

**North Belfast Locality Ordinary Meeting
Tuesday 7th December 2021 at 10am**

Attendees:

Claire Allen	Chair
Caroline Milligan	BHSCT
Edith McManus	Lower North FSH
Jane McKibbin	NICMA
Joe McGovern	Extern
Julie Jamieson	New Lodge Community Health Partnership
Justine Fricker	EANI
Karen McLean	Upper North FSH
Pól Brennan	Connected Community Care
Sadie Reid	NB Housing
Stephen Reid	Vine Centre
Jennifer Heverin	LPG Administration, BHSCT

Apologies:

Billy Hutchinson	Mount Vernon Community Group
Brian Maguire	EANI
Bronagh O'Dwyer	Now Group
Danielle Roberts	Here NI
Gabi Mornhinweg	BHSCT
Gareth Maguire	Sport Changes Life
J Smyth	Sacred Heart Boys
Katrina Newell	Ashton Centre
Keeva Watson	Redeeming Our Communities
Kelly Maxwell	Autism NI
Laura Forte	NIACRO
Margaret Higgins	Belfast City Council
Paul O'Neill	CSM Early Years Services, BHSCT
Phil Lindsay	Barnardo's
Sarah Griffin	Extern
Sinead Campbell	Advice NI
Sinead McKinley	North Belfast Advice Partnership
Stephen Orr	North Belfast Primary Principal's Group

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Claire Allen opened the meeting by welcoming those present. It was advised that today's meeting would be brief, however in February a longer meeting will take place as important issues for North Belfast need to be addressed such as the health and wellbeing of young people and poverty.

A round of introductions then took place.

2. Previous Minutes

At the last LPG meeting on 19th October 2021, Stephen Orr, Chair of the North Belfast Primary Principals Group presented an overview of his group. As a result of this North LPG Chair Claire Allen and the 2 Hub Coordinators Edith McManus and Karen McLean were invited to the Principal's Group meeting to give an outline of Locality Planning and its purpose. Unfortunately the time of the last meeting was unsuitable but Claire, Edith and Karen are due to attend the next meeting on 11th January 2022.

There were no amendments required to the Minutes and it was agreed they were a true and accurate reflection of the conversation of 19th October 2021.

3. Wi-Fi/Play Packs/Vouchers

j) Wi-Fi

The money received from Belfast City Council for Wi-Fi provision has now almost been used. The full amount will be spent by Christmas.

ii) Play Packs

Around 20 play packs were recently received by Ashton for North Belfast distribution. They contained items such as footballs, tennis balls, hula hoops etc. The majority have already been dispersed. The criteria for receiving the packs was that the organisation had to a non-profit afterschool's group registered with BHSCT. The deadline for applications is 9th December 2021.

iii) Vouchers

Additional BCC funding was utilised to purchase extra vouchers. They are One4all vouchers which can be used in multiple shops and are valued at £50 per child. There are a total of 138 vouchers for distribution. To receive these vouchers an organisation can submit an application to Christine McKeown at Ashton where the voucher(s) can be collected upon signature.

One condition of usage is that all receipts are retained. As receipts can be easily mislaid it has been suggested that a parent take a photo of the receipt immediately after they've made a purchase. Another suggestion was that an organisation could offer to make purchases on the parent's behalf and retain the receipts themselves.

The vouchers are for children aged 0-12 years inclusive.

5. Members Updates

Justine Fricker – EAN/

The Youth Service is closing from Friday 17th December for 2 weeks to give the staff a much needed break. In the week leading up to this they will running a series of Christmas events.

6. FSH Updates

FSH Area:	Lower North Belfast
Timeframe:	Mid-October 2021 – Early December 2021
Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:	33
Number of Service Requests Received to date:	1394
Source of Service Requests:	Self, GP, Community
Key Gaps identified:	
Increasing demand for counselling (especially from GPs who are doing mostly telephone consultations) which is in short supply at the moment.	
Key Successes identified:	
During this time Karen and I met with the Vice-principals of North Belfast post-primary schools. It was a great opportunity to re-new our relationship with them and remind them how the two FS Hubs can work with them to support families.	
AOB for Sharing:	
Karen and I have a meeting planned for Thursday 9 th December with the Parents Room, based in Duncairn Gardens, who provide various programmes to families to support their needs.	

FSH Area:	Upper North Belfast FSH
Timeframe:	October- Early December 2021
Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:	October- 25 November- 19 December- 6 (to date)
Number of Service Requests Received to date:	1630
Source of Service Requests:	Self, school, GP, EWOs, Allied Health Professionals, community, voluntary, CAMHS, Gateway, H.V
Key Gaps identified:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High demand for counselling/art therapy- due to issues with anxiety, poor self-esteem, low confidence among both primary and post primary school age. • Daily calls from parents signposted by GPs for counselling services. • Family support also requested – key issues- waiting on asd/adhd a/s requiring advice/guidance. 	
Key Successes identified:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have three new members: Autonomie, BCT NI CIC and Ark Housing Association. • Attended on track training session for all coordinators. • Attended Care Zone Meeting & awareness raising event in Sacred Heart Primary School. • The Vine Centre provided the venue for the first Peer Support Group Meeting for Hub Coordinators. • Visited Grace Family Centre- met with the new family support worker and provided an overview of Hub process. • Edith and I attended the North Belfast Area Learning Community Vice Principals Group in Hazelwood College- overview of Hub process. • Edith and I have a meeting on 12th January with North Belfast Primary school Principals. 	
AOB for Sharing:	

7. A.O.B

- Claire Allen advised that the Belfast Area Outcomes Group are currently looking at their long term strategy over the next 3 or 4 years. There is a planning day taking place next month between the 4 Belfast LPG's, Belfast City Council and BHSCT. In the meantime Claire has been asked, as Chair, what she feels would be the best strategy for North Belfast. The suggestions given to her are:
 - 1) Individual Strategy – i.e., looking at North Belfast alone and its specific needs.
 - 2) Citywide Strategy
 Claire felt it would be a better approach to have these two strategies intertwined however it was put to the floor for discussion. Pól Brennan agreed that a blended approach would be more beneficial. This will be discussed at the planning meeting in January and Claire will report back on this in February's LPG meeting.

- LPG Coordinator Update – In the absence of Paul O'Neill, Jennifer Heverin was asked if she was aware of any update. Jennifer advised that as far as she is aware there are interviews in January with a view to have someone in the post by February however, she had no further detail available on this.

The meeting was then drawn to a close with Merry Christmas wishes expressed by and to all.

Date of 2022 LPG Meetings

DATES	VENUES
Tuesday 8 th February	MS Teams
TBA April	TBA
TBA June	TBA
TBA August	TBA
TBA October	TBA
TBA December	TBA