

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

**Regional Sub Group on Black and Minority Ethnic Children and Young People**

**24<sup>th</sup> August 2012**

<b>Present:</b>	Eileen Chan-Hu (Co-Chair) Leslie Boydell (Co- Chair) Tommy Boyle Paul Yam Fergal O'Brien Lisa Moore Jo Marley Deirdre McAliskey Elaine O'Doherty Stephen Smith	Chinese Welfare Association Belfast Trust Belfast Trust Wah Hep Chinese Association Southern HSC Trust Safe and Well Project Bryson (arrived 11.45am) Belong Public Health Agency Craigavon Intercultural Programme
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<b>In attendance:</b>	Ann Godfrey Andrew Hawthorne Alison McNulty Maria Jonathan Elliot	Children Services Planning, HSCB Children Services Planning, HSCB Parenting NI Parenting NI MSc student, QUB
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<b>Apologies:</b>	Mary Yarr	North Eastern Education Library Board
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<b>Not in Attendance:</b>	Colm McQuillan Justyna McCabe Dawn Thompson	Northern Ireland Housing Executive Newry and Mourne Council Bryson
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**Introduction**

Leslie welcomed everyone to the meeting and as it was a relatively new group, suggested a round of introductions. Jonathan Elliot, an MSc student in Public Health, was welcomed. It was recognised that the work he is doing in Belfast would prove valuable.

Alison was invited to speak about the work of Parenting NI, ensuring the participation of BME parents in the planning process. Information was circulated. Alison stated that

Parenting NI worked with the outcomes groups to set up Parent Reference Groups and they were beginning to do the same for the regional sub groups. So far there are 26 applicants for the BME Reference Group, 18 from the Southern Area. It is the role of Parenting NI to facilitate the participation of these parents alongside the work of the BME group. Participation Network will be doing the same for children and young people. Alison stated her willingness to help and requested help in recruiting more parents where possible.

### **Workshop**

Leslie passed over to Ann, who would facilitate the rest of the meeting in the form of a workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to review the notes of the last meeting with a view to providing more quantitative and qualitative information that would form the basis of the action plan under each of the 6 high level outcomes. The input from the group was extensive and very useful. During the process members mentioned many references, which should be forwarded to Andrew. Andrew will then pull together the information from the workshop into an action plan which will be reviewed at the next meeting.

### **The participation of children and young people**

The participation of children and young people was discussed. Deirdre stated that Belong are currently working with Participation Network to ensure the participation of 7-12 yr olds in the general planning process. Deirdre also stated the importance of continued feedback to participating groups to ensure they are motivated to continue participating.

Arrangements were made to ensure further participation including, Belong working with other groups in the Southern Area to cover geography and age ranges, Jo for the participation of young Roma, Lisa for the participation of Travellers and Eileen outlined mechanisms to ensure participation in Belfast more generally. Deirdre agreed to share her existing consultation templates. Paul stressed the importance of this work being outcomes based as it is easier for children and young people to see the differences made.

### **Any Other Business**

Eileen stated that Paul would be taking over as Co-Chair of the group for the next 6 months as part of the bi-annual rotation arrangement between Chinese Welfare Association and the Wah Hep Chinese Association.

**Date of next meeting:**

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2012, 9.45am – 1pm, Wah Hep Chinese Centre, Craigavon (Lunch will be provided)