

**FERMANAGH LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP**

**Monday 21st January 2013**

**10.30am -12.30pm**

**Venue: Women of the World**

**Minutes**

**PRESENT:**

Helen Hicks	NIHE
Neville Armstrong	Fermanagh Rural Enabler
Lindsey Cathcart	WELB Youth Service
Mary McMahon	Cherish Sure Start
Seana Connor	Fermanagh Hub Coordinator
Joyce Thompson	Health Improvement, WHSCT
Mary O'Reily	The Early Years Organisation
Angela O'Kane	Home Start
Anita Mukherjee	Women of the World
David Eames	FDC PCSP
Anne Gamble	WHSCT
Debbie Coyle	Councillor

**APOLOGIES:**

Seamus Byrne	DSD
Maria Magee	NICMA
Birney Tierney	Action for Children
Robert Gibson	FDC
Michelle Greer	MENCAP
Kate Boles	Western Trust
Mary McCann	Fermanagh Women's Aid
Theresa McCann	Home Start

**Introductions and Apologies**

Priscilla welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Anita for hosting the meeting. Anita gave a short description of the work that Women of the World undertakes from welcoming new comers to the area, to providing courses in school and to groups around accepting ethnic difference. Apologies were taken.

**Minutes from Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and the actions from the last meeting discussed.

**Actions**

- CAWT Seeding Grant – Some members had approached CAWT about the £4000 funding that still remained, but with the project closing eminently there was not time to distribute it. The project has now finished but the subgroups set up will continue as and when required.

- Priscilla was to look at what Peer Mentoring Programmes which are currently running in Fermanagh and she was still contacting groups such as Youth Action to see what they run. Again, this raised the idea of a Fermanagh wide webpage where organisations could post youth events and training.
- Priscilla to make amendment to Action Plan (will be discussed later)

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate recording of the meeting.

Priscilla reminded the members present that after the minutes have been agreed at the meeting, the minutes were then sent to be placed on the Fermanagh LPG webpage at [www.cypsp.org](http://www.cypsp.org) Priscilla stressed that if there was any inaccuracies, even if members were only reading the minutes and not attending the meeting, it was very important to alert her before they are posted. The actions from the last meeting stated that Priscilla would seek new members and she asked the group if they were agreeable to Debbie Hunter, Health Improvement Officer for Emotional Wellbeing & Infant Mental Health Strategy joining the group. The members were all in agreement so Priscilla will invite her to the next meeting.

### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters highlighted.

### **Update from Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership & Outcomes Group**

Western Outcomes Group's Action Plan and minutes of meetings have been published and can be found on the website, as are consultations which they are currently involved with. Priscilla reminded everyone, that the Western Outcome Monitoring Report is also on the website [www.cypsp.org](http://www.cypsp.org) and that organisations are encouraged to advertise their events or training on the Family Support Data Base [www.familysupportni.org.uk](http://www.familysupportni.org.uk) . At the last meeting the Data Base was discussed and Priscilla had spoken to Helen O'Neil who promotes the site. Helen said that if people would contact her if they see any inaccuracies in the Data Base and she will remedy them.

The Outcomes Group have now decided which proposals for funding they are going to offer a small pot of funding to for in year spend. They will start to plan for an open call for funding bids in the new three year spend from April 2013.

### **Emotional Wellbeing Strategy & Infant Mental Health Strategy**

Priscilla updated the members as to the merge between the Emotional Wellbeing Strategy, Chaired by Deidre McGrenaghan and the Infant Metal Health Strategy chaired by Deirdre Mahon. This merger means that work can start to look at pre-birth development right through to parents and the importance of parenting education. The new group has some exciting pieces of work lined up right across the Trust's Directorates and through the community & voluntary sector. Priscilla told the members that there are 5 pop ups advertising the key messages for parents that can be used at any parenting event and that she still had some posters that she can give out.

### **Parents Reference Group**

Info: Maria Herron, Parenting NI still recruiting families for consultation and would be glad if any parent could be encouraged to join.

### **Fermanagh Family Support Hub**

Meetings between Hub Partners are now happening to ensure that all partners are aware of their own role & responsibilities within the Hub and fully signed up to agreed protocols and safeguarding procedures. At the last meeting there was a discussion

about how families are going to be supported by organisations who are already working to capacity, with limited staffing resources to spare. Priscilla encouraged the members to pass this information to Seana regarding any events/courses that they are running so this can be shared with families. Additionally, Seana and Priscilla have met and designed a very short overview table for organisations to complete about waiting lists and challenges faced in providing services. It is hoped that Hub Partners will complete this quarterly, and together Priscilla and Seana can collate the information to discover where there are pressures on the system and pass this important information up to the Outcomes Group. The overview also hopes to identify through the Hub Partners what type of challenges the families are facing and any gaps or upcoming trends that could be highlighted before they become problematic to the families. It is hoped that once the Hub is established well and this overview has been piloted, that more organisations will be asked to complete the overview to give a wider picture of service delivery. Priscilla & Bronagh Donnelly, Northern Sector Coordinator has drafted a paper on how they think that Locality Planning will link to the Family Support Hubs this is presently with the team who are planning the Hubs across NI.

### **Social Investment Fund**

A discussion took place as to the progress of SIF and how the funding may be rolled out. At present, few of the members were totally sure as to how this would happen; some felt that services would have to be tendered for across the Zone. A discussion started as to how members felt that services need to be taken out more into the community, that to expect parents to get to hospital sites for some is unrealistic due to many reasons including transport. The members felt they would like to see an improvement and not a drawing in now that the new hospital was open in Fermanagh. The members would like to see 'Shared Spaces' with collaboration between services which would benefit the families.

### **Consultations**

Priscilla highlighted the DE Learning to Learn: A Framework for Early Years Education & Learning and OFMDFM Towards a Childcare Strategy. Priscilla had printed questions from the OFMDFM Strategy which she felt was important for the LPG to respond to. Time was spent discussing these questions which included confusion around Childcare Vouchers and Tax Credits and how the new Welfare Reform Bill will affect many parents. The members felt it was difficult to marry parental expectation of flexibility and quality within provision that is affordable and has valued qualified staff. Priscilla will collate the answers and return.

Mary O'Reilly added that The Early Years Organisations are running a series of consultations into the Childcare Strategy for Early Years Staff across the West.

### **Action Respond to the Towards A Childcare Strategy**

Priscilla also informed the group that she is designing a consultation to seek the opinion of parent, providers and employers as to the supply and demand of Day Care in their local areas. Members felt that Day Care is a very complex subject with often people having an idealistic overview of what they would like to be provided with and now with the recession salaries have not kept in line with living costs and providers were struggling not to have to pass increases onto families. Priscilla said that she would be able to present the findings at the next meeting.

### **Vacancy of Chairperson Role and Election of New Chairperson**

Bernie Tierney has tendered her resignation, this information had been sent out earlier

by email and nominations had been asked for. There had been no nominations and the members present were asked if any of them would be interested, Kindly, Neville Armstrong, Rural Enabler, offered to step into the role, with no other nominations, Neville is the new Chairperson.

### **Actions**

Priscilla will meet with Neville to update him to his new role

### **Education Bill**

A short discussion occurred referring to the proposed closures of schools in the area and how this would impact the most on families living in border areas with some children having to catch buses as early as 7am in the morning and be unable to stay for afterschool activities as there were few late buses home.

### **Update of Action Planning Templates**

#### **Emerging Trends**

Time was spent discussing the emerging trends that had been collated at LPG meetings and other family support meetings / Task Group / Working Groups, Neighbourhood Renewal Meetings and from local media. This was a very useful exercise and Priscilla will now update the templates and present them back at the next meeting. A long discussion took place into the new welfare Reform Bill and how this may affect families. Members felt there was still a lot of confusion over how exactly the Bill was going to impact on families and this was causing more fear on parents who may only be working 16 hours a week.

#### **Areas Highlighted**

Key areas of deprivation

Linkage of deprivation through Free School dinners

Training of volunteers – out of pocket expenses

Extended schools

Tax credit / Childcare vouchers (salary sacrifice)

#### **Action**

Priscilla will take away all the amendments and bring the new list to the next meeting.

Priscilla will also send the members a list of the Extended Schools in the area as requested

#### **Next meeting to be held on:**

**10.30am Monday 11th March 2013**

**Venue: Kindly Hosted by the Speech & Language Department in the Group Room, Children's Centre, South West Area Regional Hospital.**

#### **Directions**

**When you go in through the main door of hospital turn left, go down corridor and turn left into Children's Centre (signed posted ) keep on ground floor when you get to reception turn right, the Group Room is up that corridor on the right ( in the Speech and Language Therapy Dept.)**





