

**Minutes of the East Belfast Locality Planning Group Meeting held  
on Wednesday 22 November at 10am in EastSide Partnership  
Boardroom, Avalon House, Newtownards Road Belfast**

**Present:**

Maggie Andrews	Eastside Partnership (Chair)
Barbara Wallace	Eastside Learning
Kelly Maxwell	Autism NI
Kris Morrison	Niacro EISS
Jamie Compton-Rea	ASCERT
Alison Templeton	New Life Counselling
Julie Tourish	FACES Extern
Yvonne Cowan	BHSCT Community Development
Linda Armitage	EBCDA
Una Casey	CYPSP
Donna Murray	Youth Justice Agency
Stephen Cruise	Oasis

**Apologies:**

Mary McManus	EBIAC
Claire Humphrey	Barnardos
Amy Gillen	Inner East Family Support Hub (EB Alternatives)
Annette McCann	Save the Children
Tracey Wilson	East Belfast Surestart
Rachel Hoy	Victoria Park PS

**In Attendance:**

Kerry McIvor                      South Belfast Partnership Board

Kelly Hillock                      South Belfast Partnership Board

**Welcome and Introduction**

Maggie welcomed everyone to this morning's meeting and a round of introductions took place.

## **Apologies**

Were noted as above.

### **Presentation: Kerry McIvor: South Belfast Partnership Board, Social Investment Fund Early Intervention Service**

(Please see attached presentation.)

Kerry outlined that the reason she was presenting was that part of the SIF area takes in a ward in East Belfast. The project aims to provide intervention at the earliest stage from pregnancy through to intensive family support.

There are four strands to the project.

Strand 1: SureStart includes a perinatal worker and a midwife. Families are referred from hospital when a sign of risk taking behaviour is picked up during pregnancy, for one year of intensive support; including home visits. Can take self-referrals too. There is an antenatal programme as part of the service and includes a Speech and Language Therapist. Will improve the emotional wellbeing of mum and baby. This strand started in September 2017

There is an advisory expert panel to measure what impact the project will make, and will use Outcome Star.

Strand 2. Transitions. Will work with transitions from home to nursery, nursery to primary and primary to post primary, and will include an element of stay and play, a Speech and Language Therapist will work with parents and child, will include mindfulness, managing fears and anxiety and will be bespoke for schools to develop emotional wellbeing. This strand will begin in January 2018.

Strand 3 Delivered in partnership with Barnardos

Will have 2 full time family support workers working intensively in the family home with parents with children aged 4-10 years. Health and well-being is central to the project.

Strand 4 – In partnership with Sólás. Will work with 72 families with children with special educational needs, and will include a Family Support home visitor.

The project board will meet once per month.

All the strands will be able to take referrals from any family support hub, possibly outside the SIF boundaries.

Members asked about sustainability.

Kerry agreed that it was important to consider long term outcomes, which will be monitored by the project board which includes Maurice Meehan from PHA and a representative from the Education Authority.

Kris noted that EISS is based in the same area and it would be really important that that these to services mirror and work together to avoid duplication. Kelly also noted that Autism NI would need to be connected to strand 4 to avoid duplication. Maggie noted that this was one of the benefits of Locality Planning Groups that they bring people together to ensure every practitioner knows about each other's services.

Members enquired if there were inclusion or exclusion criteria.

Kerry outlined that it was working at tier 1 and tier 2, and can accept referrals even if a social worker is already involved with that family.

Kerry noted that each strand would report its outcomes separately to the project board; and will include an Outcomes Based Accountability based report card each quarter.

Kerry agreed that she would collate a list of all the leads for each strand and share with the members of the Locality Planning Group, and agreed to come back to an meeting in 6 months' time to give an update.

## **Matters Arising**

Una to re-circulate the Standards of Locality Planning

Madeleine to give a presentation at the next LPG meeting, Maggie highlighted that the Scaffolding project has now appointed a coordinator Barbara Smith.

### **Action Plan 2017-2020**

A discussion took place about effectiveness of funded services such as EISS, and also Hubs. Members agreed it would be useful for data and outcomes to be shared, broken down to a local level. An annual report is produced at Outcomes Group area, members asked if this would be available at LPG level to show level of need and impact evidence.

Kelly noted that from discussions at LPG Autism NI have been able to secure funding for Girls with Autism Project, working with 11-18 year olds from across Belfast. Members agreed that where initiatives have been developed based on gaps and unmet need identified in LPGs it would be important to feed this back to the groups. Members also agreed that it is very important to support new initiatives and if there are deficits in areas that they need to be raised.

Members noted that it was important to have a Locality Planner for Belfast who can raise issues identified to the Outcomes Group and CYPSP.

Members queried if the Annual Report on Family Support Hubs can be broken down the LPG level.

#### **Action: Una to query this with Helen Dunn**

Members also discussed other information that is gathered by funders such as Public Health Agency on for example EISS and if data and information could be shared with LPGs.

#### **Action: Una to contact colleagues in PHA**

Jamie highlighted the need for the action plan to have a preventative approach. Members agreed that members really need to share and connect as no one organisation can work in isolation.

A discussion took place about the need to highlight the effectiveness of evidence based programmes and to affirm that these do work. Members

agreed that a workshop would be useful for this to include youth workers, community development workers.

Members agreed that the action plan needed some refining; Maggie would do this refining and then share with those members involved in the subgroups for their input before wider circulation.

**Action: Maggie to refine Action Plan and share with subgroups.**

**Action: Una to coordinate changes and share with wider membership for population.**

### **Any Other Business**

*Linda Armitage – EBDC* - is hosting an event on 29 November with presentations and conversations. The Health Forum are holding Christmas Market type event for service providers in the East Belfast Network centre on 14 December at 9.15 to 11.30.

*Kelly Maxwell - Autism NI* – Ulster University have launched research on many aspects of Autism of which there is a wealth in NI.

*Maggie Andrews – East Belfast Early Years Network* – are planning on hosting a screening of the Resilience Documentary and hosting a panel discussion for the members of the early years, she suggested this might be extended to include LPG members.

**Dates of Future Meetings** – members to contact Una if they can host a meeting.

### **Dates of Future Meetings**

Wednesday 10 January at 10am	New Life Counselling
Wednesday 14 March at 10am	Charter NI
Wednesday 9 May at 10am	Victoria PS - Rachel
Wednesday 11 July at 10am	TBC
Wednesday 12 September at 10am	TBC
Wednesday 14 November at 10am	TBC