

**MINUTES OF CARRICKFERGUS CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S
LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP MEETING**

**FRIDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 10.00AM
IN CARRICKFERGUS TOWN HALL BUILDINGS**

Attending:	Roy Beggs	<i>MLA (Chairperson)</i>
	Helen Christie	<i>Autism NI</i>
	Ivor Mitchell	<i>Carrick YMCA</i>
	Janice Cherry	<i>CCF</i>
	Karen Dunlop	<i>Women's Aid</i>
	Liz Brown	<i>NICMA</i>
	Margaret Armstrong	<i>Sure Start</i>
	Pamela McClelland	<i>SACN</i>
	Rebecca Sylvest	<i>Action for Children</i>
	Sandra Anderson	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
Apologies:	Amy Holt	<i>Northern HSC Trust</i>
	David McAllister	<i>Mid & East Antrim Borough Council</i>
	Denise McVeigh	<i>Mid & East Antrim Borough Council</i>
	Gabrielle Rawashdeh	<i>PHA</i>
	Gemma Lutton	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Hedley Webb	<i>Carrickfergus College</i>
	Lynn McKenzie	<i>Relationship Resource Centre</i>
	Phyllis Lewis	<i>EA NI</i>
	Sharon Crawford	<i>Northern HSC Trust</i>

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Roy welcomed everyone to the meeting today and invited a round of introductions.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate recording of the previous workshop held on **Friday 5th May 2017**.

MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising.

PRESENTATION- KAREN DUNLOP, VOICES COORDINATOR CARRICKFERGUS

Karen delivered a presentation on the Voices Project in Carrickfergus. This is a Big Lottery Funded 3 Year Project with a target age group of 14+. The project focuses on healthy relationships, consent and violence. Karen noted there will be a Voices Coordinator in every area: Antrim, Ballymena, Carrickfergus, Larne and Newtownabbey. Karen aims to set up a group of young women in Carrickfergus. This will be open for everyone to participate in.

Information was also provided on 'Safe Place'. Women's Aid are currently seeking organisations to sign up to the charter. Teachers can also avail of training to become a Safe School. Safe Place is an initiative offering information on the wide range of services available to anyone affected by domestic violence or abuse. For those organisations/schools who sign up, they will:

1. Support the Safe Place Campaign Pledge: never to commit, condone or stay silent about domestic violence or abuse.
2. Acknowledge that domestic violence or abuse are problems that impact on all of us as a society, and be prepared to play your part in supporting anyone affected.
3. Provide a Safe Place for anyone affected by domestic violence or abuse to confidentially access information and make it clear that abuse of any kind will not be tolerated.

Karen can be contacted by emailing voices.carrickfergus@womensaidmib.org

CLAIRE CRAWFORD, SUNNYLANDS AND WOODBURN DEV. GROUP

Claire Crawford is no longer in post with the post being funded until March.

Roy discussed anti-social behaviour in Mid & East Antrim and noted agencies are taking this seriously. Sunnylands and Woodburn Development Group have set up a Task Group to address this and support agency work.

REPORT CARD – CARRICKFERGUS YOUTH FAIR

Selena distributed a Report Card that Gemma (CYPSP Programme Support) had developed. This was something that is being asked for by the Northern Outcomes Group.

Members discussed that this was excellent and a very positive way of showcasing locality work. Ivor discussed this and noted it was an example of OBA work.

UPDATE - EDUCATION SUBGROUP

Selena provided background information to the education subgroup and the work and discussions to date. Una Casey (Business Support Manager and Locality Planner for Belfast) has developed the Facebook Page 'Carrickfergus Community Education Forum'. This will be a great way for members and the community to showcase what's happening in Carrickfergus. The subgroup is to meet and discuss Parenting NI completing some engagement with parents regarding content on the Facebook page.

Selena agreed to inform members of the launch date of the Facebook page.

ACTION: Selena / Una

CARRICKFERGUS/LARNE HUB UPDATE

It was noted the Carrickfergus / Larne Hub is inundated with referrals. The hub members always do their best to ensure all families referred get a support service of some source.

Feedback from a member organisation present at the last meeting noted the Hub is going really well with on-going increasing referrals.

MEMBER UPDATES

Rebecca Sylvest – Action for Children

Northern Early Intervention Support Service (EISS) and the Northern Area Family Support Intervention Service are organising a Stakeholder event. A flyer will be circulated when published.

Karen Dunlop - Women's Aid

The Women's Aid refuge will be moving to new premises on 1st October. Two 6 month posts are also currently being advertised. A Women's Project is running along with a Social Justice Project. A lot of courses are running. Participation on courses has been low during the summer months.

Ivor Mitchell – Carrick YMCA

YMCA had an extremely busy summer scheme with 90 young kids (7-12 years) who participated. A Family Summer Scheme was organised for the first time and this went very well. Health Hubs had a summer scheme for the older age group. Some young people who were very isolated are now more involved in local community activities. PAKT are now involved in more areas through Carrickfergus. PAKT runs 4 nights for young people and parents activities in the mornings.

Margaret Armstrong – Sure Start

Family summer scheme week was very positive. Two trips were organised but were not well attended. All staff are back and activities are back up and running. New families have registered with new families being reached through the publication of the newsletter.

Liz Brown – NICMA

A new Director for NICMA has been in post since 4th April 2017. Patricia Lewsley-Mooney's aim as NICMA's new Director is to raise the profile of registered child-minding by working in partnership with other organisations across the early year's sector and beyond. Trust inspections may be going online for public view and will note if they meet standards. Child-minders have been affected by the Child Minding Standards and this has impacted numbers. It was noted for the need for Government to run a campaign highlighting the importance of using registered child-minders. As a membership organisation providing support and advice to childminders and parents all NICMA's work is built around this very issue but financial constraints mean that it is not possible to run a major campaign however much the organisation would like to do so.

Helen Christie - Autism NI

A range of activities are taking place in Carrickfergus to support parents/families with an ASD diagnosis. This information will be circulated to members by Gemma (CYPSP Programme Support). Social isolation still remains an issue for families who have a child with ASD. Carrick Community is good at supporting ASD friendly activities.

Autism NI noted they will link in with YMCA regarding their services. Helen noted Autism NI have a Parents Support Group in Carrickfergus based in Oakfield Community Centre.

Pamela McClelland – SARN

The SARN Newsletter is being circulated to all members. A Health Fair / Youth Event is planned for 19th October in Carrickfergus Grammar School. SARN are supporting the Men's Shed and funded Carrickfergus Allotments. Pamela also updated on the upcoming training though Janine Gaston (Suicide Prevention Development Worker). Understanding Self Harm is organised for 11th September in Antrim and Bereavement Counselling will be held on 16th November. Details and information can be found on the website.

Roy Beggs – MLA

Roy expressed his interest in the Autism training and noted there is a need for training for youth leaders. Roy has addressed this for registered BB groups. Previously Autism NI has delivered training for teachers/youth workers but this is only available with funding.

Universal Credit is coming into place in June 2018. This will have an impact on families/parents. It was noted for the need for this to be monitored for those affected.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nothing noted.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed the next meeting will take place on **Friday 3rd November 2017** at **10.00am in Town Hall Buildings, Carrickfergus.**