

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING
MINUTES OF ANTRIM LOCALITY GROUP**

**TUESDAY 30TH JANUARY 2018 AT 2.00PM
IN HOMESTART ANTRIM**

Attending:	Mervyn Rae (Chair)	<i>Antrim and Newtownabbey Council</i>
	Chris Lindsay	<i>EA NI</i>
	Clare McKay	<i>NICMA</i>
	Hannah Curley	<i>MPDA</i>
	Natasha McDonagh	<i>Connections Service</i>
	Mary O'Connell	<i>Home-Start</i>
	Joanne Cleary	<i>Little Steps Surestart</i>
	Kelly Forsythe	<i>Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council</i>
	Rosie Wood	<i>Families together project parenting NI</i>
	Laura Crawford	<i>YJA</i>
	David Price	<i>CRIS/MFT</i>
	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
Apologies:	Marie McCloy	<i>Empower Project</i>
	Noel Gallagher	<i>EA NI</i>
	Petr Zvolsky	<i>Parent Rep</i>
	Marie McCloy	<i>Empower Project</i>

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mervyn welcomed the group to the meeting and apologies were noted. A round of introductions took place from all members present.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate recording of the previous meeting held on **Tuesday 21st November, 2017.**

DAVID PRICE – CRIS NI

David introduced himself as the collaboration coordinator for the Community Relations in Northern Ireland. He explained this organisation and also his role within Antrim Moving Forward Together. Please see attached presentation.

There was a query raised as to why Crumlin wasn't included in the groupings. David noted that this group has evolved from a smaller partnership, but if anyone wishes to raise any questions to contact him and he will query further.

Selena noted that she will be putting together a survey for teachers in the Ballymena area to look at training needs, once a pilot has been complete she would be keen for David to support the rolling out of this in the Antrim area.

LPG MEMBER SURVEY

Selena thanked members who had taken the time to complete this survey and advised that this is open until the end of January for those who have yet to respond.

LPG MEMBER STAKEHOLDER EVENT

There is a plan to hold a regional event to showcase Locality Planning in Northern Ireland. A save the date will be circulated when the date is confirmed.

LPG STANDARDS

Selena advised that all Locality Planning groups are going to assess themselves against standards which have been set regionally. This should only take approximately 10 minutes and this will be completed at the next meeting.

UPDATE- EDUCATION SUB GROUP/ COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Selena provided some background to the Education Subgroup and Collective Impact project. She advised that there has been a large piece of work ongoing around Community Resilience and the importance of people. Roisin from this project will present some background on this theory.

UPDATE- FAMILY SUPPORT HUBS

No update provided.

MATTERS ARISING

Connections Service - Natasha McDonagh

MEA PCSP Conference Wednesday 7th March at Adair Arms, Ballymena. If interested in setting up a stand or attending contact Stephen Sheerin or Natasha McDonagh.

Families together proved have capacity for 'time for parents', parents counselling sessions for parents in Antrim and also has 'wee workshop' coming up on topics such as E-safety, budgeting and mental health awareness.

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council- Kelly Forsythe

Any household that are cold, struggling to heat their homes can be referred to our EEA service co-production community spirit evening - 27th

February, 2018 - a chance to hear about the intergenerational work in Toomebridge

NICMA- Claire McKay

On-going core training, Antrim dates have passed but still available for March in All Saint's Ballymena - Health & Safety training and Safeguarding training.

EWS- Chris Lindsay

First of Syrian refugee families have moved into Antrim/Crumlin area. Schools across the locality have taken up providing school placements for them, no concerns at present.

Little Steps Sure Start- Joanne Cleary

There is a new newsletter for January - March. Programmes are going well, will have a full staff team on board by Mid-February. We are having a baby and toddler event on 8th February in Farranshane House from 10am - 11.30am. Everyone is welcome. If you are interested in promoting your own service at this let me know.

YJA- Laura Crawford

We are starting to intervene earlier in terms of getting involved in work with young people whom receive community resolution notices from police for possession of drugs. This may include signposting to other agencies or direct work with social workers and youth workers from the Youth Justice Agency.

Home-Start- Mary O'Connell

7 new volunteers recruited and trained late 2017 however a few volunteers have also resigned. Busy December - great support for Christmas appeal from community.

Families benefited from Toy Tales - initiative set up by Journey Community Church.

Keep warm packs were distributed.

7 families are on the current waiting list.

Incredible years have commenced. 11 parents are attending, facilitated by 2 volunteers.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mervyn wished to extend his thank to Gemma for her hard work over the past number of years and the group signed a card to pass on their best wishes.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed for the next meeting to take place on **Tuesday 27th March at 2.00pm in Homestart Offices, Antrim.**