

West Belfast LPG Meeting

Via MS Teams

Wednesday 13th April 2022 at 10am

| Name | Organisation | Present | Apology |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Charlene Mitchell | LPG Coordinator, BHSCT | ✓ | |
| Deirdre Walsh (Chair) | Whiterock Children's Centre | ✓ | |
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| Alan Guthrie | GP Federation MDT, BHSCT | ✓ | |
| Alice McGlone | Belfast City Council | ✓ | |
| Leanne Gordon | Health Visiting, BHSCT | ✓ | |
| Mairead Gilmartin | Outer West Sure Start, BHSCT | ✓ | |
| Marcela Vielman | Save the Children | ✓ | |
| Nicola Verner | Greater Shankill Partnership | ✓ | |
| Paul O'Neill | Interim CSM, Early Years, BHSCT | ✓ | |
| Sharon Nelson | Whiterock Children's Centre | ✓ | |
| Deborah Burnett | Greater Falls FSH | ✓ | |
| Jane McKibbin | NICMA | ✓ | |
| Penny Ambrose | Beechmount Sure Start | ✓ | |
| Heather Floyd | MUMO | ✓ | |
| Aisling Reynolds | Action for Children | ✓ | |
| Paddy Gallagher | Senior Youth Worker, EANI | ✓ | |
| Dympna Johnston | Greater Shankill FSH | ✓ | |
| Carol Bailie | Upper Springfield Whiterock FSH | ✓ | |
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| Gareth Maguire | Sport Changes Life | | ✓ |
| Gillian Boyd | Cedar Foundation | | ✓ |
| Jonathan Cockroft | EANI | | ✓ |
| Nicola Masterson | Outer West FSH | | ✓ |
| Phil Lindsay | Barnardo's | | ✓ |
| Sandra McCarry | BHSCT | | ✓ |
| Sinead Campbell | Advice NI | | ✓ |
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| In Attendance | | | |
| Jennifer Heverin | LPG Administration, BHSCT | ✓ | |
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Summary of Actions:

| | Topic | Action | Responsibility |
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| <u>Action by:</u> | |
| | <p>1. Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>Chair Deirdre Walsh opened the meeting by welcoming those present and extending a special welcome to the new LPG Coordinator Charlene Mitchell.</p> |
| | <p>2. Minutes and Matters Arising from last meeting of 2nd February 2022</p> <p>There were 3 action points from the previous meetings, all of which have been completed; the Autism Assessment Unit phone number was circulated as was the Childminding Registration process.</p> <p>Alan Guthrie then proceeded to give an update on the issues around GP services. At the last meeting Alan agreed to raise the issues with the West Belfast GP Federation MDT. This was done and Alan advised that a sub-group has been formed to examine this topic in more detail.</p> |
| | <p>3. Introduction of Members and Services</p> <p><i>Marcela Vielman – Save the Children</i> Marcela is the Partnership Lead at Save the Children who support families throughout Northern Ireland living in poverty. Through their ‘Families Connect’ programme they engage with parents through schools and their ‘Building Blocks’ programme supplies grants and support for families.</p> <p><i>Sharon Nelson – Whiterock Children’s Centre</i> Sharon is the Family Learning Manager and works with BAME families carrying out home visiting, parenting programmes, English classes and arts and crafts. There is a Friendship Club on a Thursday where local and BAME women meet to cook and eat together. A men’s club is also takes place on a Tuesday. Practical support is offered regarding food, vouchers etc., and there is also a crèche based at Whiterock Children’s Centre as well as the Family Support Hub.</p> <p><i>Carol Bailie – Upper Springfield Whiterock FSH</i> Carol is the Hub Coordinator for families with children up to 18 years old and will offer both emotional and practical support.</p> <p><i>Aisling Reynolds – Action for Children</i> Aisling manages young carers on behalf of the Belfast Trust via the Department of Health. The Southern Trust and the South Eastern Trust areas also fall within Aisling’s remit. Young Carers are defined as children between the ages of 8-18 years old who look after a sibling or a family member with a mental or physical disability. Action for Children provide activities away from the children’s care setting as well as 1-2-1 intervention. They are not a counselling service but will provide support on any anxieties a child has about their caring role.</p> <p>Action for Children secured £2,000,000 funding for all of their young carers projects</p> |

throughout the UK. Unfortunately within Belfast they have very few referrals and it has proved difficult to get families to come forward. It is felt the reason for this is that many families don't realise their child is a young carer as the child's role has just been assimilated into the daily life of the family. However, not having the same childhood as their peers can have a big impact on their self-esteem and opportunities in life. Raising the awareness is the key matter.

Heather Floyd – MUMO

Heather is the manager of MUMO (Moving Up Moving On) which is based in Forthspring Inter Community Group. They provide services for children and families from two local schools; Springfield Primary School and St. Clare's Primary School. They have a children's support worker, a family engagement worker and a counsellor attached to each school. They offer lots of classes, activities and 1-2-1 support.

Paddy Gallagher – Education Authority

Paddy is the Senior Youth Worker for West Belfast Statutory Youth Services and he manages 4 centres and 2 area projects under EA. They also fund 12 voluntary youth services throughout West Belfast which is a mixture of youth provision, detached work and street based work.

Alice McGlone – Belfast City Council

Alice is the Neighbourhood Integration Manager within City and Neighbourhood Services within the Belfast City Council. The post was created to better integrate work across departments, statutory agencies and community groups. Alice can be a first point of contact within the council to act as a sign poster for the appropriate service or department.

Deborah Burnett – Greater Falls FSH

As Coordinator of the Greater Falls FSH, Deborah is involved with anything that is family support related at an early intervention level and will sign-post onwards to relevant groups.

Penny Ambrose – Beechmount Sure Start

Penny is the Project Coordinator and their leading accountable body is the Blackie Centre. As coordinator Penny's role is to manage and coordinate services for families from antenatal to children up 4 years old.

Leanne Gordon – BHSC

Leanne is the Team Lead for Health Visiting based in Beech Hall. Leanne works closely with MDT Team Lead Andrea Barr and moving forward with a new MDT model. They have managed to reduce the Health Visiting caseload to free up the Health Visitors to undertake baby massage training, Incredible Years and perinatal mental health champions. Their aim is to enable health visitors to provide more targeted interventions.

Jane McKibbin – NICMA

Jane works for the Northern Ireland Childminding Association who are a charity and membership organisation that help support registered childminders throughout NI as well as recruit new childminders. She covers Belfast and part of the Northern Trust.

Nicola Verner – Greater Shankill Partnership

Greater Shankill Partnership are the lead body for Greater Shankill FSH. They run an integrated services programme for children and young people which offers counselling, youth mentoring and a home visiting service for Greater Shankill. They are involved in a consortium with Upper Springfield that is the community family support programme. They are also involved with the West Belfast Partnership board for GCSE support with English and Maths. A Sure Start programme and an early year's daycare centre are also based at their premises.

Paul O'Neill – BHSCT

Paul is the interim Children's Services Manager for the Early Years Team and the Early Intervention Support Team as well as the chair of Outer West Sure Start.

Alan Guthrie – BHSCT

Alan is part of the West Belfast GP Federation MDT and leads the Social Work part of the service. Each of the 16 West Belfast GPs will have physio, pharmacy, mental health, health visiting, district nursing and social work services as part of the core primary care team. The social work model is only in 5 of the 16 practices but Alan works alongside the health visiting and district nursing leads to ensure the pathways and access to services are as good as they can be and that people can access services locally.

Dympna Johnston – Greater Shankill Partnership

Dympna is the Health and Wellbeing Development Officer and she chairs the local health forum which looks at mental and emotional wellbeing and self-care for health workers. Dympna is also interim chair for Shankill FSH.

Mairead Gilmartin – Outer East Sure Start

Mairead is the Coordinator for Outer West Sure Start but was having technical difficulties connecting so was unable to give her own overview.

Charlene Mitchell – BHSCT

Charlene is the new LPG Coordinator in the post only 2 weeks and she thanked everyone for the warm welcome and their introductions. In her previous role Charlene was the Coordinator for Outer South and East FSH to which the lead body was Barnardo's. Prior to this Charlene worked for Action for Children in their Ballymena & Antrim Sure Start. Charlene therefore brings lots of community based work experience to the role alongside a good knowledge of the hubs.

4. Members Updates

Deborah Burnett – Greater Falls FSH

The ASD Programme was based in the Blackie Centre and one of the hub contracts that they hold. Ordinarily this programme would have had two sessions at Blackie but one has now been dropped and is being picked up by Solas in South Belfast. It is still a Belfast wide programme and referrals can be made to the Blackie Centre and Solas.

Paul O'Neill – BHSC

Paul has been involved in the Ukrainian Family Resettlement Programme. Extern and Barnardo's are responsible for assessing the host families. Some of these families will probably come through the Hubs for referrals for services and it is being monitored daily as it is an ever changing situation. Paul's involvement is from a social services and safeguarding perspective, focusing on unaccompanied children.

Deirdre Walsh – Whiterock Children's Centre

Whiterock Children's Centre have received funding through the Community Foundation for children's counselling and play therapy for the next 2 years. It will initially be used for families in Upper Springfield. Some of the money will also be used to employ a family support worker.

5. FSH Updates

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| FSH Area: | Outer West Belfast |
| Timeframe: | Jan-March 2022 |
| Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe: | January – 23 February – 23 March – 19 |
| Number of Service Requests Received to date: | 1238 |
| Source of Service Requests: | School Community GP Self Gateway Health Visitor GP MDT CAMHS |
| Key Gaps identified: | Play therapy |
| Key Successes identified: | ASD Parenting Support Programme for parents facilitated by Kids together took place during March (seed funding) BHSCCT providing additional monies to support families |
| AOB for Sharing: | |

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| FSH Area: | Upper Springfield Whiterock FSH |
| Timeframe: | February, March 22 |
| Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe: | From February 22 until March 22 = 94 onward service request have been made. |
| Number of Service Requests Received to date: | From April 21 till March 22, = 415 families have made referral to the Hub. |
| Source of Service Requests: | School Self (advised by GP/MHP to contact local hub) Health Visitor Mental health practitioner /SW Sure start Voluntary community /community organisations School nurse/EWO Gateway CAHMS |
| Key Gaps identified: | |
| <p>Lack of Family support services.</p> <p>Continued increase in families looking financial/practical support/gas/electric/fuel/food due to increases in utility cost and financial struggle" working poor" struggling with increased cost of living one parent shared they either must choose between "keeping their family warm or fed".</p> <p>Childcare for children 0 to 12 months.</p> | |
| Key Successes identified: | |
| <p>Being able to support families in the area with Gas/Electric voucher from DFC.</p> <p>Other Voucher Available through the Hub.</p> <p>WRCC have play therapy sessions available and counselling services for families.</p> | |

AOB for Sharing:

GP/MHP still asking families to self-refer and some referrals are higher than a Tier 2.

Families Still waiting on ASD assessments.

Contact HUB if family's need practical support.

If you have any families with children with ADHD diagnosis ADDNI are looking for name for a waiting list for their 10-week parenting program starting in May 9th 22. This referral to be done through the Family support Hubs.

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| FSH Area: | Greater Falls |
| Timeframe: | Feb – Mar 2022 |
| Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe: | 55 |
| Number of Service Requests Received to date: | 1674 (up to 31 st March) |
| Source of Service Requests: | School Community CAMHS Self GP MDT Social Worker Health Visitor Voluntary Organisation School Nurse |
| Key Gaps identified: | |
| <p>Limited supports for disability, limited child therapy supports. Access to practical items e.g. clothes for children/financial strain. Requests for financial support e.g. food, utilities etc. Working families making requests on the rise.</p> <p>Increase in referrals for/from BME families requesting practical support – TV, mobile phones, devices, internet support, vouchers for food, clothes, household items e.g. Cleaning products, Hoover, blender, rugs. Social activities for parents, children and young people.</p> <p>Lack of parent and child activity due to Covid restrictions</p> <p>Lengthy waiting lists for additional needs</p> <p>Accessing GPs and GPs and MDT staff signposting (rather than referring) to FSHs without explaining the purpose of FSH and without accessing the need of individual family member (i.e. family may need a CAMHS referral or assessment request for additional need)</p> | |
| Key Successes identified: | |
| <p>Availability of funding/voucher support to help with financial strain</p> <p>High level input, services, communication and partnership work within the Hub network in supporting families to the best of ability especially in face of Statutory services restructuring.</p> | |

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| | <p>AOB for Sharing:</p> <p>BRCG ASD programme. Have reduced their sessions to one (Friday evening); Solás has extended their contract to deliver an additional session on Saturday afternoon, 2 ½ hours. 6 participants for 12 week long programme.</p> |
| | <p>6. A.O.B</p> <p>No other business was discussed. Deirdre thanked all those in attendance and the meeting drew to a close.</p> |

2022 Dates for West Belfast LPG Ordinary Meetings

| DATES | TIME | VENUES |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| 2 nd February | 10am | MS Teams |
| 13 th April | 10am | MS Teams |
| TBA June | 10am | TBA |
| TBA August | 10am | TBA |
| TBA October | 10am | TBA |
| TBA December | 10am | TBA |