

**West Belfast Locality Ordinary Meeting  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 10am**

**Attendees:**

Deirdre Walsh  
Marcela Vielman  
Penny Ambrose  
Dympna Johnson  
Jane McKibbin  
Paul O'Neill  
Nicola Masterson  
Sharon Nelson  
Carol Bailie  
Piarais McCaffrey  
Kiely Lawlor  
Jennifer Heverin

Chair  
Save the Children  
Blackie River  
Greater Shankill Partnership  
Northern Ireland Childminding Association  
CSM Early Years Services, BHSCT  
OuterWest FSH  
Upper Springfield and Whiterock FSH  
Upper Springfield and Whiterock FSH  
Kids Together  
Autism NI  
LPG Administration, BHSCT

**Apologies:**

Alan Guthrie  
Angela Mervyn  
Conor McKenna  
Deborah Burnett  
Gareth Maguire  
Kathleen McDonnell  
Leanne Gordon  
Martina Smyth  
Michael Hogg  
Paul Cleary  
Phil Lindsay  
Riognach Murphy  
Sandra McCarry  
Sinead Campbell

BHSCT  
West Belfast Partnership Board  
Libraries NI  
Greater Falls FSH  
Sport Changes Life  
GP MDT BHSCT  
Health Visiting  
Belfast Health Development Unit  
EANI  
Belfast City Council  
Barnardo's  
Barnardo's  
BHSCT  
Advice NI

## **1. Welcome and Introduction**

Deirdre Walsh opened the meeting by welcoming those present. The apologies have been noted within the Minutes.

## **2. Previous Minutes**

The last West LPG meeting took place on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 and the minutes of that meeting were examined. They were deemed to be a true and accurate reflection of the meeting and no amendments were required.

## **3. Food Hampers/Christmas Donations**

Food hampers have again been organised by Paul Maskey MP for all the West Belfast Hubs. There are 70 hampers per Hub. These are usually delivered around 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> December so the group was asked to consider families they feel would benefit and to refer them into the Hub now. The hamper will have turkey, ham, vegetables, dessert etc., everything to make a Christmas dinner.

All Hubs have been given an additional £1500 to be spent between December and March to help families after Christmas, again refer relevant families in the Hubs.

## **4. Locality Planning Group**

There have been a number of meetings recently with the other Belfast LPG Chairs regarding future planning. Discussion has been around trying to ascertain the most pressing needs, however this is proving quite difficult as priorities are constantly changing. It is a work in progress.

There is another meeting scheduled for January so the group were asked to consider what they feel the biggest needs are. Lots of data is being extracted from the Hubs to work out where there are gaps in services so please keep referring into the Hubs as it is these stats that will be used in the planning process.

## **5. LPG Coordinator post update**

Interviews for the post of LPG Coordinator will be held in January with a view to having someone in the role by February/March.

## **6. Members Updates**

No members' updates reported.

## 7. FSH Updates

<b>FSH Area:</b>	Greater Falls	
<b>Timeframe:</b>	Nov - Dec 2021 (to date)	
<b>Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:</b>	Nov - 32 Dec - 23 (1 out of area)	
<b>Number of Service Requests Received to date:</b>	1582 (up to 14 Dec)	
<b>Source of Service Requests:</b>	Community	Self
	Health visitor	Gateway
	GP	SureStart
	Voluntary	CAMHS
	MDT/GP Fed	EWO
	Ed. Psychologist	School
<b>Key Gaps identified:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social activities for children (especially those identified with additional need)</li> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• Services for families where ASD and ADHD has been identified as an issue (including awaiting assessment)</li> <li>• Diagnosis of ADHD post primary level</li> <li>• Therapeutic interventions for children and young people</li> <li>• Face to face programmes</li> <li>• There has been a marked increase in referrals received from/on behalf of BME families seeking supports; at least 1/3 of referrals received. (requests include toys/food/clothes/funded activities for children in the community to encourage integration/internet access)</li> <li>• Increased requests for poverty related issues in light of utility costs</li> </ul>	
<b>Key Successes identified:</b>	Providing families mobile data cards accepted well by BME families.	
<b>AOB for Sharing:</b>	Date for Christmas Hamper pack to be confirmed, thoughts that it may be Tuesday/Wednesday of next week.	

<b>FSH Area:</b>	Upperspringfield whiterock FSH
<b>Timeframe:</b>	November /dec
<b>Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:</b>	Nov 47 Dec 44 Total 91
<b>Number of Service Requests Received to date:</b>	190 from last meeting plus 120=310 service request to date
<b>Source of Service Requests:</b>	School Self (advised by GP to contact hub) Health Visitor Mental health practitioner Sure start Voluntary community /community organisations School nurse/EWO Gateway CAHMS
<b>Key Gaps identified:</b>	
<p><b>Lack of art and play therapist still an issue</b></p> <p><b>108 Families have applied for Christmas support through the Hub due to increase in utility cost and financial struggles.</b></p> <p><b>Services have been closed to the Hub some opened but have reached capacity again</b></p> <p><b>Some service have been given extra hours for family support .</b></p>	

**Key Successes identified:**

**14 Families able to avail of British red cross covid response fund through Hub**

**Families support to apply and activate spend easy cards.**

**Families availed of bounce back program with parentline NI**

**AOB for Sharing:**

Hub has been given extra funds to support families in need .

<b>FSH Area:</b>	Outer West Belfast
<b>Timeframe:</b>	Oct – Dec (16/12/2021) 2021
<b>Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:</b>	October – 12 November – 22 December – 29 (so far)
<b>Number of Service Requests Received to date:</b>	1145
<b>Source of Service Requests:</b>	School Community GP Self Belfast Trust Health Visitor GP MDT CAMHS
<b>Key Gaps identified:</b> Play therapy / ASD supports / awaiting diagnosis supports	
<b>Key Successes identified:</b>  <p>Availed of Fuel Vouchers (BCC – provided by UACF) for 70 local residents (families and elderly).</p> <p>Due to pack 350 Westwood Christmas Hampers to be distributed to families.</p> <p>The OWBFSH used remaining Crisis and Trust monies – as well as cash donations to get vouchers for families for Christmas (ASDA, Smyths, butchers etc)</p> <p>Joint Toy Appeal alongside UACF for local families (to be distributed with vouchers and hampers)</p> <p>Availed of 16 x Food Bank Hampers for Hub referrals (families struggling financially this Christmas)</p> <p>Completed funding application for ASD Parenting Programme which will hopefully go ahead in Feb / March 2022.</p>	
<b>AOB for Sharing:</b>	

<b>FSH Area:</b>	Greater Shankill
<b>Timeframe:</b>	Oct - Dec 2021
<b>Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:</b>	Total: 38 Oct – 22 Nov – 10 Dec - 6
<b>Number of Service Requests Received to date:</b>	1354
<b>Source of Service Requests:</b>	School Nurse Health Visitor Self Community Organisation CAMHS EWO Gateway GP Other Social work services
<b>Key Gaps identified:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art/play therapy for children and young people.</li> </ul>	
<b>Key Successes identified:</b>	
<p>GS Hub have provided signposted families to Belfast City Council financial supports relating to Covid19 being distributed by Greater Shankill Partnership and community partners across the area. GS Hub staff and volunteers linked with Hub partners in West Belfast to distribute 70 christmas food hampers across the Shankill area, donated by a local businessman.</p>	
<b>AOB for Sharing:</b>	
None	

### **8. A.O.B**

No other business was discussed.

The meeting drew to a close with Deirdre Walsh thanking everyone for their hard work and contributions over the last year and wishing everyone a Merry Christmas.

### **2022 Dates for West Belfast LPG Ordinary Meetings**

<b>DATES</b>	<b>VENUES</b>
TBA February	
TBA April	
TBA June	
TBA August	
TBA October	
TBA December	