

South Belfast LPG Meeting

**Shaftesbury Community & Recreation Centre
97 Balfour Avenue, Belfast, BT7 2EW**

Thursday 28th September 2023 at 10am

Name	Organisation	Present	Apology
Natasha Brennan	South LPG Chair	✓	
Charlene Mitchell	LPG Coordinator	✓	
Michelle McDonagh	South 1 Family Support Hub	✓	
Caroline King	Papyrus	✓	
Caoimhe McKenna	Papyrus	✓	
Sinéad Tumelty	OSE Family Support Hub	✓	
Angela Johnston	GVRT	✓	
Bridget Tiernan	EHWBT BHSCT	✓	
Karolina Morgan	Casa Family Support Hub	✓	
Ailbhe O'Halloran	Prince's Trust		✓
Bronagh O'Dwyer	NOW Group		✓
Gareth Maguire	Sport Changes Life		✓
Phil Lindsay	Barnardo's		✓
Roisín O'Neill	Barnardo's		✓
William Olphert	Chinese Welfare Association		✓
Pamela Hughes	Kids Together		✓
Laura Forte	NIACRO		✓
Judith Divers	Mencap		✓
Cara McCann	Here NI		✓
Joan Devlin	Belfast Healthy Cities		✓
In Attendance			
Jennifer Heverin	LPG Administration, BHSCT		✓

	Topic	Action	Responsibility
	Winter Pressures	Winter Pressures to be added to agenda for next South LPG meeting.	Charlene Mitchell

<u>Action by:</u>	
	<p>1. Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>Chair, Natasha Brennan opened the meeting by welcoming those present and facilitated a round of introductions.</p>
	<p>2. Previous Minutes from 23rd May 2023</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a true reflection of the discussion and no amendments were required.</p>
	<p>3. Presentation – PAPYRUS</p> <p>Caroline King from PAPYRUS gave a short synopsis of who PAPYRUS Prevention of Young Suicide are and what they do.</p> <p>The charity was founded in 1997 by a group of parents who lost a child to suicide. Suicide is the biggest killer of under 35's in the UK. PAPYRUS exists to reduce the number of young people who take their own lives, by shattering the stigma surrounding suicide and equipping young people and their communities with the skills to recognise and respond to emotional distress. We believe that no young person should have to struggle alone with thoughts of suicide.</p> <p>Support</p> <p>Our suicide prevention helpline, HOPELINE247, is staffed by trained suicide prevention advisers, who work with young people – and anybody concerned for a young person – to help keep them safe from suicide. HOPELINE247 is a free and confidential call, text and email service, which is available 24 hours a day, every day of the year (weekends and bank holidays included)</p> <p>Equip</p> <p>We engage communities and volunteers in suicide prevention projects and deliver training programmes to individuals and groups. This includes equipping local councils, healthcare professionals and school staff with suicide prevention skills.</p> <p>Influence</p> <p>We aim to shape national social policy and make a significant contribution to the local and regional implementation of national suicide prevention strategies wherever we can. Our campaigning comes from our passion as individuals, parents, families and communities who have been touched personally by young suicide. We press for change in many places using hard-hitting and dynamic campaigns as well as presenting evidence to those in power so that lessons can be learned and learning implemented to help save young lives: www.papyrus-uk.org.</p> <p>The Belfast office is based in Montgomery Road.</p>

4. FSH Updates

FSH Area:	South Belfast II CASA FSH
Timeframe:	May-June-July- August 2023
Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:	57
Number of Service Requests Received to date:	79 this financial year
Source of Service Requests:	Top referrers: Self, Health Visitors, Voluntary Organisation

Key Gaps identified:

- Anxiety/ low mood support for children/ young people
- Behaviour support for primary school age diagnosed with ASD
- Behaviour support for primary school age on waiting list for ADHD/ASD assessment.
- Behaviour support for pre-school age
- Family counselling
- Behaviour support for pre-school age on waiting list for ASD assessment.
- Childcare support- especially for mothers from ethnic minority who would like to proceed with education and employment.

Key Successes identified:

The pilot project in WWC (DOH Mental Health Fund) helps to meet the CASA FSH's unmet need for Play Therapy and Counselling for children of primary school age, especially in the Blackstaff Area. From the beginning of the project in April 2022 until the end of August 2023, a total of 26 children were referred, including 17 referrals done by CASA FSH.

• AOB for Sharing:

- £2000 from BAOG received in March 2023 was spend on All-4-One and Tesco vouchers; - this was already distributed to the clients.
- Several families returned to CASA FSH for financial support and disclosed that they cannot imagine how they survive the winter months.

	FSH Area:	SB1 Hub
	Timeframe:	June-September 2023
	Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:	June 28 July 9 August 20 September 15 Total: 72
	Number of Service Requests Received to date:	159 to August
	Source of Service Requests:	Self: 37 Community:12 School: 7 HV/Nurse 9 Camhs 3 GP 3 Voluntary 1
	Key Gaps identified: Winter pressures – Five gas and electric vouchers remaining. Increase in referrals for school refusal, EWO big waiting lists and insufficient resources to meet demand. Parenting support for children with adhd diagnosis	
	Key Successes identified: AOB for Sharing: Mindfulness – Lorag now open for referrals with new sessions starting around middle of October. South Belfast 1 – Coffee morning on Tuesday 03 rd October at Shaftesbury Healthy Living Centre	

FSH Area:	Outer South & East Belfast
Timeframe:	May, June, July, August, September
Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:	May - 36 June – 31 July – 24 August – 27 September - 12 Total - 130
Number of Service Requests Received to date:	156
Source of Service Requests:	Self; School; HV; Community & voluntary; EWO; GP/Nurse; CAMHS.
Key Gaps identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children & young people on waiting list for autism/ADHD assessment presenting with anxiety / emotional regulation difficulties and anxiety based school avoidance. • Toddlers outside of Surestart area seeking early years placement. • Food & energy poverty – families returning for further support and requesting food bank, supermarket vouchers, gas, electric, oil, uniform vouchers and “any financial support at all”. • Therapeutic services for children and increasingly families – counselling. • Emotion-based school avoidance (no diagnosis) 	
Key Successes identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hub has a good presence in the area evidenced by the increasing referral numbers from across all professions and families themselves. 	
AOB for Sharing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	

	<p>5. Members Updates</p> <p>A conversation took place with regards to winter pressures and concerns within the community that families are going to be facing an extremely difficult winter with limited supports.</p> <p>As noted above the Family Support Hubs covering South Belfast have all used their allocation of vouchers so have limited supports available for families seeking practical/financial support. Member organisations are under extreme pressure in supporting families during the cost of living crisis, however due to funding cuts/pressures there is a high level of uncertainty within the community.</p> <p>Winter pressures to be added as an agenda item for the next meeting.</p>
	<p>6. LPG Update</p> <p>BAOG are currently planning an event for November in relation to The Independent Review of Children's Social Care Services NI by Professor Ray Jones. More information will be shared about the event when available.</p> <p>There is a range of training being delivered for LPG and FSH members following scoping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Anxiety Based School Avoidance' is being delivered on 4th October 10am-1pm in person. • 'Supporting Emotions and Managing Behaviours (early years 5-11)' is on 1st November 10am to 1pm online. • 'Managing Challenging Behaviours in Young People (12-18yrs)' is online on 20th November 10am-1pm. • 'LGBTQIA+ Awareness Training' will take place in January 2024 – booking information for this training will be circulated in November/December.
	<p>7. A.O.B</p> <p>No other business was discussed and the meeting drew to a close with Natasha thanking everyone who attended.</p>

2024 Dates for South Belfast LPG Ordinary Meetings

DATES (Wednesday)	TIME	VENUES
1 st February	10am	Microsoft Teams
22 nd March	10am	Shaftesbury C&R Centre
3 rd May	10am	Shaftesbury C&R Centre
15 th June	10am	CANCELLED
28 th September	10am	Shaftesbury C&R Centre
30 th November	10am	Shaftesbury C&R Centre