

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING
LARNE LOCALITY PARTNERSHIP**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 2ND MARCH 2017
AT 10.30AM IN SIR THOMAS DIXON BUILDINGS, LARNE**

PRESENT:	David McAllister	<i>Mid & East Antrim Council</i>
	Deborah Neill	<i>LCDP</i>
	Gemma Lutton	<i>CYPSP (Minute Taker)</i>
	Leigh Whittlely	<i>EA NI Youth Service</i>
	Lorraine Black	<i>Acceptable Enterprises Larne</i>
	Patricia Lindsay	<i>Barnardos</i>
	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Wendy Burgess	<i>Connections Service Start360</i>
	Francis Loughlin	<i>EA Youth Service</i>

APOLOGIES:	Amanda Elliott	<i>NACN</i>
	Liz Brown	<i>NICMA</i>
	Sandra Anderson	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Tracey Colgan	<i>PHA</i>
	Yury Fleming	<i>Education Welfare Service</i>

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

David welcomed the group to the meeting and apologies were noted. A round of introductions took place from all members present.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate recording of the previous meeting held on **Tuesday 6th December 2016**.

MATTERS ARISING

Action Plan

Selena made reference to the Action Plan and noted she will need to work towards aligning locality groups with new council areas. Ballymena, Carrickfergus and Larne groups will remain the same at present. Members agreed they were happy with this arrangement for the locality groups.

LORRAINE BLACK – ACCEPTABLE ENTERPRISES LARNE

David thanked Lorraine for attending the meeting today and welcomed her to the group.

Lorraine noted one of the reasons attending today's meeting is to find out what is currently happening in Larne and identify how Acceptable Enterprises can link in. Information was provided on Acceptable Enterprises Larne which is based in the Larne tech building. AEL provides work experience for those with learning disability, between the ages of 16-60 years along with training and support in order for them to fulfil their work potential. A range of activities people can take part in were outlined.

Information was provided on a new programme starting 'transitions programme' funded through the Big Lottery for a 5 year programme. This programme is aimed at people with a learning disability or disadvantage during the transition stages as they prepare to leave school or have recently left school. A new transitions worker will be taking up post on Monday as part of this funding. The Transitions worker will link in a lot more with Schools and work young people with mild/moderate disabilities. A social type activity group will also be established as part of the transitions programme. A lot of families are saying there are no activities for their children so this will help meet this unmet need.

The aim of the programme is to progress people from when they first come in to Acceptable Enterprises Larne through work experience, job preparation support and increasing their social skills. The work experience that can be offered includes packing/picking, catering, online retail and horticulture, hoping to meet the needs of every individual.

Information was given on a bottling plant where young people have been bottling water for 3 days a week for the last 8 months. There will be 10 jobs created allowing an opportunity for trainees to go into employment. Water is Clearer water which is unique with its own trace no which will tell the consumer who bottled the water etc.

Lorraine agreed to send information through on Acceptable Enterprises Larne for distribution. Lorraine can be contacted by emailing lorraine@acceptableenterprises.co.uk

FRANCIS LOUGHLIN – EA YOUTH ACTION PLAN CONSULTATION

Francis Loughlin introduced himself to the group as the Area Youth officer covering Newtownabbey, Carrickfergus and Larne. Francis is responsible for producing an action plan for these areas and this dictates the Area Youth Development Plan. Handouts were distributed including the EA Youth Service Area Youth Development Plan along with the EA Youth Service Area Action Plan. These were examined in full with a number of discussions taking place.

The Area Plan is in the consultation stage and Francis noted if anyone has specific needs for Larne to send them through. Francis would like some input and feedback on this. Selena raised Body Image as a growing issue and noted from other areas this is a big issue and not enough work is being delivered to address it. It has been highlighted young people are dieting to the extreme and injecting drugs to get results. Francis noted if anyone would like to add to this to send comments through.

ACTION: All Members

UPDATE – RELAX AND CHILLAX

No information was provided on this initiative running in Larne High School. Since this initiative CYPSP has replicated in 2 further Schools in Ballymoney and Selena provided information on these which are coordinated by Start360.

LARNE / CARRICKFERGUS HUB UPDATE

A lot of referrals are coming through the Hub with not as many organisations as others for representation. Referrals are mostly for body image, some behavioural and a variety of other issues. It was noted there would be 10 referrals on average per Hub meeting.

Selena noted in Antrim Locality Group Youth Justice raised the need for parenting programmes for this area. There would be the potential to organise a Parenting Your Teen but Selena would like to link with agencies to support parents to attend the programme. It was agreed for Selena to look at this for this area. It was also suggested for Selena to attend a hub meeting or link in with Phil/John to identify the issues from referrals coming through.

ACTION: Selena

UPDATE FROM MEMBERS

Deborah Neill – LCDP

Deborah noted LCDP are unsure of funding beyond 1st April 2017. An information session takes place on 15th March providing community groups the opportunity to meet grant officers and get help in applying for funding etc. Registration for this info session is required and can be done through the council website. Deborah attended Domestic Violence Awareness training last week and Larne Community Development project is registered as a safe place. Onus have an event on 9th March for agencies who offer advice and support to the most vulnerable in Larne. All members were welcome to attend this in Larne Methodist Church.

Patricia Lindsay – Barnardos

Patricia works with the Child Bereavement Service and noted cases are mostly through bereaved by suicide at present. There are no referrals from Larne and Patricia noted she has had no referrals from the Larne area and wants to raise awareness in the area. There is a small waiting list for the service at the minute.

Leigh Whittley – EA NI Youth Service

Leigh expressed this is his last meeting and he will get representation for future meetings. Ross has also moved and Luke will be his replacement. Leigh will now be carrying out School work in St Killian's College.

Wendy Burgees – Connections Service Start360

28 services attended the Health & wellbeing event on 10th February to showcases services within the area. Information was given on the event which was held in Glenlough Community Centre. Community uptake was low for this event which Wendy noted was disappointing. Larne has the least uptake for the Alcohol Awareness Raising sessions. If anyone knows groups who would be interested in getting this training free of charge to get in touch with Wendy. Information on other services such as DAISY and Voices was provided to all present.

David McAllister – Mid & East Antrim Borough Council

Community Plan is still open for consultation with access on the council website. David encouraged people to have their say and input to this. Grant Scheme are taking a different approach and dates were given for 3 grant information sessions in March to advise groups in the borough of the various schemes and levels of funding available. David is working on a piece of work on defibrillators and aiming to make these more accessible in the community. David also met with Paula, PeoplePlus NI for training to be delivered.

AOB

Leigh Whittley

Thanks were given to Leigh for all his input over the years to the Larne Locality Planning Group and all his work in the area.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting will be held on **Thursday 27th April 2017 at 10.30am in Sir Thomas Dixon Buildings, Larne.**