

North Belfast LPG Meeting

Currie Primary School, 111 Limestone Road, Belfast, BT15 3AB

Tuesday 8th November 2022 at 10am

Name	Organisation	Present	Apology
Charlene Mitchell	LPG Coordinator, BHSCT	✓	
Claire Allen (Chair)	New Lodge Duncairn Community Health Partnership	✓	
Ellen Farren	Barnardo's	✓	
Julie Jamison	New Lodge Duncairn Community Health Partnership	✓	
Karen Hillis	Action Mental Health	✓	
Paul Barton	Ashton Community Trust	✓	
Michele Muldoon	NOW Group	✓	
Julie Kinneary	Upper North FSH	✓	
Caroline Milligan	Glenbrook Sure Start	✓	
Pól Brennan	Connected Community Care	✓	
Wendy Stewart	AMH New Life Counselling	✓	
Joe McGovern	Extern	✓	
Edith McManus	Lower North FSH	✓	
Alix Jackson	Hazelwood College	✓	
Ashley Galway	Currie Primary School	✓	
Alanna McGarry	Ashton Community Trust	✓	
Gareth Maguire	Sport Changes Life		✓
Anita Duff	EANI		✓
Brian Maguire	EANI		✓
Gabi Mornhinweg	BHSCT		✓
Margaret McDonald	BHSCT		✓
Niamh Rainey	Now Group		✓
Phil Lindsay	Barnardo's		✓
Sinead Campbell	Advice NI		✓
Diane McMullin	Extern		✓
Justine Fricker	EANI		✓
Mervyn Bell	BHSCT		✓
Paul O'Neill	BHSCT		✓
Sharon Quinn	Lighthouse Charity		✓
In Attendance			
Jennifer Heverin	LPG Administration, BHSCT	✓	

	Topic	Action	Responsibility
1.	Winter Pressures	Information on Hub Winter Pressure meeting to be circulated	Charlene Mitchell
2.	Free School Meals information	Details of Education Authority email to be circulated	Alix Jackson

<u>Action</u> <u>by:</u>	
	<p>1. Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>Claire Allen opened the meeting by welcoming those present and facilitating a round of introductions.</p>
	<p>2. Previous Minutes of 6th September 2022</p> <p>The Minutes of the 6th September 2022 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. This was proposed by Pól Brennan and seconded by Wendy Stewart.</p> <p>A matter arising from the last meeting regarding the presentation by Judith Harvey at W5 was addressed. It had been suggested that a day would be arranged for North Belfast LPG to visit the new 'Life @ W5' project. This day has now been agreed for Thursday 8th December at 11.30am.</p>
	<p>3. Winter Pressures</p> <p>The Early Intervention Support Team within the BHSCCT met with the 10 Belfast Family Support Hubs to discuss the current challenges facing families. Topics covered included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Information on available practical support ii) What support/funding is expected to be available iii) Current Hub pressures iv) Gaps in services v) Hub experiences on delivering practical support vi) How families can be best connected to resources. <p>A short discussion took place around community support and the importance of information sharing. One significant concern raised was about families getting into debt at Christmas and any knowledge of community Christmas support schemes would be welcomed for sharing.</p> <p>Paul Barton advised that, via Communities in Transition, they have just submitted a proposal for a £10,000 grant through the anti-poverty strategy. This money will be used to distribute information packs on local services, run cooking programmes, supply winter clothing and energy saving lightbulbs and so on. If anyone has a family in need they can contact Paul to see if he can assist (paul.barton@ashtoncentre.com)</p> <p>Winter coat distribution is also starting in Ashton shortly.</p> <p>The Community Fridge is an initiative where supermarkets contribute to the food bank/fridge and people can take from it what they need. They don't need to sign up to any sort of membership, they just need to write how much they've taken and their postcode for statistical analysis purposes.</p>

The Education Authority will provide meals for children who do not meet the usual conditions for free meals but have been referred. Further information on who can refer and the criteria required will be circulated.

4. Ashley Galway – Currie Primary School

Currie Primary School have created Mountcollyer Nest which is a new multi-functional family unit within the school grounds. The original building was most recently being used as storage facilities and its massive potential was being missed, especially as Currie P.S. had noted a change in the school profile over the last 10 years and in particular the mental and physical decline in parent's health.

Funding was eventually secured from the Department of Health, Education and Finance which allowed for the refurbishment of these premises into the new practical functional space that exists today.

Mountcollyer McNest is split into 3 strands:

1. **Parents** – about making the school accessible for everyone via parents breakfast clubs, self-esteem workshops, keep fit classes, sign posting to other services, Dads and Lads group, drop in sessions etc.
2. **Parents as Co-Educators** – aimed at parents who struggle to support learning due to a variety of factors such as having a negative school experience themselves or they simply do not know how to support their child's education. For this Nest run Stay and Play and Families Connect to help build a parents capacity to parent.
3. **Parents as Contributors to Society** – help with CV writing, employability skills, interview techniques etc., to allow parents to reach their own full potential.

The aim is to have an authentic relationship with parents and have them involved and contributing to what they feel would be of benefit to them and Currie P.S want to provide a solution to every barrier a parent may face.

Ashely invited those around the table to use the facilities and premises as they are in a good position to take advantage of the footfall of parents leaving their children to school. The Nest facilities include a family sensory room, a parent coordinator office, a parent's room, a multi-use room, a kitchen for cookery classes, The Pantry food bank, and a school library for parents and children to borrow together.

At present the facilities are just for the parents and children of Currie P.S., but they hope to expand beyond this in the future.

If anyone has any ideas or would like more information, please contact Ashley Galway (Principal) at: agalway657@currie.belfast.ni.sch.uk

5. FSH Updates

FSH Area:	Lower North Belfast
Timeframe:	1 st September 2022-1 st November 2022
Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:	54
Number of Service Requests Received to date:	1646
Source of Service Requests:	Self, Community, GP, School
Key Gaps identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fuel/energy support	
Key Successes identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Signed up McDonald Centre & ROC as new members• Fuel poverty & health training• CAMHS meeting• LPG planning meeting• Currie Primary School meeting• Winter Pressures meeting• Cancer Lifeline meeting• Blessed Trinity event	
AOB for Sharing:	

FSH Area:	Upper North Belfast FSH
Timeframe:	1 st September 2022-1 st November
Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:	September - 32 October - 54
Number of Service Requests Received to date:	196
Source of Service Requests:	Self-22, school 8, GP 11, Allied Health Professionals 5, community21, CAMHS 1, Gateway 1, H.V 7,Nurse3,Rise Team1,Voluntary3 Social Worker3,
Key Gaps identified:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High demand for behavioural/emotional support for primary school age children awaiting ASD/ADHD assessment 	
Key Successes identified:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in Self-referrals for financial support. • Met with Edith and Family Support workers at Ashton for an overview of their services. Had the pleasure of a tour of the pantry and an overview of how it works and how families would benefit. • Had a meeting with the new manager at Cliftonville Community Centre to provide an overview of what support the FSH can provide and an update on their services. • Attended Energy Saving zoom to help families. • Attended ROC mentoring programme. • Had a meeting with Julie Jamieson and Trish Brady at NLDCHP to introduce myself as new FSH Coordinator and find out more regarding their services. • Lesley McMaster from EISS/Niacro visited the Vine Centre for introductions and update on services. • Meeting with CAMHS and all FSH Coordinators to find out more about their referral process and how to continue working alongside FSH. • Meeting with Claire Allen and Edith McManus to talk about current winter pressures support. 	
AOB for Sharing:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Support Hub still have vouchers available for gas, electric and food. • Family Support Hub has some Shop for All vouchers which might help some families with toys approaching the Christmas pressures. • Vine Centre referral form is now available for Christmas support e.g. Hampers 	

	<p>6. Members Updates</p> <p><i>Caroline Milligan – Glenbrook Sure Start</i> The Little Learners pilot is now being part funded through Fair Start with Glenbrook, East Belfast Sure Start, Solas and Kids Together. This is for those very young children that will likely be diagnosed with ASD.</p> <p>The pilot and framework have been ongoing for 7 years however now the Department for Education are becoming involved which means other professionals such as Clinical Psychologists and Occupational Therapists are now on board.</p> <p>Parental workshops and role modelling also form part of this programme so parents will be in a position to be fully aware of their child’s needs and to be an advocate for them when then start school.</p> <p>Little Learners are also looking for funding for 2 years for some children as sometimes nursery school is not the right environment for a child to move on to. The programme is aligned to preschool curriculum.</p> <p>Goal is for this model to be replicated throughout Northern Ireland.</p>
	<p>7. LPG Action Planning</p> <p>The Sub Group to look at North Belfast’s Action Plan took place on 11th October. The purpose of this meeting was to look at the main priorities in the local area and lay the groundwork on which to build a plan. Some of the main concerns were around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poverty - Emotional Health and Wellbeing - Children with Disabilities - Integrated Planning <p>Discussions took place around what each of these topics looked like and what practical and realistic measures could be put in place to help alleviate some of these problems. However, this initial meeting was laying the foundations and further meetings will drill down into these topics and others in more detail until a fully functioning, working Action Plan emerges.</p>
	<p>8. A.O.B</p> <p>No other business was discussed and the meeting drew to a close with Claire Allen thanking all those in attendance.</p>

2023 Dates for North Belfast LPG Ordinary Meetings

DATES (Tuesdays)	TIME	VENUES
10 th January	10am	Microsoft Teams
TBA March		
TBA May		
TBA July		
TBA September		
TBA November		