

MINUTES

EAST BELFAST LPG MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 16 March 2016 AT 10am IN EBP OFFICE, NEWTOWNARDS ROAD, BELFAST.

PRESENT:

Maggie Andrews	East Belfast Partnership
Laura Rankin	CYPSP
Amy Gillen	Alternatives (Inner East Family Support Hub)
Nicola Hannigan	Barnardo's (Outer South and East Hub)
Sarah Ombler	Resolve
Paul Mc Combe	NIHE
Una Casey	CYPSP
Kris Morrison	NIACRO

APOLOGIES:

Geraldine O'Regan	East Belfast Sure Start
Claire Humphrey	Barnardo's (Outer South and East Hub)
Tracey Wilson	Oasis
Kelly Maxwell	NIACRO
Gerry Largey	BHSCT
Alice Caldwell	FACES Extern
Alison Templeton	New Life Counselling
Mary McManus	EBIAC
Aine Kelly	Save the Children
Irene Blanchard	East Belfast Counselling

1. Welcome and Introductions

Maggie welcomed everyone and a round of introductions took place. Members expressed concern that the membership of the meeting was low, and this may be caused by confusion about the new Locality Planning meeting run by Belfast City Council which happened the day before. It was also highlighted that some member agencies are going through a period of restructuring coming up to the financial year end.

2. Apologies

As recorded above.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes agreed as accurate.

4. Matters Arising

Maggie noted that she had tried to influence the research project at Queen's to include Primary School education in East Belfast. However, they have decided to use a current project they have been working on, and roll this out. The group expressed disappointment due to the low levels of attendance at Primary Schools in

the area and the changes which are due to happen. There have been closures of Primary schools and Tullycarnet Primary is under review of closure before 2017. These changes will have a significant impact on local families.

5. Action Plan - Feedback from working groups

5.1 Infant Dental Health project

The Infant Dental Health resource is currently being developed. It is being promoted by East Belfast Sure Start. It was suggested that it would be good to have the CYPSP logo on the resource as the need was highlighted through the Locality Planning Group, however there has been a lot of additional work so this will be fed back to the Early Years Network for discussion. Maggie added that the project would hopefully soon be reaching a conclusion.

5.2 Networking event arrangements

It had been a year since a sub group had met to outline plans for this event. While there had been some valid reasons for a delay in this being scheduled it continues to be discussed at meetings without any progress being made. It was agreed that we either need to arrange this or stop discussing it; a final attempt will be made at our next meeting to agree a target date for this.

5.3 Action Plan Review

There was a discussion about reviewing the Action Plan – this will need input from as many members as possible. Una agreed to contact members to ensure that they are willing to participate in this process. The experience of the hubs will be a key factor in prioritising actions.

Action: Action plan to be reviewed in the coming months, and link with hubs.

Action: Una to contact individual members of Locality Group

6. Family Support Hubs Presentation

Amy and Nicola from the Hubs provided a very interesting analysis of referrals as follows:-

Outer South and East Family Support Hub

The Outer South and East Family Support hub was launched on Tuesday 19th January; attended by 63 organisations. They currently have 15 core and 21 associate members. From December 15- February 16 referrals have been focussed on disability and BME issues; an emerging issue is the lack of childcare places – early year's services, particularly those provided elsewhere in east by Sure Start are needed. The involvement of HomeStart in the hub would also be welcomed in the Hub. Nicola also pointed out that the Early Intervention Support Service is not being piloted in the Hub area contributing to this ongoing service deficit.

Inner East Family Support Hub Update

From December until the end of February there had been 39 referrals to the hub. The main referrals also focussed on BME and disability issues. Referrals had been received as follows:- 26% self-referrals, 13% from GP's referrals and 18% from

schools. Amy highlighted that these had not necessarily been from the places predicted by the Trust; perhaps an issues to be taken up in the Locality Planning process, to identify gaps and changes in need. The main reasons for referral have been emotional and behavioural difficulties and child and parent support. So far unmet need includes lack of local play therapies and training for ASD.

The school attendance issue was also raised; some parent struggle to get their children to school, issues such as having pre-school children distance to schools, weather etc. The possibility of encouraging walking buses in the area was discussed. Una indicated that this initiative had been undertaken in one of the Southern Locality Planning Groups and offered to get more information on this. .

Action: Una/ Laura to get some information about walking buses in the Southern LPG area

Both of the hub co-ordinators expressed concern about the length of waiting lists for some services in the area and this is only going to increase with current difficulties, such as the closure of FASA.

Amy and Nicola were thanked for providing all this very useful information of how families are experiencing need in the area. It was agreed that these stories are the essence of what the Hubs and LPGs should be acting on: to ensure that policy and services are properly targeted

7. Feedback from Belfast Area Outcomes Group/ LPG Chairs meeting

Stevie Lavery, the BCC officer leading on Locality Planning in the Council had provided a presentation to the Outcomes Group at their last meeting. There are two pilot projects, one in inner east Belfast and the other in the Whitelock area of west Belfast. In each case one priority issue is being identified to be tackled with an OBA approach from the outset. These Locality Groups will have a whole population approach, not just a focus on Children and Young People.

Belfast Locality Planning chairs had also reported on their current priorities. It had been discussed and agreed that permanent support for locality planning groups in Belfast in some form will be provided, but the detail of how this work not yet been decided.

There was a lot of positive feedback about how the Hubs have been working and Locality Planning Chairs noted that the hubs are now an integral part of the Locality Planning process. The Outcomes Group acknowledged this and reported that they have now allocated funding for the Hubs for another financial year, from different pots of money.

8. ASCERT training dates

Laura had been liaising with Aislinn from Steps to Cope to set a date for the LPG to arrange training around the Steps to Cope parental alcohol project. Members noted that the training may be of more benefit during a less busy time period e.g. summer. It was agreed that the need for training should still be a priority. Nicola suggested

that the training calendar pulled together by the South Belfast LPG had been extremely useful and suggested this could be replicated.

Action: Laura to compile a local training calendar for circulating

9. Sexual Exploitation follow up work

The Locality Planning Group had previously agreed to follow up the Sexual Exploitation agenda as there had been presentations given to the group by Jacqui from Chelsea's Choice and Sharon from EBCDA. Maggie reported that this issue had also been raised within the Area Partnerships at a meeting with DHSSPS staff working on this issue. It was agreed that a 'joined up' approach is required with all the key stakeholders involved. Maggie agreed to take this forward with Sharon from EBCDA.

Action: Maggie liaise with Sharon Traynor re. Sexual Exploitation workshop

10. Any Other Business

Holy Trinity has been providing counselling support for Alternatives – being delivered locally and funded by the Belfast Outcomes Group.

11. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 18 th May 2016 @ 10am	East Belfast Partnership Board
Wednesday 20 th July 2016 @10am	East Belfast Partnership Board
Wednesday 21 st September 2016 @ 10am	East Belfast Partnership Board
Wednesday 16 th November 2016 @10am	East Belfast Partnership Board