

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

**TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> MAY 2017 AT 2.00PM  
IN HOMESTART ANTRIM**

<b>Attending:</b>	Mervyn Rea	<i>Antrim &amp; Newtownabbey Borough Council</i>
	Beth Gibb	<i>Action Mental Health</i>
	Clare McKay	<i>NICMA</i>
	Joanne Cleary	<i>Little Steps Surestart</i>
	Kelly Forsythe	<i>Antrim &amp; Newtownabbey Borough Council</i>
	Kyle Duncan	<i>Autism NI</i>
	Leeann Kelly	<i>Contact – Art Project</i>
	Maud Woods	<i>Youth Justice</i>
	Marie McCloy	<i>NRC – Empower Project</i>
	Pamela Shields	<i>Oasis Antrim</i>
	Phil Joyce	<i>Action for Children</i>
	Sandra Anderson	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Stacey Hanburry	<i>Journey Counselling</i>
	William Smyth	<i>AYICC</i>
<b>Apologies:</b>	Davina Clements	<i>Family Mediation NI</i>
	Gemma Lutton	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Janine Gaston	<i>SACN</i>
	John Mcleod	<i>NHSCT</i>
	Noel Gallagher	<i>EA NI</i>
	Pamela Davis	<i>SACN</i>

## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Mervyn welcomed all members for attending and a round of introductions took place.

## **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate recording of the previous meeting held on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017**.

## **MATTERS ARISING**

No matters arising.

## **PRESENTATION – STACEY HANBURY, JOURNEY COUNSELLING**

Stacey works as a counsellor for Journey Counselling and provides counselling to children and parents. Information was given on the range of issues children are experiencing including trauma, anxiety and parental separation depression. Parent and Child Counselling is charged at £35 per hour and £25 per hour for those unemployed. Some financial support is available for parents who can't afford the cost. Further information was agreed to be circulated to all members.

For further information Stacey can be emailed [smhanburry@yahoo.com](mailto:smhanburry@yahoo.com)

## **ACTION PLAN REVIEW**

The current action plan was reviewed by all members and discussions took place on actions to undertake in order to meet the set outcomes:

### **Outcome One - Antrim LPG will have a sound knowledge of providers of service for children and young people in the locality**

- Gemma will update the membership profile to ensure its kept updated.

- Selena to meet with Helen (Family Support NI) to discuss how better the resource can be promoted to families. One method discussed was for agencies to share information on their Facebook pages.
- Speed dating event to be arranged for late 2017 or 2018.

### **Outcome Two – Children and Young People will have improved Mental Health and Resilience**

- Resilience programmes through Action Mental Health through SIFF funding. 'Healthy Me' programme – all Schools are eligible to take part with Danske Bank the sponsor of the programme.
- Mindset – 2 ½ hours training. PHA funded as a community resource.
- Resilience training available 25<sup>th</sup> August in Ballymoney Locality, members to contact Gemma if they would like to attend.
- Possibility of resilience training for Primary Schools.
- Collective Impact Project. A large community resilience model is currently underway. Selena to ask Catherine to update.

### **Outcome Three – Families in Antrim will have finances and support available to meet their basic needs**

- Food Bank has moved to 'The Hub Antrim'. Drop in taking place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 11am – 1pm. There is the need to continually promote this service to families. Families benefit by receiving money / debt advice also attached to the service. 40 volunteers are currently volunteering with the service.

### **UPDATE – ANTRIM YOUTH FAIR**

The Antrim Youth Fair organised for 10<sup>th</sup> May was postponed due to challenges with Parkhall School moving buildings and the pressures of time constraints, it was also a busy time of year with exams. It is hoped

to offer the youth fair in October 2017 for Year 12's. Selena will coordinate a new date with George and share when confirmed.

### **UPDATE – EDUCATION SUBGROUP / COLLECTIVE IMPACT**

No representation present at this meeting to provide any updates. Update provided at next meeting.

### **UPDATE – FAMILY LINKS PROGRAMME**

Sandra provided an update on the 10 week Family Links Nurturing programme currently being delivered to a group within Homestart Antrim. 7 parents are currently attending the programme.

### **UPDATE – FAMILY SUPPORT HUBS**

Phil from Family Support Hubs shared feedback regarding their services available to children, young people and families. Information was also shared on the referrals coming into the service. Family Support Hubs aim to meet the needs of all members in the family. Parenting and therapeutic work was noted as a current need in the Northern Area.

All referrals can be sent directly to Phil. Principals/Teachers etc. can refer also and self-referrals are accepted. Families are not able to have current social work involvement to be referred into the hubs. Current unmet need highlights the need for practical support for parents for children aged 5-8 years, emotional support for parents, therapeutic work for children and parents and educative work around keeping children safe online.

It was noted Choices currently have staffing issues with one part time member of staff. This is resulting in unmet need as there is difficulty getting young people in need, supported. This is impacting the CAMHS Service also.

## **MEMBER AGENCY UPDATES**

### Beth Gibb – Action Mental Health

Action Mental Health have been successful in securing SIF Funding to deliver 'Healthy Me' programmes in super output areas. This will cover the top 12 super output areas. Beth agreed to share information to circulate to locality group.

### Clare McKay – NICMA

It was noted the Antrim group completed their Mindset training with Action Mental Health. Summer promotion work is planned in order to promote registered childcare.

### Kelly Forsythe – Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council

Kelly informed members the Energy Efficient Grants are now open. The Energy Efficient Advisor provides support to families regarding keeping warm, budgeting, oil stamps etc. It was noted Keep Warm packs are available. Referral forms were provided to members to share with families they are working with. Department will also be starting to cover Food Poverty.

### Joanne Cleary – Little Steps Sure Start

Joanne provided a newsletter of all programmes available within Little Steps Sure Start.

### Leann Kelly – Trauma Contact Centre

Trauma Contact Centre is for children aged 8-20 years. Talk Therapy and Play and Music Therapy are carried out in the Centre. Children can get support for up to 1 year. Leann noted organisations can refer into the service.

### William Smyth – AYICC

Currently busy with counselling and there is a 1 month waiting list. AYICC is now covering Antrim, Newtownabbey and Ballymena due to Children in Need funding. The work of Antrim Youth Information and Counselling Centre covers promoting mental health. The Bee Safe Programme was recently completed for Antrim and Newtownabbey.

### Maud Woods – Youth Justice Agency

Maud is focusing on Early Intervention work to try and keep young people away from the criminal system. Funding is being made available in order to target this core group of young people.

### Kyle Duncan – Autism NI

Kyle coordinates bespoke Autism support group networks and is keen to get linking in with agencies. Autism NI has its own helpline available to support families.

### Pamela Shields – OASIS Antrim

Pamela works with 12-14 year olds not engaging in Schools and 14-16 year olds disengaged in school/not attending. Pamela is also targeting young mums who do not engage in current parent and toddler programmes to enable increased opportunities. Consultations have been held with young people about what they want for Antrim. Young Mums, Young People in Care and Youth Justice Advisory Groups were reached. Pamela aims to help support literary and numeracy learning and plans to offer one to one tuition.

## Marie McCloy – NRC Empower Project

Marie provided an update on new activities and upcoming training / events. All information is available on Facebook and also on the Empower website. All activities are Big Lottery funded and free to attend.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Nothing noted.

## **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed for the next meeting to take place on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 2.00pm in Homestart Office, Antrim.**