

**Minutes of the West Belfast Locality Planning Group  
On Wednesday 2 May 2018 at 10am in Whiterock Children Centre  
91 Whiterock Road, BT12 7PG**

**Present:**

Deirdre Walsh	Whiterock Children's Centre (Chair)
Una Casey	CYPSP
Ihintz O'Iden	Upper Springfield Family Support Hub
Dympna McKeown	Belfast & Lisburn Women's Aid
Andrea Barr	BHSCT Health Visiting Team Lead
Yvonne Cowan	BHSCT Community Development
Karen Woods	Libraries NI
Rebecca Duncan	NIACRO – EISS & CAPS
Joanne Menabrey	Greater Shankill Family Support Hub
Nicola Verner	Greater Shankill Partnership
Dympna Johnston	Greater Shankill Partnership
Colin Robinson	ASCERT
Pamela Hughes	Kids Together Belfast
Tish Holland	AND
Mairead Gilmartin	Outerwest SureStart
Leontia McKenna	Outerwest Belfast Family Support Hub
Deborah Burnett	Greater Falls Family Support Hub
Tina Gregory	Clan Mór Surestart
Julie Burgess	Springboard
Jenny Potter	NOW Group
Penny Ambrose	Beechmount SuresStart
Jim Girvan	West Belfast Partnership Board

**Apologies:**

Jamie Compton-Rea	ASCERT
Nikki Terlik	Libraries NI
Ciara Fusco	Youth Justice Agency
Kelly Maxwell	Autism NI
Sue Pentel	Ionad Uíbh Eachach
Elizabeth Gracey	Action Ability Belfast
Jackie Redpath	Greater Shankill Partnership

**In Attendance:**

Séamus McCann	Big Lottery
Nuala Macauley	Big Lottery
Roisin Magee	Big Lottery

## **Welcome and Introductions**

Deirdre welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Séamus, Nuala and Roisin from Big Lottery to the meeting. A round of introductions took place.

## **Apologies**

Were noted as above

Minutes of the previous meeting

Due to the February meeting being solely a presentation and discussion on Universal Credit by Damien O'Boyle from Advice NI the group reviewed the minutes from the December meeting.

## **Matters Arising**

Una to recirculate the presentations by the Changing Lives Initiatives, and ensure that it is on the CYPSP website

## **Big Lottery discussion**

Séamus explained that Big Lottery currently have 2 funding programmes

1: Awards for All - £300-£10,000

2: Empowering Young People - £30-£500,000

3: People and Communities - £30,000-£500,000 – Séamus explained that applications for this fund have to really show that people on the ground want the project and feel empowered by it and therefore has to be connected to the local area, for example is the applicant a member of the relevant Family Support Hub or Locality Planning Group. The applicant also needs to carry out some engagement with the local population that is robust and not leading. The application also needs to show that they are working collaboratively for the greater good of the community and not for their own benefit.

The People and Communities fund is open to 2021 and can be applied to at any time.

If the application is a current project there needs to be an evaluation carried out and shared, and it's also useful to scope out what is already funded in the area by Big Lottery. Séamus noted that the team are very open to discussions.

Séamus explained that the bids don't need to be partnership bid but needs to show collaboration.

Jim asked if there was a prescribed amount of funding per area and if that was the case how much is left for West Belfast. Séamus explained that it was no prescriptive amounts for an area. Tisha and Deirdre highlighted that connectivity can often be difficult as many organisations are operating on short term funding. Jim queried if there is a specific

sample size for the consultation group. Séamus advised that there wasn't it would need to include the beneficiary group with reasonable sized focus groups and/or questionnaires.

Roisin Magee – Engagement work with young people.

Roisin does communications and empowering young people programme. The programme aims to support young people to help them make decisions on grants. There are currently 10 young people involved. This group includes young people who've had to overcome challenges themselves, for example, young carers, disability, and bereavement. There are 4 on NI decision panel; they have equal say as other committee members and visit the funded projects. Roisin explained the need for continuous recruitment as there is a lot of turnover as the young people age out etc. she is currently using social media and existing projects to engage them. They also have strategies in place to address any conflicts of interest. Roisin explained that committee members really like to have the young people on the panel. The young people involved gain lots of personal development such as leadership skills, debating, and develop their confidence. There is a buddy system for the young people with the opportunity to shadow other young people.

### **Presentation: Family Support Hub Update**

The information from the four Family Support Hubs was included in the presentation (see attached) the information is included in the quarterly returns for the Belfast Outcomes Group area and also in the regional report. A discussion took place about the ethnicity breakdown and the issues with interpretation; if there is statutory involvement with the family then interpreters can be accessed. There are also many cultural issues such as male interpreters for Muslim women etc.

Re-referrals are now the highest source of referrals. Members felt this showed the fluidity of the needs of families needing tier 2 support, and also that families feel confident seeking additional support.

Parenting support is the highest reason for referrals followed by Emotional and Behavioural support for primary school aged children; this includes children on reduced time tables, no statements of SEN, structure for children, respite and so on. 1-1 mentoring, children with low mood, anxiety, aggressive behaviour at home and counselling. Trinity is the only service that offers play therapy and they have a waiting list. Complementary therapies and bereavement support, particularly as there have been a high number of suicides recently in the area have also been in high request at the hubs.

Domestic abuse and addiction doesn't often come up as a primary reason for referral but it can be disclosed when trust is built up with the family support provider.

Unmet need was identified as:

Waiting lists

Funding cycles particularly in February and March when a service's funding might come to an end.

Disability support

Counselling services for children under 13

Family therapy

Undiagnosed medical needs – mental health disorders; the need for support and how it's affecting children and other parent.

Home visiting - some families need longer than 12 weeks, especially where there is a disability

Outer West Hub isn't able to refer to EISS but there is a need for this support

1-1 support for 7-11 year olds especially for anxiety, personal development and mentoring

Benefits of the hubs include enhanced services, makes everyone accountable, training gaps are identified and addressed and sharing of learning.

***Action: Una to circulate presentation***

### **Engagement with Schools Greater Shankill**

Una outlined the recent speed-networking event that the North Belfast LPG hosted. The event was held in a local school to help teachers and principals to connect with and learn more about support services available to them. Una noted that the feedback from the school staff and service providers was extremely positive and that it was a very low cost event with good outcomes. Some of the MLAs in North Belfast including William Humphrey attended the event; he has contacted Una to request that a similar event should be held for the greater Shankill area. The group discussed this and it was agreed that Una would discuss this further with Dympna and Jackie.

Action: Una to discuss networking event with Dympna Johnston and Jackie Redpath

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

It was agreed that there should be some task and finish groups held to progress individual priorities of the plan, such as healthy relationships.

**Action: Una to invite members to be part of task and finish groups starting with health relationships**

**Member Updates**

Tina Gregory – Tina explained that she was leaving Clan Mór SureStart and therefore the LPG. Deirdre extended her best wishes to Tina in her future endeavours from all the members.

Deidre Walsh - Whiterock Children's Centre is advertising a post for a multi-cultural worker which is funded by TEO, it is currently on Communities NI.

**Dates of Future Meetings All meetings will take place at 10am**

Wednesday 1 August	Outer West Surestart
Wednesday 3 October	Tullymore Community Centre
Wednesday 7 December	Tbc