

Antrim/Ballymena Children's & Young People's Strategic Partnership Locality Planning Group minutes

Tuesday 24th May, 2022 at 2.30 pm via Zoom

Attending

Gerry McVeigh	Co-Chair, Assistant Manager, YES Start 360
Lynsey McVitty	Health and Wellbeing Officer (Antrim/Ballymena), NHSCT
Linda Wylie	Health and Wellbeing Programme Support Officer, NHSCT
Mervyn Rea	Co-Chair
Jennifer Campbell	Sure Start Manager
Pamela McClelland	NICHI Project Office, IMPACT Network Ltd
Jude Murphy	CFSP, Network Personnel
Claire Kelly	Family Support Practitioner, Family Support Hub
Fionnula O'Donnell	Antrim Foodbank, Oasis
Grace McCann	NIACRO
Nigel Montgomery	Youth Worker, Education Authority
Natalie McGrath	CFSP, Network Personnel
Eilish Craig	Education Lead, Fresh Minds Education
Heidi Johnston	Youth Justice Practitioner, Youth Justice Agency
Karen Merwick	Deputy Manager, Community Advice, Antrim & Newtownabbey
Jayne McConaghie	Senior Officer for Health & Social Wellbeing Improvement for PHA
Rachel Horner	Oasis NI
Paula McLaughlin	NICMA
Christina O'Neill	All About Us
Kelly Kennedy	Senior Social Worker, Antrim Family Support and Intervention Team, NHSCT
Hannah Bowyer	Community Development Officer, Ballymena South Community Cluster

1. Welcome & Apologies

Gerry welcomed everyone.

Apologies

Kyleigh Lough, Mae Murray Foundation

Veronica McKinley, NACN

Alison McDaid, Education Authority

Tracey Wishart, Aware NI
Chris Lindsay, Education Authority
Leona Christie, Toybox Project Worker, Early Years

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

Agreed as accurate.

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Speaker – Fionnuala O'Donnell – Antrim Foodbank

Fionnuala brought us a very informative overview of the work of Antrim Foodbank. The Antrim Foodbank was established back in 2015 by the Trussell Trust and is one of twenty one in Northern Ireland. The Collection point is Tesco, Antrim.

Three Volunteers collect items three times per week. The items are weighed at the warehouse and a 20% top up by Tesco is received quarterly. Tesco also allow the Foodbank to promote the organisation in store three days per year with the next promotional event happening in July.

Fionnuala mentioned that the Foodbank have established Referral Partners such as Community Advice Service and Social Services. A voucher is completed and individuals call to either Elim Church, Greystone Road Presbyterian Church Café, Muckamore Park Hub or Oasis Antrim. There they will receive a pack suitable for one person, two people or a family. The pack is assembled from a list of food items recommended. They also now provide gas and electric vouchers.

The Community Hub at Muckamore provide a space for people to go to have a chat and gain advice and direction about benefits etc. Most recently this has been taking place every other week at the Elim Church. Presently the Foodbank are pursuing a Financial Inclusion Grant to enable them to pay for a Team Member and Befriending Volunteer. Fionnuala indicated The Foodbank requires lots of volunteers to carry out many roles to include packers, Admin and Client Facing Volunteers. She said that they have various donors from Community organisations as well as commercial.

Fionnuala explained that they receive referrals from in and around the Antrim and Randalstown area. In 2021/22 1,300 parcels were provided to adults with 820 for children.

The Foodbank would welcome Referral Partners and if any member of the partnership wishes to become a Referral Partner they should make contact with Fionnuala.

Finally, Fionnuala also indicated that they maintain a Hygiene Bank which has a small supply of toiletries and sometimes they do not have enough.

Gerry thanked Fionnuala on behalf of the partnership. All agreed it was an extremely useful service and it was good to hear more and increase awareness generally particularly with the ongoing cost of living crisis.

5. Family Support Hub update – Claire Kelly



Leaflet part1.pdf



Leaflet part 2.pdf



POSTER .pdf

The Family Support Hubs are in the process of updating our partnership agreements for our Hub members. If anyone has not completed these can we ask they come back to us ASAP.

If anyone hears of any new services or any who have extended or branched out their projects we would love to hear from them. We are always looking for new partnerships and new programs/support for the families.

If any service wants more information about FSH and wants us to attend their team meeting for any questions/enquiries or if any services wish to attend the Hub meeting and give an update on their service let me know. We have been working closely with Stat services to try and develop existing services to meet areas of unmet need.

Face to face HUB meetings are returning from September on a quarterly basis – Sept and then Jan due to demand of Christmas. Action for children as a whole attended the Balmoral show recently to showcase all the services we offer, the Hubs were there on Friday promoting ourselves to families.

Are keen to get some other events, particularly over summer, summer schemes, school fairs etc. I'm constantly reaching out to local community for events in the area. If anyone has anything coming up or a good contact, it would be much appreciated.

6. Member Updates

Laura McCaughey, Suicide Prevention Development Officer, Impact Network NI Limited

- Impact Network are continuing to work face to face supporting community groups to address health and wellbeing, mental health and suicide prevention needs.

- NICIH officer assisting groups that were successful to receive funding under the Communities Improving Health project to develop action plans to address the health needs within their community
- Health Alliance website membership has increased to over 500 members. We encourage individuals/organisations/statutory organisations to send any information on forthcoming courses/events which can be updated onto the health alliance website
- Members will also receive a weekly newsletter with health information, courses and funding opportunities etc.
 - NICHI Annual conference will take place on Thursday 29th September 2022. More information to follow
- SPDO assisting groups that were successful to receive funding under the Expression of Interest for Mental Health Community Development Support Model to develop action plans to address the mental health and emotional wellbeing needs within their community.

Lynsey McVitty – NHSCT

- NHSCT Breastfeeding support groups are carrying out a survey to improve the service. On Facebook page.
- It's Foster Care Fortnight- Trust is looking more foster carers particularly for refugee children. On Facebook page.
- Walk in Covid vaccinations for people 5+ are still available at the Fairhill shopping centre Thursday 12-8pm and the Junction this weekend.
- Virtual tours of the Maternity Units are available on the website.
- Free Online Training Available – Making the Most of Your Slow Cooker. The course is to enable you to run a slow cooker programme either as a one-off or 4-session programme. Slow cooking is a really cost-effective means of cooking, and given the current cost of living crisis is more relevant and useful than ever. It can be used to create healthy and budget-friendly meals all year round! Wed 25th May 2022 9.30am-1pm online. Details in last week's CYPSP news email.
- Northern Healthy Lifestyle Partnership Food for Thought webinar: 10am – 12noon, Wed 22nd June. Details in CYPSP Useful News email.

Hannah Bowyer – Community Development Officer, Ballymena South Community Cluster

Groups in Ballymena South have all been getting busier. Bright Stars Youth Club for children with autism and/or additional needs supports over 20 children each week and is accepting referrals. Ballee Community Childcare continues to provide much needed pre pre-school, and pre-school provision. Ballykeel 1 Moving Forward have started a pilot netball programme for those aged 12+

and there will be a range of Family Fun Days coming up for the Queen's Jubilee.

Jude Murphy – CFSP, Network Personnel

For CFSP, I suppose the latest update on top of all our usual fantastic support was for the new Parent Power sessions in June. As mentioned, spaces are or have filled up so quickly, but it would still be worth sharing due to the fact that if we get enough to run another session very soon, then we will. Our usual criteria remains the same: 16-65 year olds, not in full time employment or education, can make use of our programme.

Jennifer Campbell – Manager, Sure Start

Ballymena & Little Steps (Antrim) Sure Start provides a wide range of Early Childhood Services for families from pregnancy up until a child turns 4 years old. Sites are fully open in a measured way; Home visiting and Outreach services have now recommenced.

During June-September we have a wide range of opportunities for families-including Rhythm and Rhyme, Baby & Toddler Swim, Let's Play Together Programme and a Music & Movement Play programme. We will also be offering a Solihull Understanding Your Child's Behaviour programme; and a co-facilitated wellbeing Programme with Aware. Cook It and Food Values Nutrition education programmes will be delivered for families with food packs. Postnatal Infant Massage and Reflexology will also be running. Our antenatal Programmes this term will include Hypnobirthing and Antenatal education, as well as Pregnancy Yoga. We will also be offering a range of groups such as Family Men, Little Acorns Additional Needs Support, Breastfeeding group, and postnatal Baby Club (fortnightly). All services can be offered on a one-to-one basis where possible, and at home where necessary.

Ballymena & Little Steps (Antrim) SureStart services are free for all families (0-4) across 11 wards areas (Farranshane, Steeple and Ballycraigy in Antrim) and (Ballee, Ballykeel, Dunclug, Fairgreen, Moat, Summerfield, Harryville, and Castle Demense).

We are in the process of developing 2 new services-Play & Discover-a short term pre-pre programme for children with additional needs-this will be a referral only service; and Dads Voice a co-facilitated group with Turning Point, affiliated with Aware NI. Both Programmes will be ready to launch in Quarter 2 onwards.

Happy to answer any queries/referrals on 028 256 42883 or at Ballymena.LittleStepsSS@actionforchildren.org.uk

Gerry McVeigh - Assistant Manager, YES Start 360

Connections – promoting Alcohol Awareness Week 20th – 26th June. Can provide support and resources if thinking of organising an event within your own organisation. Will also be at various Tesco stores throughout the Trust during Alcohol Awareness Week and possibly working with Ballymena Men's Shed on an event. Contact connections@ndact.info for more information.

VOICES – continuing to provide in person Keywork and Counselling support to young people aged 8-17 affected by parental/family substance misuse and family support.

DAISY – continuing to provide in person Keywork and Counselling support to young people aged 11-25 impacted by their own substance misuse and wanting to make a change. Also, family support where appropriate.

Targeted Life Skills – continuing to deliver in person Targeted Life Skills group work sessions for young people aged 11-21 covering issues such as dealing with difficult emotions; Healthy Relationships; Risk taking Behaviour; Media & Its Influence; Alcohol; Energy Drinks; Cannabis

Youth Engagement Service – continuing to work with 3 local post primary schools facilitating Chill & Chat, Peer Education and RSE sessions. Drop In on Tuesday and Thursdays 3-5pm. Young Men's Football (aged 16-25) every Thursday 7-9pm at Ballymena Showgrounds.

7. Action Plan update

- PANTS campaign- still can get support with staff training sessions, parents' awareness raising sessions, parents' booklets and posters. Schools volunteers. Resources in 12 different languages.
- Incredible years, Solihull and Parents Plus. For any information on these contact Kate McDermott.
- Money Helper training for anyone working with families who may experience financial difficulties Monday 30th May 3.30-4.30pm on Zoom
- CYPSP Happy Healthy Children Conference 15th June 9.30am - 4.30pm, Tullyglass Hotel

Future Actions

- Two needs identified by children and young people remain around Education and MHEW needs of ethnic minority children. Poverty and Ukraine – Save the Children training
- Poverty

8. Any Other Business

Partners spent a short time reflecting upon the current cost of living crisis and the experiences they were aware of within their individual organisations.

9. Date of next Meeting

Tuesday 21st June 2022 at 2pm via Zoom.