

Minutes

**NEWTOWNABBEY LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP
TUESDAY 17th May 2022
3PM
VIA ZOOM**

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| Attendees: | Jude Murphy Pamela McClelland Claire Larkin Ricky Massey Barbara Barklie Pamela Sweeney Alison McDaid Stacy Myles Suzanne Kelly Claire Humphreys Marie Maguire Noreen McClelland Sinead McCormick Gillian Boyd Gemma Ruddy Christina O'Neill | Network Personnel Impact NI Action for Children Glengormley High School NHSCT Action for Children Education Authority Antrim & Newtownabbey Council Triangle Barnardos Bryson Antrim & Newtownabbey Council NHSCT Cedar Foundation Cedar Foundation All About Us – ASD Teens |
| Apologies | Frances Wilson Sinead Kelly Brenda Doherty | Christians Against Poverty Save the Children Abbey Sure Start |

1. Welcome and Apologies

Chairperson Jude Murphy welcomed all to the meeting, particularly those attending their first meeting. Apologies above retrospectively noted in the minutes

2. Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

It is noted that after attending a number of recent LPG meetings the ASD Service Improvement Lead is carrying out mapping of community based Autism services. This is a positive example of how feedback from the LPGs can influence. The end product will be of benefit to all stakeholders.

3. Guest Speakers

- Jude welcomed the guest speaker from community organisations working with autistic children and young people.

- Christina O'Neill , All about Us - ASD Teens <https://www.facebook.com/allaboutus2018/>

All about Us - ASD Teens is a voluntary sector organisation based in Antrim which was formed by Christina, the parent of a child with autism. The organisation has grown and had recently moved in to premises in Greystones Shopping Centre. Christina explained how children from across NI attend groups and activities running. Numbers attending are increasing but the organisation does all it can to create opportunities in a fair way. Christina described the activities available at All About Us, including weekly meet- ups to provide support, make friends and learn new skills for young people aged 8 -18 both those with a diagnosis of autism and/or associated conditions and those going through the diagnosis process, their siblings and their families. Their 'Teen Dreams' are encouraged to develop life skills in a supported manner through taking on roles such as managing the tuck shop, helping with the younger kids etc. Christina also shared some top tips for supporting children and young people.

- Gemma Ruddy, Transitions Officer and Gillian Boyd, Manager Youth Matters – Cedar Foundation www.cedar-foundation.org/

Gemma and Gillian gave an overview of the services offered by the Cedar Foundation with a focus on those offered in the NHSC area. Gillian described the Youth Matters Service which offers very much person-centred support from 0 -18 years. The service specifically covers the Newtownabbey area and referrals are managed by Emma Ferris.

Gemma described the Transitions Service supporting young people aged 16-20 years to make appropriate choices when moving on from school to Further or Higher Education, training or employment and the Inclusion Works Programme supporting those 16 – 65 years into volunteering, training, paid employment or social opportunities.

Both Gillian and Gemma shared strategies for supporting children and young people

Gillian noted that Cedar can offer support, at no cost, to organisations from informal chats, through to Disability Awareness Training to site visits to provide advice on environmental improvements that can be made to be more autism aware

Jude thanked all the speakers for their information, insights and time.

ACTION; Sinead to share presentations/links to information
ACTION; Sinead to share information on a number of other community based orgs

4. **Family Support Hub Update**

Claire Larkin 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/>

5. 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 McKinely, Anita Hurley and Pamela McClland). 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/>

7. Member Updates

Please share any updates that you want disseminated with Sinead

ACTION – Sinead to send member updates

8. AOB

None

9. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is:

- **Tuesday 28th June at 3pm**