

**Minutes of the West Belfast Locality Planning Group
held on Wednesday 1 August 2018 at 10am in Outer West SureStart
124 Stewartstown Road BT11 9JQ**

Present:

Deirdre Walsh	Whiterock Children's Centre (Chair)
Una Casey	CYPSP
Nicola Verner	Greater Shankill Partnership
Rebecca Duncan	NIACRO
Joanne Menabney	Greater Shankill Family Support Hub
Leontia McKenna	Outer West Family Support Hub
Elizabeth Gracey	Action Ability Belfast
Tony Kearns	Belfast City Council
Jenny Potter	NOW Group
Dympna Johnston	Greater Shankill Partnership
Nikki Terlik	Libraries NI
Dympna McKeown	Women's Aid

Apologies:

Deborah Burnett	Greater Falls Family Support Hub
Jim Girvan	West Belfast Partnership Board
Penny Ambrose	Beechmount SureStart
Mairead Gilmartin	Outer West SureStart
Julie Burgess	Springboard
Ihintz Oriden	Upper Springfield / Whiterock Family Support Hub
Andrea Barr	Team Leader for Health Visiting
Natalie Killough	BHSCT

Welcome and Introductions

Deirdre welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Mairead for providing the venue and refreshments. A round of introductions took place. Apologies were noted as above.

Minutes of the previous meeting – 2 May 2018

Minutes from the previous meeting were agreed as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

Matters Arising

Deirdre noted that Whiterock Children's Centre have now appointed their Multi-Cultural Worker.

Resilience Documentary Screening

As part of Whiterock Children's Centre's 30 Anniversary celebrations they are hosting; in Partnership with the 4 Family Support Hubs, the Locality Planning Group and the Belfast Childcare Partnership; a screening of the Resilience: Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope documentary and panel discussion on Thursday 2 August in St Mary's University College at 11am, as part of the Féile an Phobail. This is a free event and is open to everyone; it's not a ticketed event.

2017-2020 Action Plan

Healthy Relationships task and finish group

Una noted that due to summer holidays etc. it has been difficult to get a date organised for the healthy relationship task group, Jenny, Dympna McKeown and Rebecca (or someone from NIARCO) volunteered to be part of this task group to progress this action from the action plan.

Dympna McKeown that Women's Aid deliver training on healthy relationships including relationship training with DVDs in schools, this is dependent on funding. Also do work with 12-18 year olds whose mother has been in an abusive relationship. Members also noted a social media training film called Screen-agent.

Action: Una to circulate dates for the task group and follow up on the Screen-agent film.

Family Support Hubs Update

Outer West Family Support Hub – Leontia McKenna

Between April and June the hub received 57 referrals with 101 parents and children being signposted to services. Most of the referrals were from re-referrals, self-referrals and schools. Main group of for the referrals were 5-10 year olds mostly boys needing to access help. 19 of the referrals were for children with disabilities. Reasons for referrals were parenting support, parenting programmes, disability and counselling. 19 of the referrals were unmet need. Leontia noted the importance of self-care for service providers especially as many services have faced funding cuts. There were a total of 77 telephone calls from parents needing advice.

Shankill Family Support Hub - Joanne Menabney

Between April and June this hub received 73 referrals with 110 advice enquiries by telephone and email. Main source of referrals were from self, and Joanne noted that referrals from AHPs have increased and includes a referral from a Neurologist Consultant. 7 referrals were from school nurses, 21 referrals had a diagnosis of ASD, 8 ADHD and 5 Physical

disabilities. One main reason for unmet need was for ASD support but these families were happy to uptake an alternative service. Main reasons for referrals included 1-1 mentoring for 11-18 year olds for mentoring, parental support and home-based support, emotional support and summer schemes.

Greater Falls Family Support – Deborah Burnett (Update via email)

In relation to unmet need Deborah has been logging the counselling sessions for adults that do not meet the Hub 8 week protocol.

Interpreting needs are always an unmet need for this hub and for many of the hub members. Also, while placing children and young people diagnosed (on a waiting list for diagnosis) with ASD on mentoring services there still seems to be a lack of services for post primary school children to socialise with their peer group, within their local area. Many service providers who have been in contact or some referred in to hub have requested summer scheme type activity which is rarely available as these programmes are like gold dust.

Upper Springfield / Whiterock Family Support Hub – Deirdre Walsh obo Ihintz Olliden

Deirdre noted that there has been increase in referrals as parents panic about the school holidays, main reasons for referrals is behaviour and disability. Sources of referrals include EWOs, schools and self-referrals.

Members discussed allocations to summer scheme places and how many are paid places run by social economy groups. There was also a discussion on the impact of the changes in tax credits etc.

Childminding Academy and employability projects – Tony Kearns

Tony shared a presentation with members detailing the various employability projects that the BCC are currently involved with. The aim is to get 350 people into paid employment in this financial year through an academy model.

There is a hospitality careers and job fair taking place in St George's market on Wednesday 26 September 2018 10:00am-3:30pm, this event will include taster sessions, speakers and recruiters who are currently struggling to fill posts in their hotels, restaurants etc.

The childminder academy plans to help 30 people become self-employed childminders, this academy will help them through the pre-assessment process which includes a Social Worker assessment of the person and their home. There will also be a training element to the support including business support and up to 6 months post-registration support. The academy hopes to remove as many barriers as possible

for anyone interested in childminding, such as help with the vetting process, health and safety around the home e.g. fencing and offer financial packages to help with this.

The Health and Social Care academy is in partnership with NISCC and the BHSCT, to help people into entry level jobs and help with the retention of staff. These jobs include homecare and working in nursing homes. This academy will help with costs such as Access NI checks and training. It will also help those interested on working on attributes of a care worker as recruitment is value based. This is aimed at long term unemployed or economically inactive. These jobs are often flexible.

The academy will help towards driving licences and tests. Liz noted that some of her clients are often in need of befriending and families manage their own homecare needs through self-directed support so there could be opportunities for linkages.

The forth strand of the councils work is on jobs in transport, this is currently under development and there is an upcoming meeting with haulage companies. There is a lack of HGV drivers in NI.

Members agreed that these were great opportunities to help people get into work. Members to contact Tony if they have any questions on KearnsT@belfastcity.gov.uk. Tony also noted that Belfast City Council are also doing work with a wide range of young people at risk of becoming NEET in year 12 and to help them into employment and apprenticeships.

Feedback from Belfast Area Outcomes Group

Una and Deirdre gave feedback from the last Outcomes Group held in June; this was a workshop around their funding. The workshop included presentations from Maurice Leeson about the priorities of the CYPSP, Una presented on the priorities of the LPGs and the gaps in services and unmet need, Gerry Largey presented about linkages and Karen Burns gave a detailed presentation about the Family Support Hubs. The OG looked at the needs of Belfast and what needs to be funded. Jenny noted that there was a discussion about the new deprivation measures and the importance of not taking funding from one area to give to another which would create more need.

The current term of membership of the BAOG is now due for renewal; Una has circulated the nomination form and cover letter details. If anyone from the Community, Voluntary and BME sectors would like to apply please complete the form. All of the LPG chairs will be members of the OG in their role as chair. Nicola asked if Jackie needs to apply, but Una informed her that Jackie is on the OG representing the BSP so is therefore a statutory representative and doesn't need to apply.

Action: any members of the LPG from Community, Voluntary or BME sectors interested in being a member of the BAOG to complete and return nomination form before closing date (Wednesday 12 September)

Member Updates

Libraries NI – Nikki Terlik noted that the libraries are doing projects on Digital Bridge to help targeted groups such as older people and people in deprived areas including health and avoiding scams. Libraries NI also delivering outreach as part of outcomes based work for Programme for Government which covers all of the North, this includes story time sessions. The uptake has been low and Nikki asked members to encourage parents to engage in these. The Big Summer read is also taking place, these are all free and Libraries NI would welcome feedback and ideas for future ones. Rhyme time for 0-4 year olds, Story Time for 4-8/10 year olds are ongoing, programmes are finding that reading levels are low in older children so it's important to encourage reading at a younger age to intervene early.

Nicola noted that through the SIF WBPB project they have been able to track targets on reading; she asked if Libraries NI are able to do this. Nikki noted that there were challenges set up for young people with regard to the number of books they've read etc.

Women's Aid – Dympna McKeown noted that there had been plans funded by PSNI to have outreach drop in in Whiterock Library but this didn't go ahead as the library was too open. A discussion took place about other possible libraries what might be more suitable if they wanted to do this again. Dympna highlighted that Women's Aid do a one stop-shop every week at their Adelaide Park offices, this includes free legal advice from volunteer solicitors who work on a rota basis. There are also advisors there from HENI, advice available on benefits. She also noted that this was available to anyone and isn't means tested. She noted that a woman will often go through at least 36 incidents of domestic abuse before asking for help. Women's Aid is working to raise awareness of domestic abuse help women ask for help sooner. They have also been doing awareness raising on coercive control. They will be hosting a conference on January. She also noted concerns about changes to benefits through Universal Credit and how this could create more issues of control. She also noted now they are seeing many young girls and women becoming NEET due to domestic abuse where the abuser causes her to become isolated, forces her out of education and employment.

Any Other Business

Infant Mental Health Draft Key Messages Feedback

Una represents the LPGs in Belfast on the Belfast Infant Mental Health working group; they are currently developing key messages for new parents which include messages aimed at new parents for their own perspective and also from their babies perspective. The working group have asked members to consult with groups that they are working with. The LPG members gave the following feedback:

Parent message: brilliant positive messages, open up conversations to address isolation (mums in DV situations often constantly told negative things about themselves, that they are useless etc. by abusive partner this often results in lack of confidence as a parent) opens up the conversation to help them realise that other parents are feeling the same. Importance of consistence of messages, grandparents often provide important role in giving reassurance to new parent, they need to have this messages too so that messages are consistent. Need for a more detailed framework.

Baby messages – for parents with LD would need to be given more detailed description e.g. what does “thrive” mean to a mum with autism, parents with LD may be very literal about some of the wording, need to explain how messages could be incorporated into daily life and routine. One member felt that the baby messages were a little ‘wooly’ and that parents need to have more directive messages.

Interest in how messages will be rolled out, Libraries NI highlighted their Rub-a-dub-hub (section with parenting info)

Dates of Future Meetings. All meetings will take place at 10am

Wednesday 3 October	Whiterock Children’s Centre
Wednesday 5 December	Tbc