

## **CYPSP Locality Planning Group**

**11.30am Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2024**

**Zachary Geddis Break the Silence Trust, Coleraine**

### **Present:**

Stephanie Scott Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (Chair)  
Bronagh McCrory NHSCT  
Yvonne Neill Family Support Hub  
Sheena Morrison Aware NI  
Andrew Start 360  
Sharon Kirk Surestart  
Jane McAlister EANI  
Bebhinn McKinley Causeway Coast and Glens Community Planning  
Pippa Campbell Mae Murray Foundation  
Amy Adams Zachary Geddis Break the Silence Trust  
Lara Aitchison Homestart  
Elaine Donnelly Surestart  
Ruth English MDT NHSCT  
Anita Kelly Health Alliance  
Nigel Montgomery Education Authority  
Nicola Carruthers Family Mediation NI (Speaker)

### **Apologies:**

Stephanie McMullan Solas Moyle  
Aine Wallace Fresh Minds Education  
Veronica McKinley Health Alliance

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Stephanie introduced herself and welcomed everyone, followed by a round of introductions.

#### **2. Minutes of Last Meeting**

Minutes of the September meeting agreed.

#### **3. Presentation–**

##### **Nicola Carruthers Family Mediation NI**

FMNI provides mediation for families in order to help them negotiate their separations outside of court. This is proven to be better for the children. They

also provide financial mediation and elder mediation. Everyone in the NHSCT is entitled to the service those in employment may make a donation. FMNI is also an accredited training provider. FMNI also provides private mediation as a paid service, this is a growing area. Most referrals are made by parents themselves some are made by the courts and social services.

Mediation is voluntary, facilitative and confidential other than in the usual circumstances such as child protection. Information given in sessions cannot be used in court proceedings, FMNI can only confirm people have engaged with them. The sessions are not therapy or counselling. Each parent must contact the service separately.

FMNI provide a list of resources which help to focus on the child. There is an online session for people considering using the service. The service is child inclusive and older children may be asked to input. Parents are asked to come up with their own solutions. It has been proven to reduce children's anxiety when children know that parents are communicating.

Last year FMNI provided 4700 hours of mediation and had 2500 enquiries.

4. Matters arising, all previous actions completed. Other matters arising to be covered during the rest of the meeting.

#### 5. **Funding 2024/ 2025**

Small grants currently open applications will be taken up to 5pm on the 8th of November with a decision to be reached and applicants told if they have been successful by the end of the month.

#### 6. **Event Planning**

A doodle poll will be sent out to get a time for a meeting in January to discuss plans to hold a Family Event in Autumn 2025 members are encouraged to attend there will be a series of meetings not everyone will have to attend each meeting.

#### 7. **Action Plan New Strategic Direction CYPSP**

Bronagh gave updated information on the Action Plan Mental Health Ambassadors already being provided by Take 5 CYPSP to support and promote this service. CYBER Safety Presentation to be given at January meeting by CYPSP and further workshop local to the area requested by CYPSP. Meeting held between Bronagh, Bebhinn and Jonathan at Causeway Coast and Glens Council in relation to physical activity. Meeting was used to share information and make links between services. More information is needed on the physical activity needs and barriers to provision experienced by member families/ children. A questionnaire is to be sent out by Bronagh.

### **Action Bronagh**

A meeting will be arranged in January for a group to come together and discuss the new Action Plan. Bronagh to send out a copy of the new Strategic Plan from CYPSP.

### **Action Bronagh**

## **8. Family Support Hub update**

Family Support Hub is anticipating an increase in referrals in the run up to Christmas. They have been linking in with businesses asking them to donate toys and gifts and would be grateful for any support and links to organisations that could help with this.

### **Action Bronagh**

## **9. Member Updates**

**Amy ZGBTST** mentioned they would be providing their alternative Christmas service this year which would include the delivery of packs, they previously provided a crisis service and befriending. Funding has been cut for their youth services. They will be providing a showcase of their services for the Mayor soon.

**Pippa Mae Murray** have had a busy Summer supporting 4000 people. They are available to help organisations make any of their activities more inclusive. Their equipment is available for hire for any event or even family parties. They have a resource library. They will be holding their annual Christmas event on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December at Portstewart Strand.

**Nigel EA** Youth Clubs available in Portrush, Coleraine, Ballymoney, Ballycastle providing trips and new experiences for young people other services include TBUC, Cross Cultural and Special Needs, Horizons Project and Level Up project. Mentioned Flare Youth Service Ambassadors and also that DENI has a Take 5 SEN resource.

Issues highlighted by group members included –

- Financial pressures in the run up to Christmas
- Physical activity
- Online safety issues

## **10. Any Other Business**

## **11. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of January at 14.30pm online. Please email Bronagh to register.

