

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

**TUESDAY 21st JANUARY 2014 AT 2.00PM
CIVIC CENTRE, ANTRIM**

Attending:	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Margaret C Thompson	<i>Home-start Antrim</i>
	Margaret Thompson	<i>Home-start Antrim</i>
	Sharon McCaig	<i>Antrim Borough Council</i>
	Janine Gaston	<i>South Antrim Community Network</i>
	Nadia Ghalami	<i>Action for Children</i>
	Chris Lindsay	<i>EWS</i>
	Rosie Smyth	<i>Contact NI</i>
	Pamela Shields	<i>Oasis Antrim</i>
	Andrew Irwin	<i>Antrim PCSP</i>
	Moira Walsh	<i>Antrim & Ballymena Sure Start</i>
	Laura Totten	<i>YJA</i>
	Sharon Harvey	<i>Early Years</i>
	Jason Jordan	<i>NEELB Youth Service</i>
	Mervyn Rea	<i>Antrim Borough Council</i>
Apologies:	Marie Donaghy	<i>NRC</i>
	Anna Grindle	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Jayne Kinnaird	<i>PHA</i>
	Alison Briggs	<i>Antrim Borough Council</i>
	Drew Ritchie	<i>Antrim Borough Council</i>
	Sarah Best	<i>NICHI</i>
	Clare McKay	<i>NICMA</i>

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mervyn welcomed the group and invited a round of introductions.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

There following amendments noted as below, to the previous minutes. The remainder of the minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate recording of the meeting held on 17th September 2013.

Amendments

Cash for Kids distributed toys not money (Margaret Thompson).

YJA – Personal development declines with criticism not autism as stated.

Oasis – compassionate funds also use the centre – Dorothy Smith meets in their venue second Tuesday night (every month).

MATTERS ARISING

Family Support Hubs

Low uptake from Antrim agencies. Selena to ask Helen for another email and suggested venue.

PRESENTATION NADIA GHALAMI – STEP UP PROJECT

Nadia explained the Step Up Programme. It is in partnership with YMCA, Action for Children, Include Youth, Action Mental Health, Department Employment and Learning. Larne, Carrickfergus, Antrim and Newtownabbey will offer support in Ballymena for those willing to travel from other areas.

Nadia explained the programme and explained agencies will offer support with the following:

- Grow in Confidence
- Prepare for Work
- Gain Qualifications
- Make an Action Plan with Your Own Mentor
- Try Out Job Opportunities
- Find Volunteer Placements
- Secure Employment
- Essential Skills – Numeracy and Literacy
- Personal Development
- Catering Skills

➤ Mental Health & Resilience

It hopes to be a wraparound service. There will be support with travel and costs for training, however there are no other incentives.

Nadia distributed a referral form. Contact details for further information as below:

Nadia Ghalami
Step Up Service Co-ordinator
Step Up Action for children
St. Anthony's Primary School
43 Fairway
Larne
BT40 2BG

Email: nadia.ghalami@actionforchildren.org.uk

No start date as yet. Referrals will go through Nadia. Meeting occur weekly to keep communication lines open.

PRESENTATION – MOIRA WALSH – SURESTART

Moira gave some background on the Surestart Programme. Activity monitored by childcare Partnership. Each project has management centre made up from local representatives. Antrim Sure-start's lead body is Action for Children and the accountable body is NHSCT. Partner delivery agent is Homestart.

Three wards – Ballycraigy, Farrenshane and Steeple. Anyone living in these three wards with a child under 4 is eligible. The focus is on early intervention. It is based in AMH Office. Service will be through outreach to local community centres. Long-term objective will be to find a suitable venue.

Plan to recruit a midwife, health visitor, speech and language therapist. Moira distributed a newsletter detailing the types of service available.

UPDATE – PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL

Anne, Selena and Mervyn presented to Antrim Borough Council at a recent council meeting. Mervyn noted this was successful and will write up in paper.

Selena discussed community planning and links in future.

UPDATE – TEACHERS EVENT SUB GROUP

Chris provided some background to the Antrim Learning Together Event. He noted that this is a follow on support for teachers after the success of the Youth Fair in May 2012.

Selena outlined the schedule for the day, which will include 3 morning sessions from Barnardos to discuss Hidden Harm/ Womens Aid to cover Domestic Violence and Zest to address Self Harm. These sessions will cover the young person. Conor McGafferty from ZEST has agreed to then cover with the whole group coping strategies for stress and misuse of Drugs and Alcohol.

There will be a networking opportunity over lunch time and the afternoon will include breakout complementary therapy sessions and laughter therapy.

The sub group will continue to meet to plan this event.

Chris has met with George who is co-ordinating names of staff.

MEMBERS UPDATE

Margaret Thompson – Home-start Antrim

Editorial to thank everyone who helped with Christmas appeal. Now working towards Easter. Full training day for volunteers on Saturday. Advertised for new volunteers and currently have 30.

Sharon McCaig – Antrim Borough Council

Eat, Sleep, Learn & Play - Project on-going. Funding from Save the Children available again.

Increase awareness around the scheme referrals received from Social Services and one from Home-start. More referrals welcomed and Eat, Sleep, Learn, Play referral forms available via email.

Home safety Assessments - Ongoing and steady referrals received from Health Visitors for under 5's. MARA under 5 home safety assessments to be completed in coming weeks.

Oil Stamp Saving Scheme - Increase in stamp sales from this time last year and scheme still very popular.

Oil Clubs - Crumlin oil club well established and popular. Funding provided for 4 more oil clubs to be established across the Borough between now and March 2014. (Duneane, Randalstown, Templepatrick and Steeple)

Breastfeeding Welcome Here Scheme - Working to increase the number of premises registered to the breastfeeding welcome here scheme across the Borough. Hope to start with council premises and working closely with breastfeeding support groups widen this out to other non-council premises.

Cook-It Courses - Two cook-it courses being organised at present. One in Toome and one in Crumlin, will be looking at doing more in next financial year.

Action Mental Health Community Garden - Work ongoing with community garden and linkages with other community organisations, i.e. the men's shed. Cookery being added and an outdoor kitchen being built at present. Launch to take place during the summer months.

Janine Gaston – South Antrim Community Network

Janine noted her role is within SACN Community Development and Suicide prevention role.

Capacity build and provide training. Based in Randalstown and cover Antrim, Carrickfergus and Newtownabbey. Target areas of high deprivation. Information can be distributed through this.

Rosie Smyth - Contact NI

Contact is Northern Ireland's leading independent counselling charity for people of all ages, established in 1977.

Contact is committed to free counselling provision for all at times of crisis, providing the regional crisis response and referral service Lifeline 0808 808 8000, under license to the Public Health Agency, a core element to the Protect Life Suicide Prevention Strategy.

Contact was commissioned by the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister to provide the Historical Institutional Abuse Support Service, which commenced in August 2013 and will run for the 18 month course of the inquiry.

Contact is also a lead partner in the newly launched Impact of Alcohol Portfolio Project, providing counselling and support to adults suffering mental health problems and affected by alcohol supported by the Northern health and Social Care Trust and the Big Lottery.

- Aggression Related Trauma (ART) – Recovery for Youth.

Contact, through the Aggression Related Trauma – Recovery for Youth, project will engage with children and young people, aged 8-20 years old who are disengaged from education and/or leaving the care system, or are at risk of or engaging in risk taking behaviours, as a direct consequence of their experience of aggression related trauma.

ART is trauma that results from deliberate harm perpetrated by another person and may result in physical, emotional or sexual abuse. It does not include neglect. The project will be delivered through a multi-agency approach ensuring that treatment for the child/young person is comprehensive and appropriate, thus improving mental health, well-being and assisting in addressing trauma recovery. This project is for the Northern Trust Area only.

Pamela Shields – Oasis Antrim

Sixteen young people this term. Running Cook-It through live and learn. It's time for the girl's programme, is coming to a close and new project about to begin in February.

Meeting with storehouse to coordinate foodbanks.

Through SACN pilot befriending programme for parents – used IMAGO Programme, keen to secure more funding.

Building used by YJA and Compassionate Friends (Compassionate friends is a self-help group for parents who have lost children). Selena to invite Dunlewy to present.

Andrew Irwin – Antrim PCSP

Established April 2012 as amalgamation of Policing Partnership and Community Safety Partnership. Includes council reps, independent member and statutory reps. Overall aim to identify local issues and improve community safety.

On ground focus is to reduce anti-social behaviours and reducing crime. Community safety warden scheme is deployed in areas to engage with community and young people. This can be signposting, informal targeting and events. Team of two out seven nights per week.

At risk youth intervention – extend outreach with NIYF to identify most at risk young people.

E safety project includes sexting etc. A presentation is available to cover things and can be expected to include parents.

Be safe annual programme for P7 pupils moving on to secondary education.

Counselling Centre – PCSP provide funding for drugs and alcohol counselling.

Advertisement around solvent abuse and local young people developed artwork for this project.

BEAT runs through the summer in identified areas to engage detached young people in the evenings.

Smart phone App- YAP is funded through assets recovery, information and support.

Laura Totten – Youth Justice Agency

Secured funding for twelve week group with programme with PSNI. Focus on mental health and trying to live with it in local community. Number of young people recently released from custody.

Undertaking a staffing review which may result in a change of staff in the area.

Sharon Harvey – Early Years

Headquarters in Belfast. Membership Organisation, partnership with NCP and NHSCT.

Different areas in Early years – advisors on ground with pre-school, early years settings.

Early years conference AGM – 5th and 6th June in Hilton Templepatrick.

Jason Jordan - NEELB

Area Youth Worker back from secondment on 1st April 2014. Ballycraig Youth Club open Monday and Thursday evenings – extra nights.

Detached Youth Worker Project will commence in Antrim. Two teams of Youth Officers in hotspots. These will be for one year posts. Intend to start OCN Level 2 Youth with programme in Roundtower in February. Currently full with a waiting list.

Crumlin has changed nights for senior club from Monday to Wednesday night to target the older age. Continue to fund 50/60 youth groups in Antrim area.

Selena Ramsey - CYPSP

Underspend from Northern Outcomes Group. Antrim Locality Group have requested a Facilitator for Action Planning sessions/ Homestart volunteer drive/ and support for Learning Together Event.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Homestart are running Creative Writing and Positive Mental Health Courses funded by S.A.C.N. before the end of March.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on **Tuesday 18th March** at 2.00 **pm** in **Antrim Civic Centre**.