas party for children and young people is planned for 21st December in Fun Factory Ballymena. This will be for all 5 areas for a duration of 2 hours. Santa will be making an appearance and will have gifts for all children. Families who are struggling to afford presents are given gifts and a Christmas hamper. Maria noted the White ribbon campaign takes place this month also. There is an event at Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey to raise awareness of domestic violence. Speeches will be given in churches on white ribbon Sunday also contributing to raising awareness of this issue. Maria noted Homework clubs are continuing and are in the process of reapplying for funding to ensure these continue. In stage 2 in funding for family first for families where there is domestic violence and children are at risk of removal. This would result in an additional part time worker in each of the 5 areas and a manager etc.

David McAllister – Mid & East Antrim Borough Council

David noted he submitted an action plan proposal to new manager of Mid & East Antrim Borough Council. He is trying to seek funding for an accredited training course. This would hopefully be for 12 people.

David is also trying to move a space forward to be used to meet young people.

AOB

Nothing noted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 12th Jnauary 2016** at **10.30am** in **Sir Thomas Dixon Buildings, Larne.**

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