

MINUTES

EAST BELFAST LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 10AM IN SKAINOS CENTRE, NEWTOWNARDS ROAD, BT4 1AF

PRESENT:

Name	Organisation:
Maggie Andrews	EBPB (LPG Chair)
Laura Rankin	CYPSP
Glen Dunwoody	East Belfast Partnership Board
Gillian Boyd	Cedar
Matt McCullough	Youth Initiatives
Gerry Largey	BHSCT
Mark Davis	East Belfast Mission
Ashlea Berryman	Early Years Organisation
Kris Morrison	NIACRO
Colin Robinson	Alternatives
Tracey Wilson	Oasis
Linda Armitage	East Belfast Partnership
Aine Kelly	Save the Children
Claire Humphrey	Barnardos
Carolyn Stewart	Mencap

APOLOGIES:

Name	Organisation
Una Casey	CYPSP
Yvonne Cowan	BHSCT
Zara Monteith	Willowfield Parish Community Association
Martina McCooey	Youth Justice Agency
Karen Purdy	Bloomfield Community Association

IN ATTENDANCE:

Amanda McLean EITP

Welcome and Introductions

Maggie welcomed everyone to the meeting and a round of introductions took place.

Apologies

Apologies were noted as above

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on the 31st July 2014 were agreed as accurate by the group.

Matters Arising

Maggie emphasised to the members of the group that it is important to attend LPG meetings, as they do not occur very often.

The issue of future funding for hubs in Belfast was highlighted as 2 hub areas have been put on hold. The members expressed concern as it may be difficult to extend the current hub network as had been agreed.

Early Intervention Transformation Programme

Amanda provided an update on the EITP. She circulated a presentation providing an overview of the programme, with a specific focus on tier 2 and the Early Intervention Service. The programme costing £30 million will take place over 3 work streams; Universal services, Early Intervention and statutory services and should be commissioned by April 2015.

The Service aims to improve outcomes for vulnerable children, young people and their families by intervening early when issues arise and before they become established. Amanda emphasised that the service will enhance existing services and not duplicate them and it is vital to get feedback from the relevant stakeholders.

Stakeholder events had been arranged across the city to explain and discuss the programme; the east Belfast event is scheduled for the 15th October.

After discussion, the following two key objectives for the workshop were agreed:-

- To focus on issues already identified as a priority in our Action Plan
- To outline again the structures - Outcomes groups, Locality Planning Groups, Family Hubs.

A subgroup of Gerry, Linda, Colin and Tracey agreed to meet to map the current level of services and their relationships/structures, in advance of the workshop; to help focus the discussion. If this could be 'visual' that would be more useful rather than a list. Maggie suggested that representation from Sure Start on the sub group would be useful.

Action: Sub group to meet re: Mapping Services in East Belfast

Carolyn highlighted that some voluntary organisations would be unable to attend all four workshops; would they miss out. It was noted that the discussions from all the events would be recorded to ensure all issues raised are included.

The group discussed potential mismatch of a short term project tackling long term issues for families. Amanda accepted that while there are limitations there are also short term problems which families may face such as debt or family bereavement and a short term intervention may be appropriate.

Action Plan

Partners had been asked to identify those actions they considered part of their function to support; most groups had now done so. This information will be included in the final plan. It was agreed that all members would take responsibility for the non – specialist actions and these would be focussed on at future LPG meetings.

The notes of the Oral health sub group (19th September) were circulated. It was suggested this is a good model for the specialist actions in the plan – listed partners concentrating on the issues they have most to contribute to and formally reporting back to the main group. Members were reminded not to nominate themselves unless they are prepared to attend meetings and get involved. It was agreed that the January meeting of the LPG will review the action plan

Family Support Hubs Update

Colin provided the group with an update on the Inner East Hub. He explained that there are currently 9/10 core members and 14/15 associate members. Theoretical referrals have taken place in preparation for the hub to go live. A 'fact finding' trip to L'derry is planned for Monday 29th September. Colin indicated that the LPG group would be asked to contribute to the Family Hub Launch on 26th November; outlining the relationship between the structures.

Colin advised that the Trust supports the lead body at a corporate level, signing off contracts etc. Gerry confirmed that the Trust will be starting to refer to the hub from the beginning of October. The hub will have a 'follow up' process to confirm that the needs of the family have been met as far as possible.

Any other Business

Carolyn highlighted that the new Mencap flagship centre has been given the go-ahead and will be a child and family centre, to bridge the current gaps in services.

EBCDA are hosting an afternoon of tea, coffee and buns in East Belfast Network Centre on Thursday 25th September from 2.30-3.30pm to support those facing cancer.

Linda indicated that EBCDA has been undertaking a health based survey in 5 local primary schools, which could link in with the action plan.

The Mental Health Hubs should be fully operational by December. The next meeting is the 9th October at 9am in Skainos.

Colin reported on crime initiatives in Belfast, partnering with the Northern Ireland Housing Executive to mediate with perpetrators of hate crime.

Dates of Future Meetings

The next meeting will be the EITP workshop on the 15th October from 9.30-12.30, venue tbc.