

**Minutes of North Belfast Locality Planning Group
Tuesday 30th July 2019
Vine Centre Crumlin Road**

Attending

Katrina Newell	Ashton Community Trust (NLPG Chair)
Martin Sloane	Belfast Locality Planning Co-ordinator
Karen McLean	Upper North FSH
Edith McManus	Lower North FSH
Courtney Clarke	NLDCHP
Julie Jamison	NLDCHP
Lorraine Brennan	EIST BHSCT
Laura Feeney	Save the Children
Laura Forte	NIACRO
Mervyn Bell	Smile Surestart
Caroline Milligan	Glenbrook Surestart
Gabi Mornhinweg	Community Development Team, BHSCT
Paul O Neill	BHSCT
Nuala Mc Stravick	Bryson 'Future Skills'
Patricia O Lynn	'Right to Succeed'

Apologies

Jan Marie Reel	Holy Cross Boys School
Kelly Maxwell	Autism NI
Stephen Reid	The Vine Centre
Christine McKeown	Ashton Centre
Ashleigh Galway	Currie PS

1. Welcome

Katrina Newell opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and commenced with a round of introductions. Thanks were extended to the Vine Centre for hosting the meeting.

2. Minutes

Minute of previous meeting accepted as a true and accurate record

3. Presentations:

Bryson Future Skills: Nuala Mc Stravick

An overview was provided of the work of Bryson Future Skills, a Group Company within the Bryson Charitable Group as follows. Bryson Future Skills provide a range of employment and training initiatives for school leavers, young adults and the long term unemployed and are contracted by Government for the delivery of programmes such as 'Apprenticeships NI', 'Training for Success' and upskilling and employability programmes. A key objective, is to assist young people and adults to overcome barriers to employment. This is achieved through the provision of pre-employment and recruitment programmes, a range of vocational qualifications, Essential Skills qualifications, social and personal development programmes and work placements. **See additional information attached.**

Right to Succeed: Patricia O Lynn

An outline of the work of 'Right to Succeed' was provided as follows. 'Right to Succeed' is an independent charity, founded in 2015. It is a collective impact charity that works with schools, local and national partners to help children and young people in areas of poverty and low social mobility to thrive in education and into adulthood. They bring people together to drive improvements across education because they believe every child deserves the right to succeed

This includes:

- Local leaders (school, community)
- Commissioners
- Funders
- Intervention providers
- Families
- Children

They currently operate across 10 schools within North Belfast, 5 Primary Schools and 5 Post Primary.

See attached presentation for additional information.

4. Matters Arising

i. School Exclusion

A robust discussion took place in relation to the issue of school exclusions, reduced timetables for children and the associated impact on the child/ young person, families and the local community.

Martin Sloane advised members that he has contacted DENI/ EA and the Children's Law Centre but it has been difficult to obtain solid information/ data in relation to school exclusions / the number of children on reduced timetables.

Patricia O' Lynn, reported that this reflects her experience of trying to collate associated data and highlighted that the definition of school exclusion needs to be broadened to include 'hidden' mechanism for exclusion, including reduced timetables, isolation, behavioural units etc. and referenced the fact that associated guidance has recently been issued in England.

Edith Mc Manus, Lower North FSH Co-ordinator, highlighted that a significant percentage of families linked to the Lower North Belfast FS Hub have a child / young person that is subject to some level of school exclusion. Edith informed members that she has contacted the office of NI Commissioner for Children and Young People regarding this issue and a meeting has been arranged with the Chief Executive. Christine Mc Keown, (Ashton Community Trust) will also attend this meeting. Edith will feedback to members

Martin Sloane informed members that other LPG's are also raising this matter as a concern. Members felt that this should be fed back to CYPSP as a regional issue that needs to be raised and addressed. It was suggested that it would be useful to agree a specific associated recommendation for EA / DE.

Members discussed the best way to gather information at a local level. It was suggested that Hubs / local organisations who engage with parents could collate information in relation to numbers of children excluded from full participation in school. It was suggested that it may be beneficial to establish a small task group of LPG members to lead on this issue going forward. Patricia O' Lynn indicated that she would be willing to support the LPG in collating local evidence.

The spectrum of underpinning behavioural issues and the important role of early intervention services was referenced. Development of an 'Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties Framework' was suggested as a mechanism for identifying the different levels of presenting emotional and behavioural difficulties and the type of services available across all sectors to meet the varying needs and gaps in service.

Actions:

Edith Mc Manus to provide feedback re; above meeting with Chief Executive of NICCY office.

Report issues raised to BAOG

Agree task group role and membership at next meeting, 24 September 2019

ii. 'Five to Thrive' initiative

Currently no further information available in relation to licence or practitioner use of 'Five to Thrive'.

Action

Martin to seek update from Natalie Killough in advance of next meeting.

5. BAOG Update

Feedback was provided as follows, on issues of relevance, discussed at the meeting of the Belfast Area Outcomes Group held in early July.

Issues raised by LPGs in relation to ADHD/ ASD and EA/DE - reduced timetables were forwarded to the BAOG who were advised that plans are in place to facilitate an ASD/ADHD related Belfast wide workshop type event in the Autumn period. It was agreed that this was a massive issue that was having a serious impact at LPG level as well as at a regional level

There was some discussion around the future procurement of BAOG funded services and community / voluntary sector organisations' anxieties in relation to this process. These concerns were acknowledged and members were advised that they are being dealt with as far as possible within the bounds of the procurement process

A discussion about Community Planning with Belfast City Council took place and a paper from Kevin Heaney on this subject was circulated to the Outcomes Group. BAOG representation on the 'Living Here' Board facilitated by BCC was discussed and a number of BAOG members said they would like to be considered.

6. Family Support Hub updates

FSH Area:	Upper North Belfast
Timeframe:	June and July
Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:	June- 45 July- 25
Number of Service Requests Received to date:	1070
Source of Service Requests:	GP- 6 EISS- 1 School Health- 6 Self- 8 Education Authority- 2 School- 11 Newington Housing Association- 2 CAMHS- 11 De Paul Floating support- 1 North Belfast Advice Partnership- 1 Barnardos- 2 Surestart- 1 PMHT social worker- 1 Ardmonagh- 2 Education Psychology – 2 Disability Social worker- 4 Health Visitor- 4 RISE NI- 1 Gateway- 1 Hospital- 2 S<- 1
Key Gaps identified:	Autism/ADHD support in the local area for primary school age children.
Key Successes identified:	De Paul Floating support and North Belfast Housing- New Associate Members
AOB for Sharing:	Attended ACES level 1 training @ Nicva

FSH Area:	Lower North Belfast
Timeframe:	May 2019-July 2019
Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:	36
Number of Service Requests Received to date:	825
Source of Service Requests:	Self, Health Visitor, school, G.P., CAMHS, Community organisations
Key Gaps identified:	
Small social groups for children with social, emotional or behavioural needs	
Key Successes identified:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All referrals processed • Continued growth in amount of re-referrals and self-referrals • Meeting arranged with Chief Executive of NICCY re reduced school timetabling • Re-engaged with Pastoral Care Teams in post-primary schools 	
AOB for Sharing:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended ACEs training 	

FSH Co-ordinators were acknowledged for their ongoing hard work.

7. 2017- 2020 Action Plan

Members felt that ongoing information gathering and the promotion of communication and networking between local organisations, services / initiatives and the LPG / CYPSP has contributed to Priority 2 and Priority 3.

Under Priority 3, Katrina Newell proposed engaging with Youth Work Alliance with a view to inviting them to deliver a presentation to members / consider LPG membership.

It is hoped that further engagement with Belfast City Council will contribute to Priority 5. Martin informed members that he is arranging a meeting with Belfast City Council to discuss the possibility of enhancing BCC collaboration at a local level, with BCC representatives attending all 4 LPG meeting as members.

Action

Action plan to be updated, noting organisations that have recently developed linkages with / delivered presentations to the LPG.

8. Members Update

Ashton Community Trust are hosting a School Uniform event on Tuesday 6th August, Wednesday 7th August and Thursday 8th August 2019 from 10.00am - 1.00pm at Kinderkids Daycare, Ashton Centre (Churchill Street). Information will be available on family support services and food parcels to support families that may be struggling during the holidays.

Action:

Lisa Mc Comish Brennan will distribute information on the event to members.

9. AOB

All Surestarts within the Belfast Trust area will take part in the roll out of "Message of the month" beginning in September. Each month Surestart will promote the importance of a variety of health topics and services available. This will be followed up on a weekly basis across social media.

NLDCHP over the next 3 years in partnership with Seafood will be promoting a community food initiative. The events will focus on health improvement through diet, food values courses and resources will be made available at the events. They will work alongside Surestart and Belfast City Council.

'Signs Of Safety'

Workshop to introduce the 'Signs of Safety' Approach will take place on 5th September 2019, Knockbracken Hall, Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast. This training is available to staff across organisations that work in partnership with Belfast HSCT to deliver services to children and families. This will be of particular interest to managers and staff who work with the Trust in Family Support and Protection Services.

Action:

Lisa Mc Comish Brennan will distribute information on the event to members.

Ardoyne and Ballysillian Youth clubs are running a cross community Summer Programme incorporating sports and arts development for young people aged 11 – 16 years. The programmes will target issues raised by the young people such as arranged fights and mental health issues. The programme also aims to target young people aged 16 – 24 with a young leadership aspect to develop their skills. Multiple organisations are involved to support the programme, including the Dame Kelly Holmes Trust and Sports NI.

The Newlodge Arts programme are hosting a production of Highschool Musical in the MAC on 31 July and 1 August. Cost will not be a barrier to any family wishing to attend.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 24 th September	The Vine Centre
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