

# MINUTES

**NEWTOWNABBEY LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP  
WEDNESDAY 30 MARCH 2022  
3PM  
VIA ZOOM**

<b>Attendees:</b>	Claire Larkin	Action for Children
	Nigel Arnold	Glengormley PS
	Chris Denvir	Glengormley PS
	Suzanne Kelly	Triangle
	Pamela McClelland	Impact NI
	Sinead Kelly	Save the Children
	Alison McDaid	EANI
	Grace McCann	NIACRO
	Roberta Chessell	Women's Aid
	Chelsea Parkinson	Bryson Training and Employability
	Jude Murphy	Network Personnel
	Stephanie Hamilton	Hill Croft PS
	Suzanne Dodds	GHS
	Ivan Dickey	Network Personnel
	Christina Scott	Network Personnel
	Melanie Maxwell-McIlroy	Network Personnel
	Lisa Curlett	NHSCT
	Jayne Colville	NHSCT
	Sinead McCormick	NHSCT

<b>Apologies:</b>	Pamela Sweeney	Action For Children
	Noreen McClelland	Antrim & N'abbey Council
	Kelly Taylor	Homestart
	Stefanie Buchanan	Antrim & N'abbey Council
	Frances Wilson	CAP
	John Lyster	Loughshore Education Centre
	Ricky Massey	Glengormley High School

## 1. Welcome and Apologies

Chairperson Jude Murphy welcomed all to the meeting, particularly those attending their first meeting. Apologies were noted as above.

## 2. Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed. Updates since last meeting

- TRAUMA TRAINING
  - 2 day Solihull foundation programme held March. Some members of the Newtownabbey LPG were group in attendance.
  - Live webinar did not go ahead as hoped.

- The newly formed Northern Digital Safeguarding Group was launched on Tuesday 8th February, Safer Internet Day 2022. Members include the Northern Trust, NSPCC, police, education, health, local council, youth and community partners and is supported by the Public Health Agency NI. This group plans to co-ordinate some digital safeguarding in the future.
- Newtownabbey Locality Planning Group funding budget. The full budget was allocated with 6 projects funded
  - Triangle Housing Association – Online Cookit Slow Cooker programme
  - Glengormley High School – Emotional wellbeing and mental health workshops
  - Women’s Aid – Purchase of personal and home safety items to protect women and children
  - Home Start – Resources to support volunteers working with children
  - Barnardos – Online digital safety for parents of primary school children
  - Network Personnel - Online digital safety for parents of high school children

**ACTION; Sinead to update group on any relevant training opportunities**  
**ACTION; Sinead to collate and evaluations**

### 3. Guest Speakers

- Lisa Curlett, Paediatric ASD Lead  
 Lisa explained that ASD is a lifelong developmental disability that affects how a person communicates with and relates to other people. It also affects how they make sense of the world around them. ASD is a spectrum condition and affects people in different ways. Like all people, autistic people have their own strengths and weaknesses.

Lisa added that every autistic person is different. Some can learn, live and work independently, while some have learning differences or co-occurring health conditions that require specialist support. Some may need forms of support at different stages throughout their life, while living independently.

Lisa also shared information in relation to; social communication and interaction challenges, restrictive repetitive behaviours, sensory processing and the prevalence rates of ASD.

- Jayne Colville ASD Service Improvement  
 Jayne outlined her role as part of the Health and Wellbeing Service within the Mental Health, Learning Disability and Community Wellbeing Division and focuses on the public health approach to autism.

Jayne shared information and examples of the work of the Northern Area ASD Forum which is chaired by the Trust but is a multi-agency network that works in partnership with members including; local Councils, PSNI, DoH, NIHE, PHA and service user representatives.

Jayne provided information on other sources of support and outlined the JAM project.

Jude thanked Lisa and Jayne for their very informative presentations.

**ACTION; Sinead to share presentations/links to information**

#### 4. Family Support Hub Update

Claire Larkin provided an update from the Family Support Hubs

- Hub evaluations were completed in February at all five hub meetings, great feedback received which will be fed back to the commissioners and comments that we can improve on over the coming year will be taken into account.
- Hubs are currently carrying out our bi-annual partnership agreement updates and renewals are being sent out accordingly.
- There has been a number of families supported financially since Christmas and the FSH's are fortunate they have been able to offer this support.
- Hubs are noticing a high amount of referrals currently being recorded as unmet need due to a shortage of services offering ASD face to face support, low level mental health support and lack of service available to support families with children under five.
- Due to the demand on services at present Hubs are unfortunately also are not always able to meet the needs of families due to long waiting lists, as some services find their waiting lists growing they then have to close them.
- Through the Newtownabbey CYPSP LPG Network Personnel Community Family Support Programme were able to provide educative work for parents on internet safety and Hubs were able to signpost to this.

<https://cypsp.hscni.net/family-support-hubs/>

<https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/how-we-can-help/our-local-services/find-our-services-near-you/family-support-hubs/>

#### 5. Information Sharing

Sinead provided some areas of research and other local updates

- Nuffield Trust – Research in England on the effect of the pandemic on CYP. New analysis from QualityWatch, a Nuffield Trust and Health Foundation programme, shows that the pandemic has led to an unprecedented increase in demand for mental health services for children and young people.  
<https://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/resource/growing-problems-in-detail-covid-19-s-impact-on-health-care-for-children-and-young-people-in-england>
- Joseph Rowntree Foundation has launched their Poverty in Northern Ireland 2022 Report. This report explores the rates of poverty of Northern Ireland and assesses the impact that poverty is having on the lives of people who live in Northern Ireland. For the full report <https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/poverty-northern-ireland-2022>
- Mental Health Champion - Prof O'Neill recently noted young people as whole were "more heavily impacted by the pandemic and the restrictions than any other age group". She made reference to the Co Space Study and referred to the large-scale study, which tracked the mental health of parents, children and young people between March 2020 and July 2021 <http://cospaceoxford.org/>
- Mid Ulster/Dungannon LPG working with a number of schools in that area to develop a Uniform Exchange Toolkit. The hope is that it will be regionally available more information to follow as the project develops.

- The NHSCT is facilitating 3 sessions of Mental Health First Aid Training. Please see member update document for more information on dates/registration
- The NHSCT is facilitating the Fit for Fun Programme in 25 primary schools in the NHSCT area as identified by EA. This initiative aims to enhance the physical and mental wellbeing of pupils and to help them achieve the recommended level of 60 minutes of physical activity every day. Each child will receive an individual bag with a range of equipment including a skipping rope, cones, bean bag, balls etc. along with a selection of resource cards on various activities which will help develop fundamental movement skills

**7. Member Updates**

Please see Member Updates. Members encouraged to send information that they would like disseminated to the group.

**ACTION – Sinead to send member updates**

**8. AOB**  
None

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meetings are:

- **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 3pm**
- **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 3pm**