

South Belfast LPG Meeting

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

Thursday 1st February 2024 at 10am

Name	Organisation	Present	Apology
Natasha Brennan	South LPG Chair	✓	
Charlene Mitchell	LPG Coordinator	✓	
Tracey Ripley McElvogue	East Belfast SureStart / East Belfast ELC	✓	
Marcela Vielman	Save The Children / East Belfast ELC	✓	
Roisín O'Neill	Barnardo's	✓	
Michelle McDonagh	South Belfast I FSH Coordinator	✓	
Alison Robinson	South Belfast Sure Start	✓	
Emily Brown	Forward South Partnership	✓	
Angela Johnston	Fit4Life, GVRT	✓	
Val Rowan	BHSCT	✓	
Bridget Tiernan	BHSCT		✓
Chloe McCann	Toybox		✓
Gareth Maguire	Sport Changes Life		✓
Jonathan Cockroft	EANI		✓
Karolina Morgan	CASA/South II FSH Coordinator		✓
Laura Forte	NIACRO		✓
Nuala McStravick	Bryson Energy		✓
Paul O'Neill	CSM, Early Years Services, BHSCT		✓
Phil Lindsay	Barnardo's		✓
Anne McAleer	EIST, BHSCT		✓
Bronagh O'Dwyer	NOW Group		✓
Sinead Campbell	Advice NI		✓
William Olphert	Chinese Welfare Association		✓
In Attendance			
Jennifer Heverin	LPG Administration, BHSCT		✓

	Topic	Action	Responsibility
	Presentation	Invitation to East Belfast Learning Community	Natasha Brennan / Charlene Mitchell
	Presentation	Invitation to Step Programme	Natasha Brennan / Charlene Mitchell
	Sub-Group	Set up a sub-group or focus group around how LPG could offer support regarding emotion based school avoidance/refusal	Natasha Brennan / 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 28th September 2023</p> <p>ACTION POINTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Invitation to East Belfast Learning Community to present. b. Invitation to Step Programme to present c. Emotion Based School Avoidance Sub-Group to set up
	<p>3. Presentation – East Belfast Learning Community</p> <p>Early Learning Community (ELC) is an energetic and diverse community that is committed to finding innovative ways of creating systems change so that the children in East Belfast have a chance to thrive. Their partners are members of an early years workforce which includes nursery staff, speech and language therapists, health visitors, community workers, departmental representatives, teachers and other members of the community that are invested in ensuring that the children in East Belfast have the best possible future. Full presentation is attached to minutes.</p> <p>For more information see www.eastsideelc.org.uk</p> <p>LPG members found the presentation very valuable and are keen to hear of other initiatives running in the city.</p> <p>Invitation to be extended to Claire Humphrey, Barnardo's Thrive project and Aine Groogan Forward South Partnership to present on their projects at the next South LPG meeting.</p>

4. FSH Updates

FSH Area:	SB1 Hub
Timeframe:	December & January
Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:	December: 60 January: 44 Total: 104
Number of Service Requests Received to date:	276
Source of Service Requests: October & November	Self: 30 School: 7 Community:59 Ewo: 3 HV:4 Surestart: 1
Key Gaps identified: School refusal – with issues stemming from lack of support in schools.	
Key Successes identified: High number of families supported over the Christmas period: Mission Christmas, Food vouchers and support with Gas/electric Ongoing practical support to families	
AOB for Sharing: Currently open for referrals to the Mindfulness Programme	

FSH Area:	Outer South & East Belfast
Timeframe:	23 rd Nov- 23 rd Jan
Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:	74
Number of Service Requests Received to date:	April 23 – Jan 24 - 286
Source of Service Requests:	20 – Self 17 - HV 9 - School 10 - Community 7 - Ed Welfare 3 - GP 2 - Voluntary Org 4 - CAMHS 1 - Social Worker 1 - Nurse
Key Gaps identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for teenagers- one to one, mentoring • School avoidance/ refusal • Therapeutic support, mindfulness • Long waiting lists for counselling that exceed hub time scale 	
Key Successes identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COL funding • Great partnership working within hub 	
AOB for Sharing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruiting for new OSEB coordinator underway. 	

	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>FSH Area:</td><td>South Belfast II CASA FSH</td></tr> <tr> <td>Timeframe:</td><td>December 2023 and January 2024</td></tr> <tr> <td>Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:</td><td>43</td></tr> <tr> <td>Number of Service Requests Received to date:</td><td>209 this financial year</td></tr> <tr> <td>Source of Service Requests:</td><td>Top referrers: Self-referrals, Voluntary Organisation, Schools, Health Visitors, GP</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"> Key Gaps identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anxiety/ low mood support for children/ young people </td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"> Key Successes identified: All the families who applied for X-mas support got help with presents, food, or other necessities. </td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AOB for Sharing: BHSCT (BCC Hardship Found) Winter Support is still available in CASA FSH The most vulnerable families keep returning to CASA FSH for food and financial support. </td></tr> </table>	FSH Area:	South Belfast II CASA FSH	Timeframe:	December 2023 and January 2024	Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:	43	Number of Service Requests Received to date:	209 this financial year	Source of Service Requests:	Top referrers: Self-referrals, Voluntary Organisation, Schools, Health Visitors, GP	Key Gaps identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anxiety/ low mood support for children/ young people 		Key Successes identified: All the families who applied for X-mas support got help with presents, food, or other necessities.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AOB for Sharing: BHSCT (BCC Hardship Found) Winter Support is still available in CASA FSH The most vulnerable families keep returning to CASA FSH for food and financial support. 	
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	<p>5. Members Updates</p> <p><i>Roisin O'Neill, Barnardo's</i> The Family Connections project is running a range of parenting programmes. In South Belfast they are also open for a small number of family support referrals. For more information contact Roisin O'Neill.</p> <p><i>Alison Robinson, South Belfast SureStart</i> South Belfast SureStart recently had a very positive visit from Ronnie Armour. Ronnie Armour is Deputy Secretary for Resources and Reform in the Department for Education. In this role he is responsible for Finance, Education Workforce Development, Area Planning, Admissions and shared Campuses, Corporate Services, Governance and the Independent Review of Education. During his visit Ronnie met with a number of SureStart parents and discussed early intervention, funding etc., with the staff.</p>																

	<p>6. LPG Update</p> <p>BOAG The report to BAOG regarding needs and pressures is being completed. The FSH update data is always very useful but if anyone has anything specific or emerging please let Charlene know so she can add to the report.</p> <p>Universal Credit switchover In the West Belfast LPG meeting it was raised that there are issues with families moving from Tax Credits and other legacy benefits to the Universal Credit system. It may be helpful to invite an advice service to present at a future meeting on the Universal Credit Switchover if members feel it would be beneficial.</p> <p>Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cara Friend Gender Awareness training is taking place next week. - Charlene is currently in talks with Diane McMullin about rolling out some drugs and vaping awareness training, more information will be shared when available. <p>St. Gerard's Special School Charlene recently visited a group of young people in this school who will be leaving formal education shortly and had a discussion with them around what their needs are and where there are gaps. Most of the young people mentioned that there was a lack of nightlife and social activities. They are keen to be able to do activities within their communities as any other young person their age.</p>
	<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
18 th January	10am	Shaftsbury Community & Recreation Centre
21 st March	10am	Shaftsbury Community & Recreation Centre
23 rd May	10am	TBA
TBA July	10am	TBA
26 th September	10am	TBA
28 th November	10am	TBA