

**MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELFAST LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 22ND MARCH AT 10AM IN GIRDWOOD
COMMUNITY HUB, 10 GIRDWOOD AVENUE, BELFAST BT14 6EG.**

Present:

Name	Organisation
Katrina Newell	Ashton
Laura Rankin	CYPSP
Gabi Mornhinweg	BHSCT
Christine McKeown	Ashton
Mervyn Bell	Smile Sure Start
Michelle Harris	Barnardo's Collective Impact
Natalie Killough	BHSCT
Sean Montgomery	Skegoniel Community Partnership
Caroline Milligan	Glenbrook SureStart

Apologies:

Name:	Organisation:
Declan Davey	Youth Justice Agency
Alison Templeton	New Life Counselling
Laura Forte	Barnardo's
Paula Scott	HomeStart
Julie Jamieson	NLDCHP
Kelly Maxwell	NIACRO
Una Casey	CYPSP

Welcome and Introductions

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

Apologies

Were noted as above

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes were agreed as accurate.

Matters Arising

Janice emailed Laura with a number for a representative on the Area Learning Community for North Belfast.

Action: Laura to contact Liz Gough to get a slot on the Area Learning Community

Alan Wilson- EA Youth Service Area Plan

Alan sent apologies to the meeting as something came up at the last minute and agreed to come out to a future meeting. The group agreed that it would be useful as local plans need to overlap and it would be useful to inform the LPG Action Plan.

Action Plan.

Outcome 1- Chill and Spill Update

Laura updated the group that unfortunately The Simon Community have not been able to secure funding for their outreach workers, and they will be leaving at the end of March. This means that Chill and Spill will no longer be taking place in North Belfast. It was discussed that at some stage, hopefully the Locality Planning Group could take on the responsibility of Chill and Spill.

Education event

Janice notified the group at the last LPG meeting that there would be a health fair in Girls Model in May/June but the date had not yet been decided. The aims agreed by the sub group are as follows:

1. Raise awareness of the LPG/ Family Support Hubs
2. Give information about services available locally
3. Extend the Chill and Spill connection to wider families and reach new year 8 students
4. Extend the membership of LPG with the other organisations present

Declan suggested it would be a good idea to rebrand the event to be in partnership with the LPG, which would raise awareness. Unfortunately Janice was not present, and a number of issues need to be addressed, including date and time of event, resources and who all would be attending. Janice is currently off sick, so Laura will liaise with her when she returns.

Action: Laura to Liaise with Janice re. details of the Health Fair

Also in terms of education, members raised concerns about education bodies doing more so that children do not have a bad experience in education. It would be useful to have more means that children can receive support e.g. homework clubs. Michelle noted that Collective Impact is based on educational attainment and will be looking at this in North Belfast.

Outcome 2-

Katrina emphasised the co-ordination of youth provision. The LPG are doing this by inviting Alan Wilson to talk about the EA Youth provision area plan. Natalie also made the group aware that the Solihull method is hopefully going to be rolled out on a regional basis, which will ensure consistency in practise. However, this needs to be a wider conversation, will all organisations.

Outcome 3-

Under Outcome 3 of the action plan, it was agreed to take forward the need for appropriate training and measurement of what is already available. In order to do this, members agreed a good way forward would be to document what happens

locally in a spread sheet, which is then easily accessible for those looking for training. Laura agreed to pull this together. Caroline and Mervyn noted they have newsletters which include training, and will forward to Laura to include on the calendar.

Action: Laura to put training calendar together

Members told of a concerning increase in drug use in the local area, especially prescription drugs and mental health issues, which are often linked. 1 in 6 people in Northern Ireland are thought to be on anti-depressant medication at present. With the closure of FASA, this leads to more concern about the future of these individuals. More training needs to be identified for parents to be able to cope. It is more than drug awareness sessions which are needed. Due to these concerning reports, it was suggested that drugs, alcohol, suicide, self-harm and parent support are all named in the action plan.

Action: Drugs, alcohol, suicide, self-harm and parent support to be named in the action plan.

It was advised that learning goes further than what happens in schools, it is important to note this in the action plan and make sure that all organisations around the table are playing their part in achieving the outcomes in the action plan.

Furthermore, Christine highlighted in her hub feedback about the high levels of children with behavioural difficulties. Members suggested that children may be diagnosed with ADHD, and given medication prematurely. It may instead be a behaviour management issue. It was acknowledged that EISS (EITP funded) is doing good work in the area as they can build up relationships with families, but not all areas can avail of this service. The group emphasised that funding pots need to be directed towards needs such as this.

Action: Needs identified to be highlighted at Outcomes Group to influence funding pots.

In relation to training, Natalie pointed out that most training is not quality assured, and this means it may not be consistent or appropriate. How can we be sure what families are being signposted to? It would have to be the funder's responsibility. The difficulty in some training, is that the title may be off-putting e.g. parenting programmes may suggest that there are problems with parenting, which may put parents off. A suggestion was made that as soon as they become pregnant, parents should be automatically given the help and support they need from SureStart, which would then also be linked with the Family Support Hubs.

Autism Training

NIACRO has given the Locality Planning Groups 3 Autism Awareness training sessions, as there is a significant need identified within the groups. The sessions have meant that 86 Locality members have had the Autism awareness training. It was acknowledged that this is a great achievement.

Family Support Hub Updates

Lower North - Christine McKeown

Christine gave an update of the Family Support Hub in Lower North. She noted that before now North Belfast has not had a legacy of family support, so it is great to have collaborative working. Current issues are those awaiting an ASD diagnosis, also after the diagnosis, behavioural difficulties, counselling and other alternatives to counselling. Members of the group commented on how useful they have found the Family Support Hubs. Lower and Upper North are launching their hubs tomorrow (Wednesday 23rd March) in Girdwood Community Hub and Christine emphasised that everyone is welcome. It was also noted that it would be useful to have a more formal presentation from the hubs at the next meeting to get more in depth feedback.

Action: Laura to contact hubs to do a presentation at the next meeting

Belfast Outcomes Group Feedback

Permanent funding has been allocated for Locality work in Belfast, although it is not yet known what this will look like. Stevie Lavery gave the Belfast Outcomes Group a presentation about the new Locality Planning structures within Belfast City Council. There are two pilot projects, one in the Newtownards Road area of East Belfast and the other in the Whiterock area of West Belfast. They are trying to identify one priority issue to take forward as a group. These Locality Groups will have a whole population approach, as opposed to a focus on Children and Young People.

Belfast Locality Planning chairs fed back about the current priorities arising from the Locality Planning Groups. Katrina fed back that the Outcomes Group Action Plan is in draft format, because it is being shaped by the Locality Group needs and priorities.

Members expressed that there has not been a pro forma developed for the Locality Groups to feed their needs and achievements up to the Outcomes Group. It was noted that it is important to see that the needs of the locality groups are being listened to. This becomes a difficulty when there are conversations around needs that are not captured in the action plan but need to be fed back.

Action: Katrina to talk to Anne about feeding back priorities which are not on the action plan

Member Updates

Collective Impact Update

The 3 strands of work in Collective Impact are as follows:

- 'Student Support Networks' - focusing on direct work
- Capacity Building - training and development
- Technical Assistance - support, information and evidence.

The North Belfast Collective Impact will emphasise training schools, youth and community together. There will be a school symposium, involving the 11 schools in the area, including the Area Learning Community.

Any Other Business:

-There is a Spring Awakening Event taking place in Alexandra Park, with various activities for families

- The youth awards for North Belfast took place for ages 16-24, with DEL present. A great night was had by all!
- Girdwood Community Hub has drop in centres available 7 days a week and they have had a great uptake of membership

Dates of upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday 24 th May 2016 @ 10am	The Vine Centre
Tuesday 26 th July 2016 @ 10am	TBC
Tuesday 27 th September 2016 @ 10am	TBC
Tuesday 29 th November 2016 @ 10am	TBC