

Minutes

**LARNE/CARRICK LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP
WEDNESDAY 18th May 2022
10.30AM
VIA ZOOM**

Attendees:	David McAllister	MEA
	Alywn Honan	EA
	Karen Hillis	AMH
	Natalie McGrath	Network Personnel
	Denise McVeigh	MEA
	Catriona Fitzsimons	Start 360
	Lynsey Poole	Larne Area Community Support
	Tracy Wishart	Aware
	Margaret Armstrong	Barnardos
	Fiona Stanton	Action for Children
	Roy Beggs	BB
	Sinead McCormick	NHSCT

Apologies:	Valerie McKenzie	EA
	Kyleigh Lough	Mae Murray
	Laura McCaughey	Impact Network

1. Welcome and Apologies

Chairperson David McAllister welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were noted as above.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

3. Family Support Hub Update

Fiona Stanton provided an update from the Family Support Hubs

- The Family Support Hubs are currently attending and presenting to a number of professionals at their team meetings to educate and promote the hub, if anyone wishes or feels this would be useful please get in touch with us to arrange same.
- The Hubs recently attended the Balmoral Show and will be in attendance at the Contributing to Developing Happy, Healthy Children & Young People Event on the 15th June. If anyone is aware of other events coming up that would be beneficial for the hubs to attend, please let us know.
- A new Regional Hub Co-Ordinator has been appoint and has organised a celebration Event at end of June for all Hub Co-Ordinators. This will be a great chance for teams to share anything that they have done or changed that has worked well within their hub and may be good for

other Coordinators to take back to their own Hub along with the chance to share the hard work and innovative approach to meet the needs of the families we support.

- Face to face Hub meetings are planned to resume in Sept- more details to follow.
- The Hubs have been linking in with Social Care Institute of Excellence re practice development
- As ever the Hubs are still noticing a high demand for counselling and support for families that have young people with a diagnosis or waiting to be assessed.
- The Hubs are reviewing partnership agreements, if any organisation has yet to complete this process, please review the requirements.

<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/>

4. Information Sharing

Sinead provided some information on events/reports.

- **CYPSP Conference – Wednesday 15th June - Contributing to Developing Happy, Healthy Children & Young People – Tullyglass**

This full day event will showcase and celebrate how services in the Northern Area contribute to developing happy, healthy children and young people, and will be an opportunity to reconnect with colleagues in person

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/contributing-to-developing-happy-healthy-children-young-people-registration-330467245427>

- **CYPSP Training Opportunity - Session introduction to the MaPs and MoneyHelper Monday 30th May 3.30-4.30pm**

CYPSP is working in partnership with the Money and Pensions Service (MaPs) to introduce you to Money Helper. MaPs will bring you through the website to support you support your service users.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/moneyhelper-registration-329519821657>

<https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en>

- **NHSCT PANTS Week w/b 13th June**

All schools in NI have been sent information on ways to take part. Information sessions about the campaign have been taking part for childminders, preschools and primary schools. Social media

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

- **NHLP Food For Thought Webinar Invitation 22nd June at 10am**

The webinar focus is very much about supporting nutritional food for all. However the NHLP Choose to Live better **partner funding opportunity due to be released in September 2022** will be discussed and partner collaboration is being encouraged. Although only a NHLP partner can apply for the funding there are opportunities for organisations including the community and voluntary sector to work collaboratively with a NHLP partner in a project proposal. NHLP Partners include: Northern Trust, the 4 councils, Early Years and NICHI officers Veronica McKinley, Anita Hurley and Pamela McClelland). Given the current cost of living crisis this webinar may be something that members may find of interest in terms of meeting the needs of their service users/staff.

https://northerntrust-hscni.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_oePR89IQTt-beIANW7QWVg

- **Mid Ulster/Dungannon LPG have issued their Uniform Exchange**

As an update, the toolkit has now been issued to member organisations for trial. The hope that it will be regionally available for use as appropriate, more information as it is available.

- **NHSCT CAMHS Podcasts: Trauma, Eating Disorders, Anxiety**

<https://www.northerntrust.hscni.net/services/child-adolescent-mental-health-service-camhs/>

- **NHSCT ASD Podcasts and sensory videos:**

<https://anchor.fm/s/46dc4fec/podcast/rss>

<https://www.northerntrust.hscni.net/services/autistic-spectrum-disorder-asd-services/paediatric-asd-services/>

- **Training opportunities for 14-17 year olds**

Applications for the National Cyber Security Centre's hugely popular CyberFirst summer courses are now open.

<https://www.nicybersecuritycentre.gov.uk/cyberfirst-summer-courses>

- **Playboard NI Report**

“The data shows that children who live in the most densely populated areas in Northern Ireland have the worst access to outdoor play spaces. It is precisely these children who are the most likely to have limited or no private outdoor space in which to play and who need public, community playgrounds the most.

<https://www.playboard.org/equal-play-in-northern-ireland/>

5. Review of Funded Projects

Sinead presented findings from the evaluations provided by projects funded by 2021/22 budget allocation. It was agreed that all projects had, or will have, positive outcomes for their local communities.

ACTION: Sinead to share presentation

6. Review of Action and Discussion (including member updates)

Sinead shared the current action plan with actions arising from the two identified priorities:

- Resilience, Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing
- Poverty – reducing poverty, providing opportunities for training in budgeting and money management

The actions completed were noted. Denise McVeigh from MEA Council, noted that within the MHEW priority that there was to be an emphasis on outdoor play. Denise updated members on plans for MEA's Summer of Play, Love Park's Week and Town Centre Tuesdays. Denise reports that there are 10 Play Pods which are small storage units which contain play resources. There are also trained Play Rangers who received training in the promotion of play. This initiative has been impacted by the COVID pandemic but Denise is working on re-engaging volunteers and planning the logistics of how the Play Pods can be accessed. Denise can be contacted for more information at play@midandeastantrim.gov.uk or 028 9335 8235

Karen Hillis from AMH noted the mental health programmes which had been completed as part of the action plan and reported on a number of upcoming opportunities within AMH. These will be included in the member update document.

Lynsey Poole from Larne Area Community Support updated members on the service and facilities available at the Community Fridge Project in Larne. A community noticed board is planned for the area.

Discussions then led to the current issues families are experiencing around the cost of living with members acknowledging for some the decision can be whether to "heat or eat"

Two initiatives were discussed; MEA's School Uniform Exchange Scheme and Period Poverty Schemes.

School Uniform Exchange –

- There are 3 collection points within the council area; Ballymena, Larne and Carrickfergus with collection dates usually being August. Promotion of the scheme in terms of receiving donations from transitioning pupils and subsequent highlighting of the scheme in a sensitive way to prospective beneficiaries was discussed. An earlier timeline was discussed in terms of letting parents of transitioning pupils know about the scheme earlier to allow more donations.
- Mid-year needs were also discussed for those pupils who outgrow uniforms during the school year.
- Other needs, which can impact on school attendance were noted such as lack of access to sports equipment, IT equipment, books and shoes. It was queried re the possibility of expanding the scheme beyond the traditional uniform. David McAllister is to feed back all comments to community planning colleagues with responsibility for the scheme.

Period Poverty

Period poverty was also noted as an impact on school attendance and mental wellbeing. It was noted that there are Hygiene Banks in the area. An voluntary led organisation called Equality Period works with Larne/Carrick Hygiene bank in the area

https://m.facebook.com/equalityperiodNI/?_tn=%2Cg

Larne Coordinator of the Hygiene Bank: Suzi Oag: larne@thehygienebank.com

Alywn Honan from Education Authority noted that products are available in youth centres.

The Department of Education (DE) has confirmed £400,000 funding to schools to provide free products to pupils in 2022-23.

Overall it is noted that there have been fewer actions completed re the poverty priority and given the current situation there is a need to focus on this priority. It was agreed that a speaker with a poverty or financial wellbeing focus would be invited to the next meeting.

ACTION: Sinead to share member updates in a separate document

ACTION: David to contact colleagues re information on uniform exchange scheme and potential speaker for next meeting

ACTION: Denise to update information on accessing Play Pods

7. **AOB**
None

8. **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is

Friday 24th June at 10.30am