

## South Belfast LPG Meeting

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

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 10am**

Name	Organisation	Present	Apology
Natasha Brennan	South LPG Chair	✓	
Caroline Milligan	LPG Coordinator	✓	
Bridget Tiernan	EHWT, BHSCT	✓	
Gail McLaughlin	Ark Housing Association	✓	
Roisín O'Neill	Barnardo's	✓	
Caoimhe McKenna	Papyrus	✓	
Michelle Weir	Papyrus	✓	
Julia Hughes	Bryson Training and Employment	✓	
Meliosa Sturgeon	MACS NI	✓	
Natasha Woods	MACS NI	✓	
Lois Corbett	Outer South & East FSH	✓	
Joe McGovern	Extern	✓	
Alison Templeton	Relate NI	✓	
Áine Grogan	Forward South Partnership	✓	
Alison Robinson	South Belfast Sure Start	✓	
Chloe McCann	Early Years – Toybox Project	✓	
Deyna Reaney	Outer South & East FSH		✓
Emily Keenan	Forward South Partnership		✓
Gemma McAuley	Barnardo's		✓
Joy Poots	South Belfast Sure Start		✓
Marie-Therese Cassin	Cedar Foundation		✓
Michelle McDonagh	South I FSH		✓
Naibh Adams	Action Mental Health		✓
Nichola Lockhart	Early Years		✓
Pamela Hughes	Kids Together		✓
Phil Lindsay	Barnardo's		✓
Stephanie Gray	Belfast Met		✓
Kelly McAtamney	EHWT in Schools, BHSCT		✓
Sandra Cullen	BHSCT		✓
<b>In Attendance</b>			
Jennifer Heverin	LPG Administration, BHSCT		✓

	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
	Violence against Women and Girls	Invite a representative from Women's Aid to give a presentation at LPG.	Natasha Brennan / Caroline Milligan
	Racial Awareness	Sub-group to be formed to look at cultural diversity awareness.	Natasha Brennan / Caroline Milligan
	CYPSP / South Belfast Action Plan	To be added as an Agenda item for the next meeting to examine how the South LPG Action Plan should look.	Natasha Brennan / Caroline Milligan

<b><u>Action</u></b> <b><u>by:</u></b>	
	<p><b>1. Welcome and Introduction</b></p> <p>Natasha opened the meeting by welcoming all those present and introducing Caroline Milligan as the interim LPG Coordinator whilst Charlene Mitchell is on maternity leave. Caroline will be the in the role of Coordinator 2 days per week as well as her continuing her other role within Sure Start.</p>
	<p><b>2. Previous Minutes from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024</b></p> <p>Previous minutes were agreed as a true reflection of the meeting and no amendments were required.</p> <p>Copies of previous minutes can be found on the CYPSP website.</p>
	<p><b>3. Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b><i>Violence Against Women and Girls</i></b>  Following a conference with CYPSP, PSNI and Women’s Aid it was felt that it may be of benefit to have someone from Women’s Aid present to LPG. It was revealed that Northern Ireland is the most unsafe place in Europe for women in their own home. Women’s Aid do have specific training for various aspects of abuse such as coercive control.</p> <p><b><i>Racial Violence</i></b>  A letter was issued on 8<sup>th</sup> August on behalf of the LPG Chairs and Vice Chairs condemning the recent unrest and violence directed at BAME families. The letter also contained a number of links to on how to talk to children around this and other difficult topics.</p> <p>A short discussion then took place around the need for training and support, not just for the victims but also the perpetrators as many young people don’t fully understand why they are rioting and, particularly with younger teens/children, have been groomed to act with violence. It was also noted there was a need for more diverse and multicultural organisations to sit around the LPG table. It was agreed this topic needs looked at in more depth and a separate sub-group should be set up to do this.</p>

#### 4. FSH Updates

<b>FSH Area:</b>	South Belfast II CASA FSH
<b>Timeframe:</b>	From 22/05/2024 – 24/09/2024
<b>Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:</b>	56
<b>Number of Service Requests Received to date:</b>	88
<b>Source of Service Requests:</b>	Top referrers: Self-referrals, Health Visitors, School, Voluntary organisations, EWO
<b>Key Gaps identified:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Behavioural issues Pre-School age</li><li>• Anxiety / Low mood child / young person</li><li>• Family Therapy</li></ul>	
<b>Key Successes identified:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Great partnership work and commitment of all the members of CASA FSH to meet the needs of the families</li></ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>AOB for Sharing:</b></li><li>• The families are in the grate need for the financial/food and practical support</li><li>• WWC Education started new programme for the autumn term;- wasn't able to accommodate all the mothers due to the lack of childcare</li></ul>	

<b>FSH Area:</b>	Outer South & East Belfast
<b>Timeframe:</b>	May – September 2024
<b>Number of Service Requests Received in timeframe:</b>	95
<b>Number of Service Requests Received to date:</b>	April 24 – March 25 – 130
<b>Source of Service Requests:</b>	36- Self 22- HV 14- School 5- Community 1- Ed Welfare 10- GP 2- Voluntary Org 3- CAMHS 0- Social Worker 1 – Nurse 1 - Community Psychologist

**Key Gaps identified:**

- **Support for teenagers- one to one, mentoring, and counselling.**
- **Support for 2-year-olds and under with potential ASD particularly those who fall outside a SureStart area.**
- **Financial Support**
- **School Avoidance support and support for parents.**

**Key Successes identified:**

- Increased Networking over the summer months, establishing relationships with associate members and better understanding of individual services and support they provide.

**AOB for Sharing:**

- A rise of enquiries from Dads seeking support and seeking parenting programmes to further their parenting to ensure they can gain contact with their children.

There is no South II FSH update as Michelle McDonagh, Coordinator, is on leave.

## **5. Members Updates**

### ***Caoimhe McKenna – Papyrus***

SPOT training is being carried out in Ballynahinch on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. This is in-person suicide prevention training that looks at the language we use to where to signpost. Hopeline is a 24/7 365 service that helps young people up to the age of 25 years struggling with mental health and/or suicide. The service is also open to their families. If someone doesn't want to talk, there is a text service available. By texting 'Hope' to 88247 an adviser will reply and initiate the conversation.

### ***Áine Grogan – Forward South Partnership***

A Health and Wellbeing Day is being held next week, a Dementia Information Day on 27<sup>th</sup> November and a Carer's Afternoon Tea on 10<sup>th</sup> December.

### ***Julia Hughes – Bryson Training and Employment***

Disengagement with young people within education is a growing concern. Bryson receive a lot of referrals from schools and the Outward Bound Team do go into schools. Bryson run a 6 week programme for young people who have disengaged with school and have no further plans for education or employment, they can achieve a qualification by the end of the course.

### ***Chloe McCann – Early Years, Toybox Project***

The Toybox Project work with Roma families with children aged 0-4 years. They have recently recruited more staff so are able to expand and take on more referrals.

## **6. LPG Update**

### ***LPG Consultation***

CYPSP released their 6 priorities which were discussed and worked upon at the Coffee Morning on 16<sup>th</sup> July. Caroline extended her thanks to everyone who attended and their useful input. For those who were unable to attend a questionnaire was issued. All the information received is currently being collated and will be fed back to CYPSP.

There are citywide issues and those which are more unique to a particular locality so it may be best that the Action Plan has 2 strands – one for Belfast as a whole and one for each LPG area. At the next meeting we will look at how this Action Plan should look for South Belfast and how we can work in collaboration to address the issues.

### ***LPG Update/Newsletter***

The weekly LPG Update email has undergone a new format. Feedback was sought on how people feel about this and if they would be happy about this being issued fortnightly. The consensus was positive with most people expressing that they found the update very useful.

	<p><b>Hardship Fund</b> Following a meeting with Belfast City Council the feedback regarding the Hardship Fund was all positive. There are plans to showcase this sometime in the autumn but details are to follow.</p>
	<p><b>7. A.O.B</b> No other business was discussed and the meeting drew to a close with Natasha thanking all those in attendance.</p>

### 2024/25 Dates for South Belfast LPG Ordinary Meetings

<b>DATES (Wednesday)</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>VENUES</b>
26 <sup>th</sup> September	10am	Shaftsbury Community & Recreation Centre
28 <sup>th</sup> November	10am	Shaftsbury Community & Recreation Centre
15 <sup>th</sup> January	10am	Shaftsbury Community & Recreation Centre
13 <sup>th</sup> March	10am	Shaftsbury Community & Recreation Centre
8 <sup>th</sup> May	10am	Shaftsbury Community & Recreation Centre