

Update report to Belfast Outcomes Group from Locality Planning Groups

February 2017

<p>Issues/gaps in services/Emerging need being raised at the Locality Planning Group:</p>	<p>WEST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting to take place next week. <p>NORTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for flexibility in BAOG contracts to enable services to work with FS Hub referrals • Need for families to have 1-1 support to prepare them for parenting programmes • Approach to the Funding of Family Support Hubs <p>SOUTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery school application process • Nursery schools voluntary contribution fees often not being treated by schools as “voluntary” • High levels of anxiety in transition stages from Primary- Post-Primary school • Support for ethnic minority families e.g. culture changes (starting school here at an earlier age than in country of origin) • High rates of less than 85% attendance at school <p>EAST – <i>Themed meetings have been taking place around the following issues that have been emerging as gaps through the Family Support Hubs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative therapies for anxiety etc • Services for under 3s in areas outside SureStart areas <p>Future meetings will involve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counselling for ethnic minority families with translation • Services for children with a disability <p>Issues with regards to poor quality of private houses and the negative effects that this has on many aspects of families’ lives.</p>
<p>Engagement with Children and Young People/ Parents/Carers:</p>	<p>NORTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPSP funding Parenting NI to carry out parental participation – Engagements have taken place with 3 groups of parents and 2 more are planned • Engagement with parents and teachers at the recent Lowwood Primary information event • Engagement with Young People and parents and teachers at the St Patricks College information event

Additional
Information:

ALL Locality Planning Groups:

- Consistent reduction of funding for services across the city including Youth Service
- Representation from Housing Executive and Council
- Effect of EA proposal on school transport
- Feedback from CYPSP, BAOG re: emerging needs.. need for top-down as well as bottom up information sharing.

Belfast Locality Planning Groups Autism Awareness Training

Background

Members of the Locality Planning Groups and Family Support Hubs reported high levels of families who are affected by Autism and require support around this.

As one of the main priorities in all 4 Locality Groups, Autism NI agreed to deliver 3 Autism Awareness sessions for members, hosted by NIACRO. This enabled over 100 front line staff, including health visitors, social workers and other practitioners to participate in the sessions.

These sessions took place in February and April 2016.

North Belfast LPG-

All children, young people and families will be supported to build resilience

Outcome 3

West Belfast LPG-

All children and young people will have access to inclusive community services & social activities

Outcome 3

South Belfast LPG-

Families in South Belfast are more resilient

Outcome 1

Outcomes of the training:

1. Improve/challenge attitudes and inform people of Autism through awareness raising sessions.
2. Increase front line staff knowledge about how to support families who have a child with Autism.
3. Introduce strategies and tips which can be implemented.



How much did we do?

- In total, over 100 Practitioners attended the Autism Awareness Training over 3 sessions
- Presentation/session led by Autism NI trainer
- The workshop included interactive activities, visual resources and group discussions

How well did we do it?

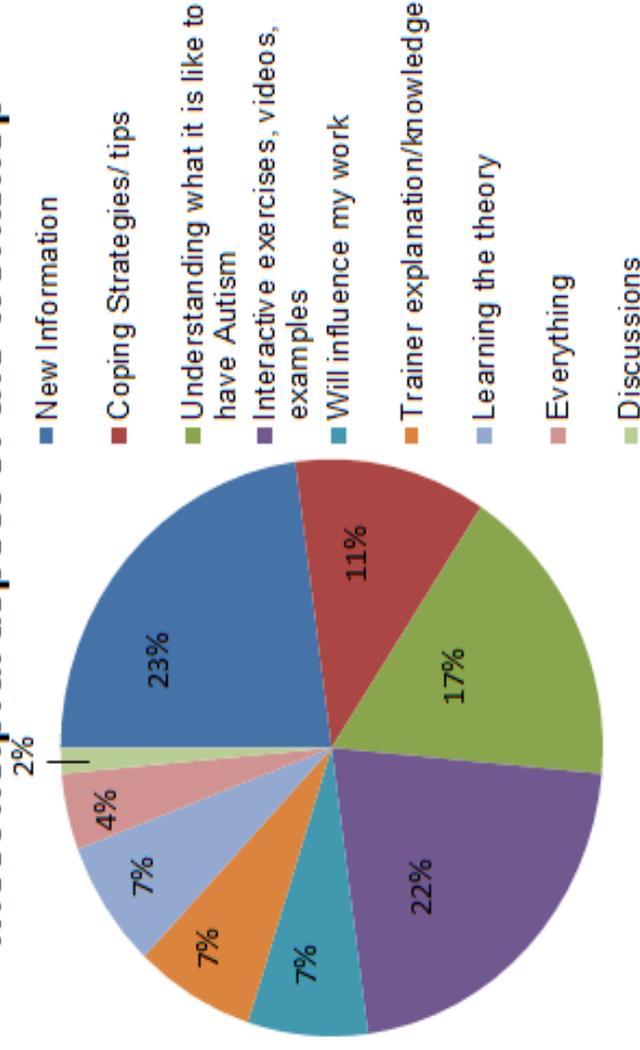
- There was no financial cost to LPG-Autism NI provided trainer and NIACRO provided the venue
- 80% of those attending completed evaluation forms
- 98% of attendees rated the training as good or excellent
- 78 out of 80 respondents gave the content of the workshop 4/5 or 5/5 for meeting their expectations

Is anyone better off?

In the evaluation forms practitioners commented on how they would change their practice as a result of the session. Some examples are as follows:

- Ideas and tips of effective communication, environment and behaviour management
- Will help my work with parents to help their understanding of their child's needs
- Will use clearer instructions and take more time
- Will use more visual aids, depend less on oral communication
- More aware of how to communicate

Most helpful aspect of the workshop



Belfast Locality Planning Groups Steps to Cope Training- October 2016

Background **STEPS COPE**

The Steps to Cope service was presented to all 4 Locality Groups in 2015. As a result of this Locality members agreed it would be useful to avail of the 'Train the Trainer' training which Steps to Cope provides for those who would be interested. The course was offered on a Belfast wide basis, through all 4 LPGs.

The Steps to Cope training is a 2 day training for practitioners who work with young people, who may need support in relation to a parent who uses alcohol. This will be done by using the 5 Step Intervention method.

5 Step Intervention



Outcome 3

North Belfast LPG-

All children, young people and families will be supported to build resilience

Outcome 2

West Belfast LPG-

All children and young people have good family lives

Outcome 1

South Belfast LPG-

Families in South Belfast are more resilient

Outcome 3

Young people in South Belfast make better choices

Outcomes of the training:

1. Introduce participants to theory around resilience and parental alcohol misuse
2. Provide the opportunity for in-depth knowledge and skills practice using the Steps to Cope 5 step intervention
3. Enable attendees to train other practitioners in the Steps to Cope 5 step intervention

How much did we do?

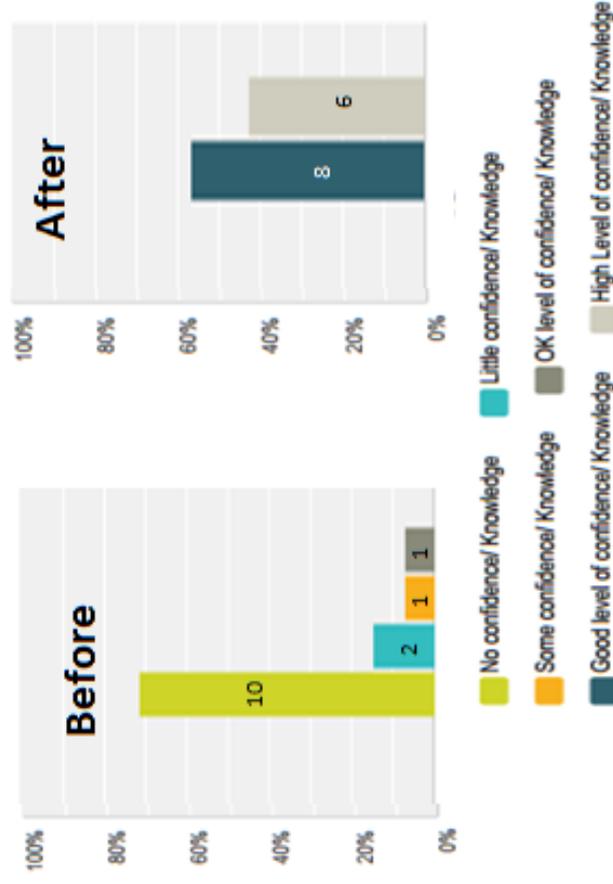
- In total, 17 attended the Steps to Cope Training
- Presentation/ session led by Steps to Cope practitioner
- The training included interactive exercises, video and audio clips, group work and theory around the 5 Step Intervention.

How well did we do it?

- There was no cost to Locality Planning as Steps to Cope project provided the trainer and venue for the training
- Out of 14 respondees, 12 rated the training as 'very relevant', the other 2 said 'relevant'
- 100% of the responses rated the content as appropriate

Is anyone better off?

Knowledge/ confidence in using the Steps to Cope Intervention to support young people



In the evaluation forms practitioners commented on the most useful part of the course, these included:

- Steps to Cope handbook/ other resources
 - Sharing of information
 - Staff support and back up
 - Knowledge of trainer
 - The structure of the course
- How easy the information is to apply to my work
 - Lots of interaction/ practise

Belfast Locality Planning Groups Family Fund Information and Support Day November 2016



Family Fund
Helping disabled children

Background

As part of the North and West Locality Planning Group Action Plans, the Family Fund and CYPSP held an Information and Support Day on Tuesday 29th November from 10-2.30pm in Girdwood Community Hub.

Family Fund is a UK wide organisation who provide grants for families raising disabled or seriously ill children. The event provided Family Fund with an opportunity to raise awareness of their services in Northern Ireland.

Outcome 3

North Belfast LPG-

All children, young people and families will be supported to build resilience

Outcome 3

West Belfast LPG-

ALL children and young people will have access to inclusive community services and social activities

Outcomes of the event:

1. Families to make links with local services that will be able to support them
2. Let parents/carers have their say on local services they would find beneficial
3. Increased co-operation and collaboration of local organisations



How much did we do?

- Over 60 families attended the Family Fund event
- 24 local organisations attended the event with a stall.
- Families attended from all over Belfast, Lisburn, Ballymoney and Coleraine.

How well did we do it?

- 100% of parents who completed evaluation said they learned something new
- Families said the best part of the best part of the event was:
- Getting information
 - Finding out about grants available
 - Seeing there is support out there
 - The fact it is actually happening

Is anyone better off?

20 Parents took part in participation with Parenting NI

25 families learned about the services provided in Autism NI

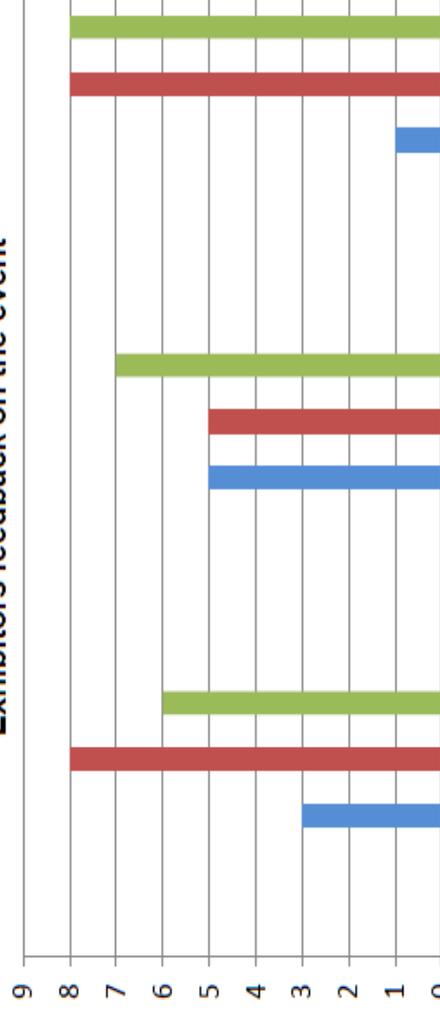
15 families engaged with Libraries NI

30 Families received information about the Family Support Hubs

5 people were informed about the services Women's Aid provides

50 Families were informed about /how to use FamilySupportNI

Exhibitors feedback on the event



	Increased co-operation across organisations?	Greater understanding of needs?	Likelihood of improved outcomes for families?
Strongly Agree	6	7	8
Agree	8	5	8
Neutral	3	5	1

Supporting Families in Belfast

Parents and carers of children and young people with a disability or additional needs from across Northern Ireland recently attended an information support day at the Girdwood Community Hub in Belfast.

The aim of the event was to ensure parents and carers were aware of services available locally to help them better support their child and families.

The free event was organised by the Family Fund in partnership with the Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) North and West Belfast Locality Planning Groups. The event was supported over thirty family support organisations who attended the event and shared information about the services they offer to support families in need including Sure Start, Carers NI, Tiny Life, Libraries NI, Extern and many more.

Speaking from the event, Family Fund stated 'we are delighted to host an Information and Support Day at the Girdwood Community Hub and have been overwhelmed by the numbers of families that have come along to meet us. It has also been great to have so many NI sector organisations join us to inform families of the sterling work they are doing'.

Over 70 families attended the event and one parent shared their experience of support for their child waiting for an ASD diagnosis, 'I found the event very useful and a great fact finding mission for me, it was nice to have one-to-one conversations and learn about the services available to my family'.

Katrina Newell, from New Lodge Arts Belfast and Chair of the CYPSP North Belfast Locality Planning Group reflected on the information support morning and stated; 'It was overwhelming to hear about the very complex issues faced by families with a child with a disability and the difficulties they face accessing services. The information we gathered today will feed in to our next Locality Planning Group Action Plan 2017-2020 to work towards improving outcomes for all children, young people and families across the area. I am extremely grateful to The Family Fund for organising the event today and would like to thank the families and the organisations that came along to provide information about their services'.

ENDS

For further information, contact the Health and Social Care Board Communications Office on 028 9536 3278.

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP), led by the Health and Social Care Board, is a multi-agency partnership that includes the leadership of key statutory agencies and community and voluntary organisations that have a responsibility for improving the lives of children and young people in Northern Ireland.

Family Fund is a UK-wide charity that has been providing grants to families on a low income raising a disabled or seriously ill child aged 17 and under for over 40 years. In 2014 in Northern Ireland, we were delighted to be able to support over 4,000 families with over £1.4 million in grants for essential items such as washing machines, sensory toys, family breaks, bedding, clothing and computers.

For more information about the CYPSP visit www.cypsp.org