

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING
MINUTES OF BALLYCLARE & RURAL NEWTOWNABBEY**

**THURSDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2015 AT 2.00PM
BALLYCLARE COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

Attending:	Adelyn Carr	<i>Ballyclare Family Focus</i>
	Ashleigh Douglas	<i>NHSCT</i>
	Bronagh McAlynn	<i>South Eastern Gateway</i>
	Christine Craig	<i>ASDA Ballyclare</i>
	Gemma Lutton	<i>CYPSP (Minute Taker)</i>
	Gerry McDonald	<i>Impact of Alcohol – NHSCT</i>
	Kathy Wolff	<i>CR Forum</i>
	Pamela Davis	<i>NHSCT</i>
	Sandra Anderson	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Valerie McKenzie	<i>EANI Youth Service</i>
Apologies:	Janine Gaston	<i>SACN</i>
	Shirley Clarke	<i>NHSCT</i>
	Shirley Laughlin	<i>Public Health Nursing NHSCT</i>

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Adelyn welcomed everyone to the meeting today and apologies were noted.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate recording of the previous meeting held on **Thursday 18th June 2015**.

MATTERS ARISING

Strengthening Families

Selena noted EITP will be delivering Strengthening Families Programme as part of their project. Anyone can link into this to refer families to the programme.

AUTISM PROGRAMME - UPDATE

Pamela was previously successful in securing funding for an Autism Support Group through the Northern Outcomes Group and this was discussed. Pamela also secured funding from Education Authority. This provided the possibility of securing 2 Autism Support Workers and 2 Youth Workers being appointed 3 days a week, supporting the Autism Support Group until March 2016.

5-8 children attend the Autism Support Group on a regular basis and this will end with an organised residential for the young people. This will also provide a great break for the parents/carers when young people are on the residential. Information was given on an Education Support Programme which runs on a Tuesday and Thursday. Pamela has also started an after schools group in September 2015 and noted there is a good core group attending. Pamela noted there is funding available to offer training as part of this.

ACTION PLAN – SETTING THE PRIORITIES

Selena recapped on the Ballyclare & Rural Newtownabbey Group and noted it has been running since 2012. To date the group have successfully achieved the following:

- Engagement Event
- Cmeb+
- Produced What's Happening in Ballyclare
- Fun and Facts Morning focusing on 0-4's
- Membership Booklet
- Youth and Community Engagement
- Top Tips Leaflet – Autism Spectrum Disorder Diagnosis Information Leaflet for Siblings

Selena set the task of setting 3 priorities for the group with a number of actions to deliver on. Selena asked members what they as an organisation can't do on their own but there is still an unmet need for. An action planning session took place and key priorities the LPG agreed to collectively work on achieving are:

Parenting Programmes

Engagement – complete engagement to identify need with parents of what they would like before offering programmes. Also find out existing programmes available.

Cooking programme – delivery of a cooking programme was highlighted. This could be potentially targeting mother and toddler groups in the full Ballyclare Locality. A

Cook It Facilitator, Nursery Assistant and Food would be needed to make this possible.

Support for parents of teenagers – target parents of children with a disability and offer a support programme.

Drop In

Members would like to have a drop in for young people and parents in the Ballycalre area. A number of things needing addressed for this were discussed:

- Facility
- Funding
- Clear objective from outset e.g. target age, focus times and days
- 2 workers and volunteers
- Buy in from other organisations e.g. Education Authority, Government, FASA/ Mindwise
- Providing safe, recreational, healthy environment
- Youth Council to take lead in planning
- Lobby PHA for one stop shop in locality – outreach from Larne/Carrick

Resilience Programmes

This was set as another priority for the locality group. Items discussed under this action are listed below:

- Investigate available/existing services and programmes
- Source funding
- Target at groups most vulnerable – teenagers, young mothers and primary age
- Lobby the Health Trust
- Promote EA Young Men's Workers
- Get buy in from Schools/Support Groups. Possibility of youth worker in every school?
- Complete parent engagement
- Offer programmes based on need.
- Provide meal to attract young people/parents to attend

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nothing noted.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on **Thursday 14th April 2016** at **2.00pm** in **Ballyclare Community Concerns**.