

## **MINUTES**

### **EAST BELFAST LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2014 AT 10AM IN EAST BELFAST PARTNERSHIP OFFICE, NEWTOWNARDS ROAD, BT4 1AF**

#### **PRESENT:**

##### **Name**

Maggie Andrews  
Laura Rankin  
Una Casey  
Gillian Boyd  
Lorraine Brennan  
Michele Bryans  
Mary McManus  
Tracey Wilson  
Aine Kelly  
Claire Humphrey

##### **Organisation:**

EBPB (LPG Chair)  
CYPSP  
CYPSP  
Cedar  
BHSCT  
East Belfast Alternatives  
East Belfast Independent Advice Centre  
Oasis  
Save the Children  
Barnardos

#### **APOLOGIES:**

##### **Name**

Ashlea Berryman  
Zara Monteith  
Linda Armitage  
Karen Purdy  
Kelly Maxwell  
Geraldine O'Regan  
Gerry Largey

##### **Organisation**

Early Years Organisation  
Willowfield Parish Community Association  
East Belfast Community Association  
Bloomfield Community Association  
NIACRO  
East Belfast Sure Start  
BHSCT

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

Maggie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **Apologies**

Apologies were noted as above

#### **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

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

### **Inner East Family Support Hub Update**

Michele gave the group an update on the progress of the Inner East Family Support Hub. There have been 7 referrals to date, 2 from gateway and 5 others. There are currently 15 Core members and 13 Associate members of the hub. The launch of the Inner East Family Support hub will be next Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November at East Belfast Network Centre. Michele outlined how the hub would be able to track unmet need, as there are reports monthly and quarterly.

### **Action: Una to circulate information re. the hub launch**

Members of the group expressed concern that their organisations could give more support to the hub; however they are limited by funding. The Bright Start initiative was discussed, as it may be a way to introduce more places and space on programmes, which can then be brought to the hub. It was agreed that a representative from Bright Start should attend the LPG meetings. Members of the group also decided it would be appropriate to have representation from the Childcare Partnership or PlayBoard, where possible.

### **Action: Una to contact representatives for Bright Start, Childcare Partnership or PlayBoard to come to the LPG meetings.**

### **Feedback from Belfast Area Outcomes Group**

Una gave the group feedback from the Outcomes group meeting, which took place on the 12<sup>th</sup> November. There is a planned meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> December with the Outcomes group, Family Support Hub and Locality Planning groups in order to discuss the funding situation.

Groups raised concern that they had not been informed if they had been successful in the extension of the Outcomes Group family support money. Lorraine made the group aware that the trust had sent out the letters two days before and they should receive word imminently.

Lorraine explained the procurement process and that it would be unlikely there might be a gap in funding available for a short period of time at the new financial year, however this is to be discussed at the commissioning meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> November. Members of the group expressed unease that there would be a gap in the funding as it would almost certainly lead to disintegration of services. A rollover of funding to May was suggested; however this would be dependent on funding and will be discussed at the upcoming meetings. Members agreed that it is

important to be kept up to date with this information so they can make contingency plans if necessary.

### **Feedback from EIS workshop**

In response to the EIS workshop Amanda sent a summary report of the representation of comments from the day, however this needs to be broken down into key themes. Una to get the report from Amanda sent out as soon as it is completed. Members noted that the workshop was a successful day in terms of networking and finding out the needs in the local area.

### **Action Plan**

#### **Feedback from Oral Health working group**

Copies of the East Belfast Dental Practice Mapping tool were handed out. This was put together by the Dental Health working group. The point was raised that it may be useful to find out whether dentists have any NHS places. It was also discussed whether the piece of work could now be made into a directory which could be made available to the public, the dentists which took part in the questionnaire would need to be consulted. It was brought to the attention of the group that Awards for All funding may be an opportunity for funding. The Dental Health working group will meet again before the next LPG meeting.

**Action: Dental Health working group to discuss above issues.**

#### **Feedback Service Mapping working group**

Copies of the Planning Information Services Mapping tool were handed out. This mapping tool should be cross checked with the Family Support database in terms of service availability.

**Action: Any amendments to the document should be sent to Una.**

Mary brought it to the group's attention that the action plan does not have any outcome relating to poverty. Members agreed that the introduction should be strengthened in order to include this as it is an important theme running throughout the action plan. Una added that she could use some poverty statistics to back up the action plan.

Una mentioned to the group that a questionnaire has been carried out by CYPSP in the Western area regarding poverty, and this may be introduced regionally in the future.

**Action: Una to email poverty questionnaire.**

Outcome 9- 'The East Belfast LPG will inform the development of the Family Support Hub(s) in the area' will be removed as it is part of the core business of the group.

**Action: Una to remove Outcome 9 in the Action Plan**

Members of the group emphasised the importance of tracking the progress according to the action plan. It was concluded that a separate document will be used to show the progress of the action plan; this will be a live document and will be updated on a regular basis instead of the action plan. It was discussed that the plan will start to be reviewed in January, and the meetings of the LPG will happen bi-monthly as there will be task groups in between.

**Action: Child Poverty Alliance document to be circulated.**

**Proposal for Networking Event**

Due to the success of the EITP workshops, the group agreed that it would be beneficial to have other networking events; this would also benefit the hubs. It was discussed that a 'speed dating' type event would be beneficial, providing short snippets about each organisation instead of having long presentations at each meeting. It was also suggested that a spokesperson for each theme should be in attendance e.g. BME, youth support etc. Members stressed the importance for educational involvement, as this was one of the key aspects of the EITP workshop; however the group acknowledged that it would be difficult for teachers to get time off so there should be another way of doing this.

**Action: Una to email members about forming a task group for this event**

**Any other Business**

Educational Framework- Maggie spoke to the group about a framework and plan which the Eastside Learning Partnership has put together with the aim to tackle education disadvantage in East Belfast. The plan is being consulted on at present and there will be an opportunity to attend a consultation event early in December.

**Action: Maggie to send out questionnaire**

**Dates of Future Meetings**

The group agreed to meet bi-monthly as there will be working groups.

Meetings will be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every other month. Dates are as follows:

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015 @ 10am

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015 @ 10 am

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015 @ 10am

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 @ 10am

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015 @ 10am

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015 @ 10am