

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING
MINUTES OF ANTRIM LOCALITY GROUP**

**TUESDAY 15TH MARCH 2016 AT 2.00PM
HOMESTART OFFICE, ANTRIM**

Attending:	Mervyn Rea	<i>Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council</i>
	Beth Gibb	<i>Action Mental Health</i>
	Christine McNeill	<i>AYICC</i>
	Ciara McMenamain	<i>Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council</i>
	Gemma Lutton	<i>CYPSP (Minute Taker)</i>
	Janine Gaston	<i>SACN</i>
	Joyce Rainey	<i>Empower Project - NRC</i>
	Laura Crawford	<i>YJA</i>
	Mary O'Connell	<i>Homestart Antrim</i>
	Michelle Harris	<i>Barnardos NI</i>
	Nar Munna	<i>Dunlewey Believe in Youth</i>
	Nicola McKeown	<i>Parenting NI</i>
	Sandra Anderson	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Wendy Burgees	<i>Start360 Connections Service</i>
Apologies:	Hessie McMullan	<i>Network Personnel</i>
	Jason Jordan	<i>EA NI Youth Service</i>
	Joyce Kinnaird	<i>NHSCT</i>
	Kerry Brady	<i>Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council</i>
	Nora McKnight	<i>NHSCT</i>

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mervyn welcomed everyone to the meeting today and apologies were noted.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate recording of the previous meeting held on **Tuesday 15th September 2015**.

MATTERS ARISING

Action Plan

Selena agreed to re-circulate the Antrim Locality Planning Group Action Plan.

ACTION: Selena

PRESENTATION – MICHELLE HARRIS, COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Mervyn thanked Michelle for attending the meeting today and invited Michelle to make her presentation to the group.

Michelle provided information on the Collective Impact Project which offers a structure for organisations to have a shared vision and work together through clearly defined goals. Collective Impact uses a rigorous, data-driven approach to help partners identify and agree on outcomes and indicators. The aim is to address underachievement and improve community well-being through multiple agencies rather than fragmented inputs individually as organisations.

5 Conditions for Collective Impact were outlined:

1. Common agenda
2. Shared measurement
3. Mutually reinforcing activities

4. Continuous Communication

5. Backbone Support

North Belfast and Antrim will be the areas targeted for this project after looking at statistics and having discussions. Michelle has been to a number of Schools who are interested and has completed community engagement with Council staff. The project is now at the stage of pulling groups together to look at issues and guiding principles.

Michelle can be contacted at michelle.harris@barnardos.org.uk

PRESENTATION – NICOLA MCKEOWN, PARENTING NI

Mervyn thanked Nicola for attending today's meeting and invited Nicola to make her presentation to the group.

Nicola has worked with Parenting NI for a number of years and noted she is at the meeting to provide information on a new project 'Families Together'. Information was firstly given on Parenting NI with 3 aspects covered within the organisation:

1. Freephone Helpline
2. Education Team
3. Parents Forum

The Families Together Project is a 5 year Big Lottery Funded Project with the possibility of a 2 year extension. The aim is to improve family relationships and is currently being run in Antrim and Strabane. Antrim was a chosen area due to calls to the helpline being the highest coming through from this area. Programmes provided through the programme were outlined.

A copy of the presentation will be circulated. Nicola can be contacted at nicola@parentingni.org

FEEDBACK – SPEED DATING EVENT

A speed dating event took place instead of the last Antrim LPG meeting on Tuesday 19th January 2016. All members were invited to attend and this provided a good opportunity to find out what each other does, ask questions about services and build relationships. There was a really good attendance on the day with everyone bringing leaflets/promotional material.

FEEDBACK – PARENTS MORNINGS

Sandra noted funding was received through Northern Outcomes Group to deliver parental support to parents. After completed engagement with parents 4 key areas were highlighted to be addressed which cover Paediatric First Aid, Challenging Behaviours, Mental Health and Stress Management. Sandra linked with Homestart Antrim to target parents and used their venue to deliver a 4 week programme covering issues above.

All sessions were really well attended with 12-14 parents attending each week. A crèche was also provided for their children. Feedback from parents was very positive overall with some comments made that they felt the programme could have been longer. Sandra noted it is great that Homestart are able to continue to work with these parents. Sandra agreed to circulate some pictures taken at these sessions.

ACTION: Sandra

FEEDBACK – ANTRIM LEARNING TOGETHER EVENT

Selena noted this is the 2nd time Teachers in all Post Primary Schools have come together. Information on the first occasion was given and following this Selena met with George Beattie to discuss what sessions to deliver on the next occasion. The need for information on resilience was noted at this. Simon Ward, Senior Education Physiologist was

brought over on Friday 12th February 2016 to deliver a workshop for all Post Primary School Teachers.

Some of the themes explored the changes in how children are raised and educated today, the importance of the balance in positive and negative emotions and the significance of having a growth mind-set on the impact of mental health on learning, helping children develop coping skills and building resilience.

Feedback was very positive. A number of good suggestions were noted for example Gossip Boards which some Schools will pilot following this event. Funding was received from South Antrim Community Network in order to deliver this and on the first occasion. Selena noted she will look at Collective Impact Project to identify what can be done in the future. She also agreed to circulate the name of the Novel Simon referenced on the day.

ACTION: Selena

UPDATE – BELIEVE IN YOUTH

Nar provided an update on the project. Believe in Youth are starting to deliver in the area and have recruited 2 Peer Educators in Antrim. These workers are starting to do outreach work in the next couple of weeks in hotspot areas. Nar welcomed comments on hotspots areas from the group to feedback.

Alcohol Awareness sessions will be offered to parents. There is also the possibility for parents to complete an OCN Level 1 as a follow on from this programme. Nar is hoping to recruit 4 Community Champions to deliver training in the area. Michelle and William expressed they are keen to meet with Nar.

UPDATE – FAMILY SUPPORT HUBS

A high number of referrals are coming through the Family Support Hubs. 30 referrals would be an average number and there are challenges in referring to agencies due to waiting lists. Funding has been extended to September 2016. It was also noted Clare is leaving post and recruitment for a new Coordinator will take place.

MEMBER AGENCY UPDATE

Mary O'Connell – HomeStart Antrim

Mary has been in post 5 months. The Xmas appeal was a great success with good support given. Homestart still have donations from Churches coming in so food boxes will be able to be given out. Mary noted it can be difficult to find out who needs this service. Funding has been received and Mary is in the process of training 7 new volunteers. There is a steady number of referrals coming in and are very complex. There is also an increased interest in the courses being delivered. A fitness programme has been suggested from a parent and it is hoped to deliver this in September.

Joyce Rainey – Empower Project

Information was given on the Empower Big Lottery Funded Project. A Sensory Skills information session is taking place tomorrow in Farranshane with advice on how to secure funding etc. Joyce noted she has been developing an after schools clubs in Randalstown. Information was given on courses coming up for parents in April and May in Farranshane.

A Balanceability course ran over 6 Saturdays in Antrim & Crumlin with Autism Initiatives. This was run with different age groups: 4-6, 7-11 and an older age group. The course improved self-esteem and confidence of the young people who took part. Joyce provided information on the Empower Project Facebook page. Upcoming courses will be uploaded to Facebook. A website is also being developed. There is also a dedicated

information line for families which is manned by Josie. The number for this is 028 9581 6852.

Ciara McMenamin – Antrim & Newtownabbey Council

Aoife has now moved post to Belfast area. Eat, Sleep, Play referrals went through in January and were successful. Breastfeeding scheme have been experiencing low staffing numbers. Home Safety referrals have been steady and coming from Health Visitors. The Keep Warm packs have been given out by Social Workers in Antrim and Newtownabbey. It was noted this is a good link as social workers are aware of the families in need.

Janine Gaston – SACN

Janine noted the Promoting Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Small Grants Scheme will be open on 4th April 2016 with funding available up to £1000. Janine explained her role within SACN and noted she will be carrying out needs assessments and will be looking at a new training calendar. Janine is also looking at trying to target parents more efficiently. There has been more of a need for services in South Antrim area and Janine will carefully target parents and practitioner. An area of need was highlighted for emotional wellbeing for 8-12 year olds. If anyone is aware of programmes to get in contact as this has been highlighted as an area of need. Information was given on Health Alliance website with regular updates on the website.

William Smyth – AYICC

It was noted there are now 2 Full Time Counsellors. Antrim Youth Information & Counselling Centre is open to all ages with a range of services including youth projects, counselling and training programmes. Information was provided on an established focus group with the aim of promoting positive mental health. 13 young people took part in an LGBT/Sexual Health programme ending in January and also took part in a Be Safe programme. The group have applied for The Future of Arts

funding through the Department of Justice. William provided information on his role and distributed leaflets on Heads Up – Health Education on Alcohol & Substance Misuse. It was noted William will be going into Schools to give information on the service.

Wendy Burgees – Start360 Connections Service

Wendy provided information on her role for the Connections Service Start360. Part of her role is to work with multi-agency partnerships and networks in all localities in order to identify local key issues and feed up to Drugs & Alcohol Teams. Wendy will be holding networking events for organisations in order for everyone to find out what about services covering particular areas. Another part of Wendy's role is signposting and Wendy is continuously keeping up to date on all the services available. A directory of services will be compiled which will give an insight on all services and this can be shared as a resource. A number of programmes were delivered with January focusing on Dry January and March will cover Medicines Misuse. Wendy is also trying to bring in RAPID Bins funded by PCSP's. Connection Service has agreed to promote these, and are planning to roll out in Antrim. The Connections Flyer was handed out along with a flyer on Start360. A lot of training is being delivered and a 2 hour Drugs & Alcohol Awareness Sessions can be delivered. Wendy can be contacted at wendy.burgess@start360.org

Beth Gibb – Action Mental Health

Beth covers all of the Northern Trust area. An update was provided on current programmes. Healthy Me won't be available soon as no funding has been secured to deliver this. 3 year funding has been secured for Mindset for community groups. This is focusing on raising awareness and increasing knowledge and understanding of Mental and Emotional Health & Wellbeing and will be available for the next 3 years. 42,000 young people have been seen over the last 3 years. Any groups interested in this training Beth can be contacted at bgibb@amh.org.uk

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Jason Jordan's Departure

Notes Jason submitted in advance of this meeting were given which highlighted him leaving his current post. Mervyn noted Jason has been a faithful member and wishes him well in the future on behalf of the LPG.

Youth Fair

There has been no correspondence regarding this year's youth fair. Selena agreed to confirm a date with post primary schools for May. This will be targeting Year 11 pupils. Information will be circulated when confirmed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on **Tuesday 17th May 2016 at 2.00pm in Homestart Office, Antrim.**