

Background

Newry and Mourne Locality Planning Group (LPG) was established in 2016. Membership of the group include a range of community, statutory and voluntary organisations with a remit for children and young people in the area. The group aims to improve the well-being of children and young people through a multiagency planning approach.

The group set it's priority areas for 2016-2017 with one of the priorities to improve outcomes for children and young people with a disability.

Members of the LPG agreed they would like to raise their awareness of particular issues relating to disability, and agreed to undertake an awareness raising session on ASD, as facilitated by The Cedar Foundation, one of our member organisations.

Aims of the session:

- 1 For practitioners to raise their awareness of ASD with relation to children, young people and their families
- 2 To raise awareness of additional support requirements of children and young people with ASD.

Outcomes 3 & 5 (SAOG Plan 2014-17)

- 3 Children and young people will experience good relations, equality and diversity
- 5 Better co-ordination and collaboration across agencies in the Southern area.



How much did we do?

How well did we do It?

- 90 minute awareness raising session attended by 9 professionals (members of the Newry Locality Planning Group)
- 7 different services/agencies represented amongst participants
- 8 completed evaluation forms at the end of the session
- Low cost training: part of the remit of The cedar Foundation
- Materials included definitions and characteristics of ASD, specialist communication requirements and sensory considerations.

Is anyone better off?

- 5 (71%) respondents agreed the session objectives were met completely. 2 (29%) respondents agreed that session objectives were mostly met.
- 8 (100%) of respondents agreed the content of the session was very relevant.
- 8 (100%) of respondents agreed the session delivery was effective/very effective
- 7 (87.5%) of respondents agreed that the materials provided were helpful/very helpful

I have a better understanding of what life is like for someone with Autism

It was useful to learn about strategies to help someone with autism



