

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING
COOKSTOWN LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP**

**THURSDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2015 AT 10.00AM
IN GORTALLOWRY HOUSE**

Attendance

Ursula Marshall	Chairperson
Annette McGahan	Mid Ulster PCSP
Christine O'Toole	Mid Ulster Women's Aid
Gemma Lutton	CYPSP (Minute Taker)
Roisin McConville	EA NI
Sandra Anderson	CYPSP
Sean McElhatton	Mid Ulster Council
Selena Ramsey	CYPSP
Mary Tennyson	Gold Surestart
Maxine McClean	CFSP

Apologies

Carmel Kelly	EA NI
Brenda McAteer	NHSCT

1. Introductions and Apologies

Ursula welcomed everyone to the meeting. A round of introductions followed.

2. Minutes of previous meeting held on 8th October 2015

These were read through and agreed as correct by those present.

3. Matters arising

Disability Event

Sandra shared information to the group from Ross regarding the Disability event that took place. Ross wanted to thank the group for all

the hard work and commitment into planning this event. Family Fund received a lot of referrals on the day which was a very positive outcome.

4. Update – Disability Forum

A launch event took place for the Youth Included Project. The group worked with Fixers over the summer period to complete a piece of work relating to bullying and a DVD was produced. Ursula noted the launch was a lovely evening and was great to see families with young people supporting them. Young people spoke on the night and shared their own experiences.

Commitment was given to take DVD into Schools. Planning has begun to get the DVD played on a loop in all Schools. This is a short video lasting 90 seconds with a lot of good messages which are very powerful.

Discussions took place around this. Thanks were given to Alan Fleming for all his hard work in organising. Mary noted it is a good example of partnership working. Selena queried if a hard copy or if the video could be uploaded to the EA NI website and a link emailed she would circulate.

Ursula noted the first contracts meeting took place and they were impressed with the work being carried out for £5000. At the next meeting Fiona McMahon (Disability Action covering England, Scotland, Wales and NI) will be delivering a presentation and it is hoped to have full attendance.

Action: Selena

5. Update – Cultural Integration Project

Mary provided an update regarding the Cultural Integration Project. The 3 year tender is ending in March 2016 and Mary is trying to get indication from the Trust if this will be extended. The service came out of the group and it has grown and changed since it began.

6. Update – Family Support Hub

Feedback from a member in attendance is the Hub is well established and many more organisations have now joined to sit on the Cookstown Hub. New premises are being located for a meeting venue due to the high numbers attending. It was noted the Family Support Hubs are very useful in linking organisations to supporting families. Contracts are uncertain for the continuation of the hubs beyond March 2016 at this time.

7. Action Planning

Selena noted she would like 3 key priorities for the Cookstown Locality Planning Group. This process has already been completed in Magherafelt and working on completing for all remaining locality groups. Selena outlined the achievements for the group to date.

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 Cookstown Locality group can collectively work on achieving.

Issues Identified:

- Social activities for children and young people with disabilities
- Parental support and information for families widely distributed
- Young men
- Work with young men who are underachieving (very low aspirations). Engagement is difficult and anti-social behaviour is an issue.
- Structured programme built into School curriculum
- Mental Health- Empowering Children/ Empowering Parents
- Bringing Healthy Relationships to young people in schools
- BME- Education/ Integration/ Support

Selena agreed to take these issues discussed and put in action plan context along with statistics to reflect the needs identified.

Action: Selena

8. Membership Update

Sean McElhatton – Mid Ulster Council

Information was provided on a Foodbank appeal in Burnavon, This will be the 3rd year it's been run. Friday 11th December 2015 at 10.00am is the date organised.

Roisin McConville – EA NI

Information was provided on the Learning Together Programme. This is aimed at young people who may be at risk of low achievement and disaffection, and gives them the opportunity to obtain a GCSE. 30 pupils were involved in Year 11 and 30 young people in Year 12. Over 11 took part in Key Stage 3. Roisin also noted she is progressing with the support for LGB&T young people in the district.

Annette McGahan – Mid Ulster PCSP

An action plan has now been set and approved and however it leaves half a year in order to achieve points outlined. Annette noted a lot of points are included for youth. A number of programmes will be delivered including:

- Midnight Soccer
- Funding for Cookstown Youth Scheme (Town Centre Project)
- Screens in Schools
- Internet Safety (PSNI will be going into Schools to deliver)
- Be Safe Programme

Christine O'Toole – Mid Ulster Women's Aid

Programme running in resource centre in Cookstown which runs once a year. Mid Ulster Women's Aid are currently working hard to get accommodation and Christmas support in place for families. Vineyard and St Vincent De Pauls are bringing information to families of services available.

Mary Tennyson – Gold Surestart

Mary noted she is looking to get staff trained on the Solihull approach and this will include all staff members. It is hoped to get this rolled out

soon. There is a 3 year business plan for Gold Surestart to be completed by the end of January 2016 and Mary is working on this. A Baby fair that took place 'Bumps, Baby and Beyond' in The Burnavon Cookstown and was very well attended. Next year will bring forward in the year due to other events taking place on this same day.

Maxine McLean – Community Family Support Programme

The Community Family Support programme has been working with 40 families over the past 7 months. Each of these families have a young person unengaged in training or employment. The programme has been working with young people and the family unit. It was noted it is going well and referrals are being received from School workers. Maxine give information on the programme and explained work can be on a one to one basis with family members and groupwork can also be done. There will be a Christmas Coffee morning in Cookstown office from 10am – 12noon everyone is welcome to attend.

9. Any other Business

Nothing noted.

10. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 4th February 2016 at 10am in Gortalowry House, Cookstown.**

Dates for 2016 will be circulated to the group.