

Launch of the CYPSP Down Locality Planning Group

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) Down Locality Planning Group was launched on 22 November 2016 in the Ballymote Community Centre, Downpatrick.

The locality group is made up of a broad range of over 15 community, statutory and voluntary organisations including Lisburn and North Down YMCA's, Action for Children, Bryson Charitable Group, Early Years, Home Start, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust and many more. All locality members are committed to improving outcomes for children and young people through a multi-agency planning approach.

The locality planning group is an ongoing process of engagement with children, young people and their families. This group will take into account the emerging needs through evidence based information alongside local knowledge to collaboratively address the issues affecting children, young people and their families from across the locality.

Stephanie Thompson, CYPSP Planning Support Officer from the Health and Social Care Board provided a strategic overview of the CYPSP structures and the locality planning group processes to member organisations. Stephanie noted that 'partnership working to develop low and no costs solutions to local emerging needs of children, young people and families is important to locality based planning'.

Ralston Perera from the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust who will be chairing the locality group in the interim stated at the event; 'there is so much great work already happening to support children and families in the Down Locality area. This group has the opportunity to bring this all together and take forward joint priorities together in a way that makes sense to the Down locality'.

To get involved in locality planning in this area please contact: Ralston Perera, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust by email at Ralston.perera@setrust.hscni.net or telephone 028 92 501375