

**MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELFAST LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER AT 10AM IN THE MCSWEENEY CENTRE,
31 HENRY PLACE, BELFAST BT15 2BB**

Present:

Name	Organisation
Katrina Newell	Ashton
Laura Rankin	CYPSP
Gabi Mornhinweg	BHSCT
Christine McKeown	Ashton
Declan Davey	Youth Justice Agency
Edith McManus	Lower North Belfast Family Support Hub
Carolyn Stewart	Ashton
Jonathan Kennedy	Extern IFSS
Declan Morris	Simon Community
Michelle Harris	Barnardo's
Paula Scott	Home Start
Marguerite McConvey	HYPE BHSCT
Kelly Maxwell	NIACRO
Alison Templeton	New Life Counselling
Gerry Largey	BHSCT

Apologies:

Name:	Organisation:
Una Casey	CYPSP
Laura Forte	Barnardo's
Caroline Milligan	Glenbrook SureStart
Frances Dowds	Action Cancer

Welcome and Introductions

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

Apologies

Were noted as above

Presentation: Steps to Cope Service (Fiona Steele)

Fiona delivered a presentation to the group on the Steps to Cope Service: a confidential, structured support service for young people aged 11-18 living in Northern Ireland, who are dealing with Parental Alcohol Misuse. The service provides one-to-one support via staff and but also 24/7 on the Steps to Cope website.

Action: [Laura to circulate presentation](#)

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Amendment on page 3 of the minutes changed from 'Issues commonly being presented in the hubs in Belfast include poverty related problems, waiting lists for diagnosis, primary school emotional and behavioural support.' to 'Issues commonly being presented in the hubs in Belfast include poverty related problems, waiting lists for diagnosis, primary school age children who require emotional and behavioural support.'

Matters Arising

The report has not yet been released in relation to what services have received Family Support funding from the Outcomes Group. It will be circulated when it is sent to the Outcomes Group members.

Action: Funding report to be circulated

Action Plan.

Chill and Spill Update (Declan Morris)

Declan has met with Michelle (Collective Impact) to align their work. Groups met with Girls Model to see how the project will be shaped. The idea will be presented to the young people in January to see what issues they would like covered. This work should be able to be duplicated in other schools in the area or further afield.

Members agreed that due to the strong links in this project to the Girls Model School, it would be good to hold the next LPG meeting there. Laura agreed to contact Janice to see if this is possible.

The group discussed the possibility of having a parents event to follow up the work which is happening in Chill and Spill and link this with the work of the Family Support Hubs. This will also help further the North Belfast Action Plan, in its identified areas of need. The key members of the LPG who are involved or could help further the project agreed to meet at the end of January; Kelly, Michelle, Christine, Declan M and Declan D noted they would like to be involved in this. Group agreed it would be beneficial to ask Janice as she is also part of the process.

Action: Laura to contact Girls Model re. room availability in January

Action: Sub group to meet at the end of January

Update on Collective Impact (Michelle Harris)

Michelle gave the group an update on the progress of the Collective Impact project. There are currently 6 Primary Schools in the North Belfast area involved. At the moment they are offering literacy support, linking with community partners, The Boys and Girls Model are pilots for the Secondary School aspect of the project. This element will focus on those pupils who are not predicted to pass their English and Maths GCSE's. It will also focus on Mental Health issues for children up to the age of 14. There are more schools interested in the project that Michelle is meeting with.

It was agreed that the action plan needs to be updated and re-formatted, and a sub group should come together to do this. The following members agreed to be a part of that group; Christine McK, Katrina, Gabi, Carolyn, Declan M, Kelly, Michelle and a member of Gerry's team

Action: Laura to send dates for the action planning sub group to meet.

Family Support Hub Update

Lower North - Christine McKeown/ Edith McManus

The Lower North Family Support Hub has been live since August and to date there have been 30 referrals. Edith noted that there has been a need to promote the hub, especially in GPs and schools. Every nursery, primary and post primary school received a letter outlining the work of the hubs and there have been number responded and increased referrals from the hubs, which is positive. The hub is also on the next agenda of the GP federation, which should encourage more referrals from GPs. The clear gaps in services are support for children with additional needs, parenting support, social and emotional support (especially for boys age 5-11).

Alison Templeton noted that New Life Counselling are compiling research on counselling and agreed to send this to Laura for circulation.

Action: Alison to send research piece to Laura to be circulated.

Gerry pointed out that generally the trend across all of the Family Support Hubs has been emotional and behavioural support. This may be because younger children act as the 'valve' for wider family issues, also disability and children with additional needs are considerable issues, especially those awaiting a diagnosis. It was also emphasised that connection from the LPG to the Hub is key to encourage linkages and make the process a success.

Cedar have recently opened a 'one-stop shop' for those aged 16+ with Autism. This service offers information, support and guidance every Tuesday from 1.30-4.30pm in Belfast Central Library.

Member Updates

Homelessness awareness week is coming up on 28th November- 5th December. It is important to support this and go to the Simon Community website for details of all events. Declan pointed out that the Welfare reform changes will have an impact.

Any Other Business:

The Education Authority supported Voluntary and Statutory Youth Centre Managers to attend a residential to develop the local area plans. Katrina will be doing a presentation on the LPG and hubs. The group agreed it would be advantageous for Alan Wilson (Area Youth Officer) to come to the next LPG to talk about the North Belfast area plan.

Action: Laura to contact Alan Wilson to attend next LPG meeting.

Dates of upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday 26 th January 2016 @ 10am	Girls Model School
Tuesday 22 nd March 2016 @ 10am	Girdwood Centre
Tuesday 24 th May 2016 @ 10am	TBC
Tuesday 26 th July 2016 @ 10am	TBC
Tuesday 27 th September 2016 @ 10am	TBC
Tuesday 29 th November 2016 @ 10am	TBC

