

**Minutes of North Belfast Locality Planning Group  
Tuesday the 28th of May 2019  
Girls Model School, 35 Dunowen Gardens, Belfast BT14 6NQ**

**Attending**

Katrina Newell	Ashton Community Trust (NLPG Chair)
Martin Sloane	Belfast Locality Planning Co-ordinator
Alison Templeton	New Life Counselling
Karen McLean	Upper North FSH
Edith McManus	Lower North FSH
Bronagh O' Dwyer	Now Group
Claire Allen	NLDCHP
Mary Murphy	BHSCT
Emmet Norris	Save the Children
Mervyn Bell	Smile Surestart
Natalie Killough	BHSCT
Caroline Milligan	Glenbrook Surestart
Janice Clarke	Belfast Girls Model School
Gabi Mornhinweg	Community Development BHSCT
William McGowan	Youth Justice Agency
Elaine Hanna	Parenting NI

**Apologies**

Jan Marie Reel	Holy Cross Boys School
Brian Maguire	North Belfast Principals Forum
Kelly Maxwell	Autism NI
Steven Reid	The Vine Centre
Christine McKeown	Ashton Centre

**1. Welcome**

Katrina Newell opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and commenced with a round of introductions.

**2. Minutes**

Minute of previous meeting accepted as a true and accurate record.

**3. Presentation – Parenting NI**

Elaine Hanna from parenting NI provided a presentation outlining the findings from the 'Parental Participation Project – Regional Parenting Survey 2018/2019.

Good, robust and informative discussion followed this presentation across the membership. A copy of the presentation and the web link to access the full

report is to be circulated across the membership. The Chair thanked Elaine for attending and for providing this interesting and thought provoking information.

**ACTION:** Belfast LPG Co-ordinator to circulate presentation and web link for above presentation.

[www.cypsp.hscni.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Regional-Survey-Report-2019.pdf](http://www.cypsp.hscni.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Regional-Survey-Report-2019.pdf)

#### **4. Natalie Killough - Child Development Interventions Coordinator for BHSCT**

Natalie provided an overview of her role, which includes supporting the development and implementation of Evidence Based and Evidence Informed Parenting Programmes. Natalie advised that a leaflet has been developed, which outlines the programmes currently being delivered in NI (not necessarily in every locality). She circulated hard copies available and agreed to circulate an electronic version to Martin for wider distribution. Natalie explained that she is also in the process of developing a page on CYPSP website, which will outline programme delivery in each Trust area. This website is aimed at both professionals and parents/families. This page will also contain information on the latest research about parenting/ IMH etc.

Natalie discussed her role in relation to the coordination of the Belfast Infant Mental Health Steering Group. Main priority for 19/20 is the development of an IMH Strategy for Belfast and it is anticipated that this launch will occur in Autumn 2019.

Natalie referenced 'Enjoy Your Baby Training' which is practitioner training that will be taking place on 20<sup>th</sup> June. Natalie explained that this training aims to further increase practitioners knowledge and skills in supporting new mothers (1 to 1 or in a group setting) presenting with low-level mental health concerns. Natalie hopes with the support of BHSCT to purchase a licence for practitioner use with Five to Thrive initiative (key messages/resources in relation to Infant Mental Health).

The chair thanked Natalie for her input to the meeting and for the informative update.

**ACTION:** - Belfast LPG Co-ordinator to circulate electronically the leaflet, which outlines the programmes currently, being delivered in NI as referenced above.

#### **5. North Belfast Family Support Hub Updates:**

##### **Upper North Belfast Family Support Hub Update – Karen McLean**

40 referrals in April and May, and Upper North reached the milestone of 1000 referrals. Lower North Co-ordinator advised members that the upper North FSH is a larger area, due to the hubs being reduced to two instead of three for

the whole North area. Upper North Co-ordinator raised concern about the number of parents contacting the FSH who have been specifically advised by BHSCT professionals to seek support for autism/adhd. The Co-ordinator highlighted that she feels signposting these families to the FSH is unfair to Parents as it does not manage expectations.

Heavy demand continues for family support, play therapy/mentoring and currently afterschool/summer schemes as coming into summer period- again it was highlighted that very little service is in the area, to refer families to.

### **Lower North Belfast Family Support Hub – Edith McManus**

Continues to receive on average 20 referrals per month

The most demanded service is still 1-1 Family support in the home. Attended to represent the Hub the Inner North Neighbourhood Renewal Children & Young People's sub-group, in an effort to embark on a new drive to re-engage with post-primary schools. Also raised a growing concern within the lower North Hub about the number of families where reduced attendance hours at nursery, primary and post-primary school are having a major impact on the family situation.

A detailed discussion followed this North FSH feedback, specifically regarding the issue of the management of school inclusion / exclusion and reduced timetables. Members raised concern regarding this matter and the increase in the use of reducing timetables being applied as a child behaviour management method for children as young as those in Nursery School Education. Through the course of the discussion, it was agreed that in order to establish the numbers of children that are impacted on by this approach contact with DE would be required. One group member explained that in order for an educational establishment to instigate such an action a risk assessment must be completed and forwarded to DE. To ascertain the numbers involved in this process it will be necessary to establish a conversation with DE. It was agreed that this matter will continue to be on the agenda as a standing item. LPG Co-ordinator to attempt to instigate some conversations with DE representatives regarding the numbers involved or impacted upon by controlled school inclusion. It was agreed that it was extremely important that the issue would be fed up to the Belfast Outcomes Group and request that the Outcomes Group pursue the issue.

**ACTION:** LPG Co-ordinator to instigate conversations with DE representatives regarding the numbers involved or impacted upon by controlled school inclusion including reduced timetabling. Issue to be discussed at the Belfast Area Outcomes Group and BAOG asked to pursue issue.

## **6. Feedback from Belfast Area Outcomes Group**

The Outcomes Group on May 16<sup>th</sup> incorporated a shorter than usual business meeting and a joint workshop in the pm with a senior team (Director Level)

from BCC exploring the interfaces and overlaps between the BAOG action plan, the Belfast Agenda and the emerging Community Planning structures in Belfast.

As part of the business meeting, a presentation on ACE's was delivered jointly by staff from both the Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland and the CYPSP.

The scale of the proposed implementation of further training and strategies already developed by the SBNI for roll out across key Outcomes Group Partner agencies and areas of work was apparent as the discussion developed.

ACE's may well be an area for further focus at Locality Planning Groups as a broad underpinning approach given the cross sectoral nature of the approach being proposed for roll out.

Contact details and further information on available resources and training dates are available on request.

Other relevant points discussed included confirmation that the Outcomes Group service exercise to procure services to help support the work of the Family Support hubs was currently on track for delivery from April 2020. This procurement exercise will have a standardised assessment tool embedded across all activity.

Brief updates were provided to the Outcomes Group from both an LPG and FSH network perspective. Pressures and developments in both sectors were noted. Pressures on the broader sector caused by funding changes and uncertainty were flagged. Both updates referenced issues relating to ASD/ADHD related matters.

The afternoon workshop incorporated both large and small group activity with a focus on ensuring effective engagement on matters of shared interest and developing collaborative models of working.

Feedback given by Outcomes Group members was that this had been a worthwhile initial engagement. BCC staff indicated that they found the workshop very useful and will produce both a note of the workshop and next step suggestions to progress the potential shared agenda.

These will be circulated as they become available.

## **7. Members update, AOB**

- Glenbrook Sure Start: Caroline Milligan informed members that the ETI has completed a full inspection of the SS Project. Caroline advised members that this went very well and that the staff and management were very pleased with the feedback.

- Save the Children: Emmet Norris advised members that the Family Connect Programmes have also been visited by ETI with good outcomes. Emmet also provided the group with an update on the Family Connect Programmes.

**8. AOB**

The Chair thanked the Girls Model School for hosting today's meeting and for the excellent hospitality and warm welcome provided.

**9. Future Meetings for North Belfast Locality Planning**

- Tuesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of July 2019, Vine Centre
- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019, Venue tbc.