

**Minutes of East Belfast Locality Planning Group
Wednesday 20 March 2019
Eastside Partnership, Avalon House, Newtownards Road**

Attending:

Maggie Andrews	Eastside Partnership (Chair)
Martin Sloane	Locality Planning Co-ordinator EIST
Lorraine Brennan	EIST BHSCT
Nicola Hannigan	Outer South & East Family Support Hub
Rosy Mc Lean	Inner East Family Support Hub
Clare Humphries	Barnados
Alison Templeton	New Life Counselling
Gillian Hamilton	EBDCA
Julie Clark	Life N.I.

Apologies:

Linda Armitage	EBCDA
Annette Mc Cann	Save The Children
Tracey Wilson	East Belfast Surestart
James Scott	Belfast Connect
Annette Mc Cann	Save the Children
Amy Gillan	EBDCA
Tanya Hughes	Ballybeen Womens Centre

1. Apologies and Welcome

Maggie Andrews opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees. Apologies received recorded above.

2. Minutes

Minute of previous meeting accepted as a true and accurate record. Matters arising for discussion included in Agenda.

3. Feedback on Take 5 Programme

Discussion arose around developing a leaflet and a subgroup to collaborate and promote resources. Invites members and Education Authority to come on-board. Establish contact with Alan Wilson, Flare Project YP & mental health. Contact Nicola Turlogh, Libraries NI to see how the service fits within Take 5.

EBDCA will be rolling out the Take 5 campaign. BHDU are on-board with programmes, Jim Morgan/ Jackie Frazier Partnership with communities.

Action: Martin Sloan, to take the lead in developing a focus group and potential meeting to take place Tuesday 16 April, East Belfast Network Centre, Templemore Avenue.

4. Matter Arising

i. Local Youth Services

An initial meeting highlighted the unmet need and gaps in provision for youth services. This issue has not been on the agenda in the past but is now raised on an ongoing basis. It was felt that it may be beneficial to have a youth advocate on the Locality Planning Group. It was noted that Streetbeat and Cedar both offer services and opportunities for young people with ASD, however training is not available. There is difficulty accessing mainstream services for young people with ASD. Autism NI may be able to offer some level of training.

ii. Pathways Funding

Tracey Wilson, to provide information on this

Liaise with James Scott, Belfast Connect, in relation to giving a presentation on the Icelandic model and the regional implementation of policy.

Action: Martin Sloan, LPG Co-ordinator to contact PHA for an overview and to discuss a possible implementation date.

iii. Membership

Agreed to update current member's database and look to invite new members and try to have one main representative from each organisation. Due to lack of participation the idea of Thematic meeting was discussed as a way to give greater purpose to meetings. Family Support Hub meetings were noted as a good source of networking for groups/ organisations.

Input from LPG is important at a BAOG level. The views and voice of community organisation are needed on LPG with Neighbourhood Renewal and Education Authority coming on-board.

Action: Engage with Education Authority at an Outcomes level. Martin to contact Caroline Karayiannis to progress this.

5. Action Plan

The current Action Plan is to be refreshed with 2 key areas progress and priorities. Agreed to use the next LPG meeting to focus on the plan with a focus on Take 5, Special Needs Provision and access to services. Developing the current plan to achieve outcomes. The current priorities are still important and are to remain going forward. There has been less progress with section 1 of the current plan. East Belfast Surestart have completed Solihull training.

Developing a directory within the area for a clearer view of services.
Organisation may be currently registered on the Family Support NI website.
Contact Una Casey, CYPSP, in relation to a service directory.

6. Family Support Hub Update

Inner East Family Support Hub

Rosy Mc Lean, Co-ordinator, reported that in Quarter 4 Inner East FS Hub received 68 referrals. Health Visiting services are the most frequent referrer, alongside Cahms and Self referral. The main reasons for referral are behavioural support, ASD support, funded childcare and play therapy. Waiting lists continue to increase for all these areas.

Unmet Need

Waiting lists continue to increase.

Outer South and East Belfast Family Support Hub

Claire Humphrey thanked Nicola Hannigan, Co-ordinator for her contribution to the Hub and wished her well in her new role. Claire reported that in Quarter 4, the Outer South & East FS Hub received 66 referrals. Key reason for referral:

- Family/Parent support
- Counselling young people
- Emotional and behavioural difficulties - Behaviour management

It was noted that the additional funding has helped them to revise how they process referral. Single service referrals are processed on receipt, referrals for multiple services or a re-referral will be brought to the hub meeting.

It was noted that there is high demand for Home Visiting family support services across all LPG areas.

Unmet Need

Childcare provision; Emotional and behavioural difficulties support for post-primary age children; long waiting lists for ASD services;

Feedback to the BAOG needs to highlight the shortage of services due to funding constraints and how the funding of programmes raises issues.

Outcomes Group

The following update was provided from the BHSCT Early Intervention Support Team in relation to commissioning arrangements for Belfast Area Outcomes Group Family Support services.

It was explained that a procurement process will commence and conclude within the next financial year to commission BAOG funded Family Support services. It was confirmed that the procurement process will be open to all Family Support service providers and will be concluded in advance of the 19/20 financial year end, facilitating commencement of newly commissioned services by April 1st 2020. In this context, the BAOG have agreed, for business continuity purposes, to proceed with an extension of existing contracts for BAOG funded family support services for a further year (1st April '19 – 31st March '20).

Member Update

East Belfast Community Counselling offering Young People services through 5 to Thrive , art and music therapy. The programme is funded by DFC to offer counselling services. Self- referrals are accepted.

Big lottery funding has enabled New Life Counselling to deliver an Aces Programme for 5 – 17 year olds. The programmes are based within East and North Belfast but are offered city wide. There is a criteria for assessment to attend the programme.