

## **Glebeside bringing 'Life Chances' to communities across NHSSB**

Glebeside Community Association in conjunction with the Northern Neighbourhoods Health Action Zone (NNHAZ) has been circulating their recently produced board game, 'Life Chances', to fellow NNHAZ communities across the Northern Health and Social Services Board (NHSSB) area.

'Life Chances' is a new and innovative resource that was designed by young people in Glebeside, to educate their peers on the dangers of drugs, alcohol and smoking. Glebeside Youth Club received funding from the Northern Drug & Alcohol Co-ordination Team to develop and produce the game after the concept was well received at the Drug & Alcohol Field Officer Awards.

Representatives from Ballee in Ballymena, a fellow NNHAZ community, were presented with a copy of the game during a recent best practice visit to Glebeside, Ballymoney. The visit, which was supported by the Department for Social Development, through the

current Neighbourhood Renewal programme in Ballee and Ballykeel also included a tour of the 'Hazard House' in Glebeside – an educational facility managed by Ballymoney, Moyle and Coleraine Borough Councils, which highlights hazards in the home and promotes good practice in home safety.

Andrew Carson, NNHAZ Support Officer, said:

“Sharing information and disseminating good practice has been one of the key strategic aims of NNHAZ since its inception. When one of the Health Action Zone neighbourhoods is involved in a successful project or comes up with an innovative idea, we like to support them to share the learning with the rest of the NNHAZ neighbourhoods, so they can also benefit from its success. We have found that one of the best ways to communicate best practice is through our quarterly newsletter, ‘Neighbourhood News’, which profiles projects, news, events, and opportunities from the 14 NNHAZ areas”.

Laura Feeney, Community Development Officer, Ballee Community Association, said:

“The visit to Glebeside Community Association in Ballymoney provided our committee with a great opportunity to find out about ideas and projects that other community organisations are

implementing. The work that the Glebeside young people have been involved in is particularly impressive and the 'Life Chances' game will be a valuable educational tool for the young people in Ballee”.

Iain McAfee, Community Development Officer, Glebeside Community Association, said:

“Life Chances' is a vital resource in raising awareness among young people of the dangers associated with drugs, alcohol and smoking. We have linked with NNHAZ so that the game will be circulated to a wide range of community and youth organisations within the 14 HAZ neighbourhoods in the NHSSB area. We have also had interest from youth and community groups across Northern Ireland about the board game.”

If you would like further information on 'Life Chances' please contact Glebeside Community Association on 2766 7624 or email [glebesideca@hotmail.com](mailto:glebesideca@hotmail.com)”.

## **ENDS**

### **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

#### ***Health Action Zone***

1. NNHAZ is a community led partnership initiative that aims to improve the health and social well-being of people and communities living within the Northern Health and Social Services Board area. NNHAZ currently operates in 14 neighbourhoods within the Northern Health and Social Services Board area.

The 14 NNHAZ areas include:

- Antiville (Larne Borough Council area)
- Armoy (Moyle District Council area)
- Ballee (Ballymena Borough Council area)
- Ballycastle (Moyle District Council area)
- Ballysally (Coleraine Borough Council area)
- Bawnmore (Newtownabbey Borough Council area)
- Craigyhill (Larne Borough Council area)
- Glebeside (Ballymoney Borough Council area)
- Glenfield (Carrickfergus Borough Council area)
- Longlands (Newtownabbey Borough Council area)
- New Mossley (Newtownabbey Borough Council area)
- Parkview & Riverside (Magherafelt District Council area)
- Rathen, Greenvale & Sullenboy (Cookstown Borough Council area)
- Rathenraw (Antrim Borough Council area)

#### ***Neighbourhood Renewal***

2. The Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy was published by DSD in June 2003. The strategic aims of the strategy are to:

- develop confident communities that are able and committed to improving the quality of life in their areas;
- develop economic activity in the most deprived neighbourhoods and connect them to the wider economy;
- improve social conditions for the people who live in the most deprived neighbourhoods through better co-ordinated public services and the creation of safer environments; and
- help create attractive, safe, sustainable environments in the most deprived neighbourhoods.

3. A copy of the strategy - 'People and Place' - can be obtained from the DSD website - [www.dsdni.gov.uk](http://www.dsdni.gov.uk)

4. Neighbourhood Renewal Areas have been created around the urban areas shown in the official deprivation measures to be among the most disadvantaged 10% of areas in Northern Ireland. The 36 areas identified include 15 in Belfast, 6 in North West and 15 in other towns and cities across Northern Ireland.

5. The Ballymena Neighbourhood Renewal Area covers the Ballee and Ballykeel estates.

