



**CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING
COOKSTOWN LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP**

**THURSDAY 6TH AUGUST 2015 AT 10.00AM
GORTALOWRY HOUSE**

Attendance

Ursula Marshall	Chairperson
Gemma Lutton	CYPSP
Sandra Anderson	CYPSP
Martin McCann	TIPSA
Sean McElhatton	Good Relations, Mid Ulster District Council
Kirstie McCammon	Mid Ulster District Council
Mary Tennyson	GOLD Surestart
Lisa Toland	Early Years Organisation
Christine O'Toole	Mid Ulster Women's Aid
Carmel Kelly	Education Welfare Service
Nicola Johnston	Network Personnel
Claire McKay	NICMA
Roisin McConville	SELB Youth Service

Apologies

Selena Ramsey	CYPSP
Brenda Hughes	CCIS
Lisa Montgomery	MASTS Service
Andrew Carson	Public Health Agency
Anna Reid	Simon Community NI
Elizabeth Whyte	NHSCT
Janice McMullan	Network Personnel
Sinead Dolan	Youth Justice Agency
Sharon Dillon	Citizens Advice Bureau
Eithna McCracken	EA NI

1. Introductions and Apologies

Ursula welcomed everyone to the meeting. A round of introductions followed.

2. Minutes of previous meeting held on 4th June 2015.

These were read through and agreed as correct by those present.

3. Matters arising

No matters arising.

4. Update- Disability Forum

Youth Included Project is going well currently. The summer scheme is also continuing to run well with good numbers attending.

Cycle Project is in the early stages. Three programmes to consider- Sprocket Rocket, Balanceability and Bikeability. An information event will be held in spring 2016. The Disability Forum have been in touch with Cycle Ireland. Any information from members is welcome.

5. Update - Cookstown Cultural Integration Service

Still no confirmation of budget yet and funding has now transferred from HSCB to NHSCT. Continue to support and work with BME families in the Cookstown area. Provision of English language classes, family work, isolation, parent and toddler group etc.

6. Update- Family Support Hub

The Family Hub is now well established. The Hub are receiving a good number of referrals and there is now a subsequent waiting list.

7. Update- Cookstown and Magherafelt Volunteer Centre

Cookstown and Magherafelt Volunteer Centre will be running a Volunteer Fair on Thursday 1st October 2015, 11-2pm in Involve House Magherafelt. If anyone can provide volunteering opportunities for 16 years + please contact the Volunteer Centre.

8. Update- Disability Subgroup

Engagement with parents identified that they weren't sure what support or services were available. CYPSP in partnership with the Family Fund are organising a disability event to showcase what support and services are available for these families. This event will be held on Tuesday 24th September 2015, 10-3pm in the Burnavon. Sandra will be contacting the three special schools in the area to attend. The family fund will be available for consultation at the event to help fill out forms etc.

9. Membership Update

Women's Aid

The four additional staff now in post have allowed assistance for up to 150 women. Two upcoming events:

1. Journey to Freedom- 22/9/15. Group work setting to help increase self-esteem etc. Referral by ringing the refuge.
2. Summer BBQ- 19/8/15, 2-4pm at the refuge. Referral by ringing the refuge.

Christine has noticed a lot of women and children coming in to the refuge with additional needs.

SELB Youth Service-

Volunteer training was held over four days at the Cookstown Youth Resource Centre. Fourteen young people attended and the staff were very impressed with them. They have been successful in getting them placements in various summer schemes in the Cookstown area. Additional funding has been secured from OFMDFM to send the young people to peace camps. This was held in St. Columb's Park, Londonderry at the end of July. Good Relations helped with the additional funding needed. Thirt- five young people attained GCSE 'B' equivalent- Learning Together in partnership with CHS, HTC and Cookstown Youth Resource Centre.

Surestart-

AGM was well attended. Parents spoke re the success of the programmes and activities. The associated costs of activities has limited what families can do. This is why the Surestart events are important to families. There is a new mobile in place for the 2 year olds programme in Kileenan. Eighty-four have been enrolled in the September intake. It was oversubscribed and there has been subsequent disappointment. Surestart are currently working on the business plan for the next 3 years, from January 2016.

Good Relations-

Good Relations ran the Estates Programme in July. Volunteers from Cookstown Youth Resource Centre were of great benefit. The programme proved to be a success. The loss of migrant support funding has been a big loss. However, STEP are going to provide one half day migrant support in GH soon.

NICMA-

NICMA have steady numbers. The Early Years Magherafelt office is stretched to capacity. Offering training- resilience course.

Staff are getting their hours cut. Claire's hours have been reduced to 25 hours/week. She will send a report to Gemma if she is unable to attend the meetings.

Early Years-

Currently training Level 5 early year's diploma- Early Years Practitioner. More information available on the website. Working on updating the database. Expression of Interest form has been sent to all members. Lisa will be contacting all members within the next few weeks. Hoping to secure funding based on these findings.

Network Personnel-

Currently have twenty families, where there were previously six. Therefore the marketing is working. Magherafelt is busy, however Cookstown and Dungannon are slower. They are seeing more children with Autism and Asperger's. Network Personnel are beginning to look at training for young people coming through i.e. food hygiene coming up soon.

Education Welfare Service-

120 pupils from Cookstown attended the transition sessions held in Holy Trinity College. This is to assist the children going from Primary into Secondary education. A session was held in Cookstown and a session was held in the Dungannon/ Coalisland area. These are hoped to be rolled out to more schools next year.

TIPSA-

Eugene and Martin have been extended to 30th September 2015. The management Committee are hoping to keep the project name going.

10. Any other Business

Step Up To Sustainable Employment plus (SUSE+)

South West College have launched this programme in partnership with DARD, Health & Education trusts and the local councils. It is being held across the Cookstown, Dungannon, Magherafelt, Fermanagh and Omagh areas. This training will provide one to one mentoring support and specialised/tailored packages to give the individual the opportunity to achieve a level 1 qualification. For further information contact- Alison Farquhar 07718097520 or Laura McGahan 07718097463.

11. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

To be confirmed.