

**MINUTES OF THE WEST BELFAST LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th APRIL 2016 AT 2.30PM IN HORN DRIVE
COMMUNITY CENTRE, 44 HORN DRIVE, BELFAST BT11 9GS**

PRESENT:

Name:

Tina Gregory

Laura Rankin

Irene Cooke

Mairead Gilmartin

Nikki Terlik

Roisin Mohan

Karen Burns

Elizabeth Gracey

Deirdre Walsh

Christina Black

Mairead McCrea

Organisation:

Clan Mor Sure Start

CYPSP

Shankill Sure Start

Outer West Sure Start

Libraries NI

Suffolk Community Forum

BHSCT

Action Ability Belfast

Whiterock Children's Centre

Grosvenor Community Centre

Kids Together

APOLOGIES:

Marie Therese Cassin

Kelly Maxwell

Sue Pentel

Colm Walsh

Dympna Johnston

Natalie Killough

Leontia McKenna

Ihintz Oliden

Cedar Foundation

NIACRO

Ionad Uíbh Eachach

Extern

Greater Shankill Partnership

PHA

Outer West Family Support Hubs

Whiterock Children's Centre

Welcome and Introductions

Tina 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 a true and accurate representation of the meeting.

Matters Arising

It was discussed that it is a good idea to keep the members presentations as a running item on the agenda. The youth services agreed to do a joint presentation at the next meeting.

Action: Jim, Christina and Sue to present their services at the next meeting.

Sue agreed to feedback information about Bright Start, however she was unable to make it to the meeting. This has been postponed to the next meeting.

Action: Sue to feedback Bright Start information.

Welfare Reform Education Classes

Dympna was unable to make it to the meeting so she sent some feedback about the Welfare Reform information sessions. There is a programme with OFM/DFM to deliver Welfare Reform Information sessions, if there are any groups (especially working age 16-64 yrs.) There are opportunities for sessions to be delivered in groups and community sessions, as it is important that community people can signpost and refer people to advice service for help and support. There will be a session delivered at the hub meeting and a session is being arranged for parents on Tuesday 26th April at 10am in the Spectrum Centre.

The half day session provides participants with an overview of the implemented changes initiated by welfare reform and the mitigations tabled by the Welfare Reform Mitigations Working Group as outlined in their report. It covers reforms to benefits for children, working age and older people, including means tested benefits, non-means tested benefits, child tax credits and working tax credits, disability benefits including PIPS and ESA and housing benefit. It also outlines the different elements of Universal Credit and how they might apply to single people, families, disabled persons and to housing costs and includes a detailed summary of what the suggested mitigations packages will be. The sessions can be delivered mornings, afternoons or evenings.

Action: Anyone who is interested in having training, contact Dympna or Laura.

Action Plan

Outcome 3

Laura gave an overview of Inclusion Charter being developed and gave out a copy of the collated mission statements of the group. It was pointed out that disability is a prominent issue in the hubs so this will be a good piece of work when completed. The group discussed how it may be difficult for some organisations to sign up to e.g. SureStart can only commit to age 0-4. It was acknowledged that it is important to get education involved in the charter. The group agreed the best way forward is to send out the collated mission statements and get some feedback via email.

Action: Laura to send out information re. charter via email for comment

Health for All Strategy West Belfast

The West Belfast Partnership Board, in partnership with other organisations in West Belfast is developing a 10 year public health strategy for West Belfast as there is not currently one in place. It has been divided into 4 different sections- 0-4 years, Children and young people, adults and older generation. Tina will be chairing the early years workshop. Laura agreed to get Dermot Glackin to the next meeting to talk about the strategy.

Action: Laura to invite Dermot to the next LPG meeting.

Family Support Hub Updates

Whiterock and Upper Springfield Hub

The biggest issues over the past in the past quarter are as follows: Emotional/behavioural issues (related to ASD, ADHD, Autism), also issues around disability as there are only a small number of organisations in West Belfast, which means they have been getting bombarded with all referrals. A difficulty being faced by the hub is the amount of counselling required for primary school aged children.

Outer West Hub

There were 50 referrals in this quarter. The highest recorded age group was 5-10 year olds, and then the 11-15 year olds. The highest reason recorded was people wanting to access child counselling followed by emotional /behavioural difficulty support for Primary and Secondary school children. 32 out of the 63 children were recorded as having a disability, the highest type of disability recorded was a Learning disability followed by sensory disability.

Falls Hub

Tina Black gave an update as she was present at the last meeting. The highest number of referrals were for Autism and ASD and minority community family support.

Feedback from Belfast Outcomes Group

The hubs have received funding for another year, which is a bit of stability, however members emphasised that we need to know what will happen in the next financial year.

Stevie Lavery gave a presentation about their locality planning structures. In West the area which will be piloted is Whiterock. This group will look at full population issues, not just those affecting children and young people.

Children's Strategy questionnaire

June Wilkinson has asked that Locality Planning Groups send their input into the new Children's Strategy via a questionnaire. She is keen that Locality Planning Groups and local organisations have their say. The group agreed it would be a good idea to email this out and do any responses from individual organisations.

Action: Laura to email Children's Strategy questionnaire

Any other business

- Liz made the group aware that there is a new self-directed support system for people with a disability. Self-directed support (SDS) allows people to choose how their support is provided, and gives them as much control as they want of their individual budget.
- Members noted that there have been contradictory responses from the Family Support funding, which has been confusing for those who have applied for funding.
- The Autism Awareness training which was run by Autism NI as part of the Locality Planning Groups had been a great success, with over 100 LPG members attending.

Date, Time and venue for Next Meetings

Dates for future meetings are as follows:-

Wednesday 8 th June 2016 @ 2.30pm	Falls Road Library
Wednesday 10 th August 2016 @ 2.30pm	Extern- Jennymount
Wednesday 12 th October 2016 @ 2.30pm	Stewartstown Road regeneration project
Wednesday 14 th December 2016 @ 2.30pm	Shankill Library

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