

SOUTHERN AREA LOCALITY PLANNING GROUPS



ISSUE 163
12th March 2026



WELCOME

Welcome to Issue 163 of our newsletter, 'FYI' (For Your Information).

It's that time again where we review and look at possible improvements for 'FYI' based on your feedback and ideas. Go straight to the [next page](#) to get involved and give us your feedback - Any ideas and queries you may have about 'FYI' can be made and we will act and respond to these accordingly. We want to make this resource as user-friendly and useful as possible to all.

In this edition, we also have the usual range of information, opportunities and resources across the Southern Area for children, young people, parents/carers and practitioners. Please feel free to spread the word!

Locality Development Team, Southern Area

IN THIS ISSUE

Pages 3 to 51

[Southern Trust Area \('FYI' Feedback Survey | CYPSP Updates | Training | Workshops | Events | Parenting Programmes | Youth Programmes | Surveys | Consultations | Funding | Jobs | Employability | Volunteering | Resources | Family Support | Foster Care | Health\)](#)

Pages 52 to 54

[ABC Council Area](#)

Page 55

[Armagh LPG Area](#)

Page 56 to 58

[Banbridge LPG Area](#)

Pages 59 to 61

[Craigavon LPG Area](#)

Pages 62 to 65

[Newry & Mourne LPG Area](#)

Page 66

[South Armagh LPG Area](#)

Page 67

[Dungannon LPG Area](#)

Page 68

[Newsletter Submission Guidelines](#)

Page 69

[Important LPG Member Information](#)

Pages 70 & 71

[Next Issue Key Dates & Subscribe](#)





Our For Your Information



'FYI' is now in its 7th year... Doesn't time fly!

As always, we are very keen to obtain feedback on our newsletter and the impact it makes with yourselves and families in the Southern Area

Can you give a couple of minutes of your time and complete a short survey to help us review and improve this resource?

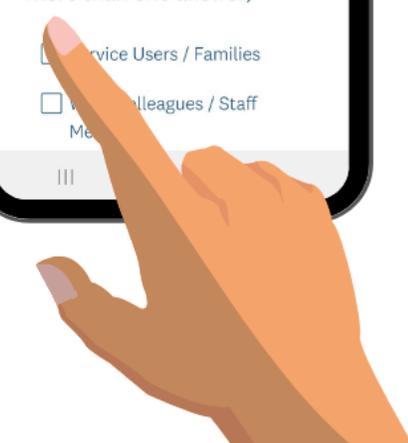
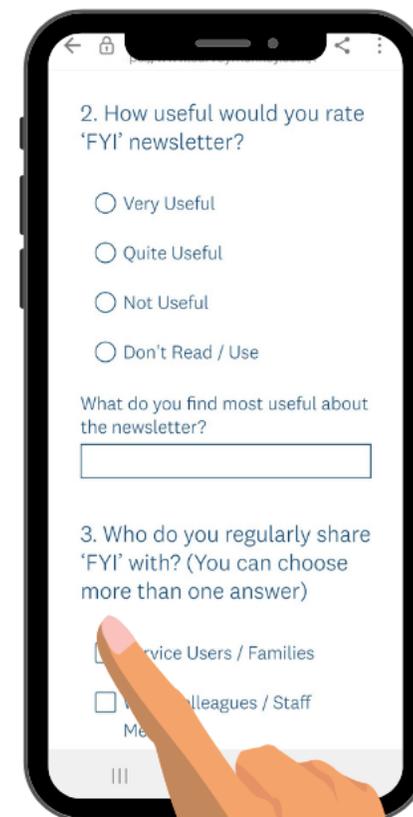
The survey is available to complete [HERE](#)

Deadline for survey returns is **Thursday 2nd April 2026**

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our LPG members and newsletter recipients for your continued support of 'FYI'

If you would like to discuss 'FYI' newsletter directly, please do not hesitate to contact us

Locality Development Team, Southern Area
localityplanning@ci-ni.org.uk







Schools Networking Event
[Newry & Mourne and South Armagh Areas]
Wednesday 4th February 2026
SCORECARD 26.2

What did we do?



- 40 Services** registered for an information table
- 14 Schools** registered for staff to attend on the day
- 16 Pupils** from Newry High School volunteered on the day



- Resource Produced** with info. on all services attending on the day
- Event Evaluations** taken from services & schools to obtain feedback

How well did we do it?

How would you rate the value of this event today to connect school staff with local support for young people and families?

TOTAL	STALL HOLDERS	SCHOOL STAFF
100% agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful' or 'Useful'	100% agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful' or 'Useful'	100% agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful' or 'Useful'
75% (36 out of 48 Respondents) agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful'	74% (23 out of 31 Respondents) agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful'	76% (13 out of 17 Respondents) agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful'

What changed as a result? [SCHOOL STAFF]

How likely are you to use any of the information or these services for the benefit of your school in the future?

100% said they were 'Extremely Likely' or 'Likely' to use the information or these services for the benefit of their school in the future	70% said they were 'Extremely Likely' to use the information or these services for the benefit of their school in the future
--	---



(17 out of 17 Respondents)



(12 out of 17 Respondents)



Exam Support

Exam season can be tough, but you don't have to face it alone.

Whether you're feeling overwhelmed, stressed, or just need some study-balance tips, the Youth Wellness Web has loads of support for you.

<https://cypsp.hscni.net/youth-wellness-web/school-college-age-16/>

Working in Partnership since 2011



<https://cypsp.hscni.net/youth-wellness-web/school-college-age-16/>



Our funding restrictions are such that funded training is only available to those who work/volunteer for a **voluntary, charitable, faith or community-based organisation**

Children in Northern Ireland

March / April Training

Open to those in voluntary/community sector

- Designated Officer**
Tuesday 24 March, 09:30am - 12:30pm, Online
- Good Practice in Recording and Reporting**
Tuesday 14 April, 09:30am - 12:30pm, Online
- Child Protection Practice**
Wednesday 15 April, 6:00pm - 9:00pm, Online
- Child Protection Practice**
Tuesday 28 April, 09:30am - 12:30pm, Online

Children in Northern Ireland

May Training

Open to those in voluntary/community sector

- Designated Officer**
Tuesday 5 May 09:30am - 12:30pm, Online
- Risk Assessment and Risk Management**
Wednesday 6 May, 09:30am - 12:30pm, Online
- Child Protection Practice**
Monday 11 May, 6:00pm - 9:00pm, Online
- The Benefits of Outdoors for Children**
Tuesday 12 May, 10:00am - 4:00pm, In-person
- Child Protection Case Conferences**
Tuesday 21 May, 10:00am - 1:00pm, Online





**March /April
Training**
Paid Courses

Counselling Skills for Everyday Practice
Friday 13 March, 10:00am - 4:00pm, In-person

Autistic Women and Girls
Thursday 19 March, 10:00am - 4:00pm, In-person

Supporting School Based Anxiety
Tuesday 24 March, 09:30am - 12:30pm, Online

Trauma and the Helping Professional
Friday 27 March, 10:00am - 4:00pm, In-person

Baby Massage Instructor Training
Thursday 23 - Friday 24 April, 10:00am - 4:00pm, In-person

Baby Yoga Instructor Training
Thursday 4 - Friday 5 June, 10:00am - 4:00pm, In-person



www.ci-ni.org.uk/training



Next session taking place **TONIGHT!**

ASCERT

VAPING AWARENESS

FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP

LEARN WHAT VAPING IS, WHY PEOPLE VAPE, AND THE RISKS INVOLVED, INCLUDING DANGERS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND VAPING SUBSTANCES LIKE SPICE

YOU ONLY NEED TO ATTEND ONE SESSION, AS ALL COVER THE SAME CONTENT

6.00PM - 7.30PM
ZOOM
FREE

MONDAY 16TH FEBRUARY
 MONDAY 23RD FEBRUARY
 THURSDAY 5TH MARCH
 THURSDAY 12TH MARCH
 MONDAY 16TH MARCH

FREE TICKETS VIA EVENTBRITE

ASCERT
 Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC101239

Holistic Options for Promoting Resilience

www.eventbrite.co.uk/vaping-awareness



Tuesday 24 March, 9:30am-12:30pm - Online Training

Supporting School Based Anxiety

www.ci-ni.org.uk/school-based-anxiety



SOUTHERN TRUST AREA

TRAINING

PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland
Co-funded by the
European Union | UK Government

You're Invited to

Narrative 4 Story Exchange Training

Bringing people together through personal storytelling and reflection for collective action



Come Join Us On

25th March, 2026

Start at 16:00pm

Narrative 4

RSVP here: 

 www.eventbrite.co.uk/narrative-4

HSC Southern Health and Social Care Trust
Quality Care - for you, with you

Promoting Wellbeing DIVISION



Facilitator Training

Wednesday 1st April
6.30pm – 9pm
The EPIC youth centre
Armagh

Please use the link below to register your interest in the Gimme 5 Training

[Gimme 5 Training – Fill in form](#)



For Further information contact:
Jacqueline.masterson@southerntrust.hscni.net

GIMME 5 is a resource designed to support those working with young people to promote the Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing messages with young people by:

- Raising awareness of The Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing and how these support good mental health and wellbeing.
- Exploring easy and simple ways that each of the Take 5 messages can be implemented into everyday life
- Providing a range of activities to help young people explore and develop their emotional literacy and resilience skills.

Course Information:
This training session will introduce the manual and how it can be used in your setting. Each participant will receive a copy of the manual and the colour coded Five ways to wellbeing armbands.

The Five Steps to Wellbeing

The Five Steps to Wellbeing are a set of practical, evidence-based public mental health messages aimed at improving the mental health and wellbeing of everyone. They were developed by the New Economics Foundation (NEF) and commissioned by Foresight, the government's think-tank on Mental Wellbeing

 <https://forms.office.com/e/8MKEXN39X6>



Project supported by the PHA



HIV STIs & Contraception

OCN Level 2 Course

THERE ARE 2 COURSE DATE OPTIONS:

COURSE 1: Monday 13th, Wednesday 15th, Monday 20th and Wednesday 22nd
April 2026 from 10.00-11.30am each day

APPLY HERE:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1982440380544?aff=oddtcreator>

COURSE 2: Monday 11th, Wednesday 13th, Monday 18th and Wednesday 20th
May 2026 from 10.00-11.30am each day

APPLY HERE:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1984296554410?aff=oddtcreator>

The course will be delivered online via 4 live Zoom sessions and will cover:

- Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Blood-borne viruses : HIV and Hepatitis B/C
 - Contraception
 - Prevention
 - Condom Use
- Local Sexual Health Services

It will be suitable for anyone working or volunteering with either young people or adults in Northern Ireland who would like to improve their understanding of sexual health.

Register using the link above or contact Nigel@acet-ni.com



April / May

Upcoming 3 day facilitator training for this exciting evidence-based parent programme!

When: 7, 8 and 14 May 2026 10am-4pm

Where: Ramada By Wyndham, Belfast

Cost: £1050 (includes supervision)

Fee includes access to all programme materials and videos

For information on iIP check out investinplay.com

Email Maria to find out more & book a place
mariamcaleese2@gmail.com



Building stronger relationships for the whole family

Maria McAleese
Educational Psychologist &
Invest in play® Trainer NI
Training • Supervision • Support



mariamcaleese2@gmail.com



SOUTHERN TRUST AREA

TRAINING



PIPS HOPE AND SUPPORT

Training and Workshops for Your Organisation

Contact us for any enquiries on 028 30266195 or email training@pipshopeandsupport.org

 <p>Take5 Duration: 1 - 1.5 Hrs Participant Number: up to 35</p> <p>Learn how to maintain and improve your mental wellbeing with five simple ways: Connect, Be Active, Take Notice, Keep Learning, Give.</p>	 <p>safeTALK Duration: 3-3.5 Hrs Participant Number: minimum of 10 /maximum of 30</p> <p>This workshop is designed to help build the skills and confidence necessary to recognise individuals with thoughts of suicide and direct them to someone who can keep them safe.</p> <p>Key Themes: Suicide alertness; Signposting. (Participants must be 15yrs and over)</p>	 <p>ASIST Duration: 16 Hrs (delivered over 2 days) Participant Number: minimum of 10 /maximum of 24</p> <p>A workshop designed to increase a person's willingness, confidence, and capacity to provide suicide first aid.</p> <p>Key Themes: Personal and community attitudes towards suicide; Suicide awareness and intervention skills; Developing a safety plan with the person to connect them to further support. (Participants must be 18yrs and over)</p>
 <p>GIMME 5 A fun filled activity-based workshop designed for children.</p> <p>Duration: 1 - 1.5 Hrs Participant Number: up to 35</p> <p>Created by the SHSCT, this workshop introduces children to the concept of the <i>5 ways to wellbeing</i>.</p> <p>Key Theme: Introducing the concept of wellbeing.</p>	<p>Shoulder to Shoulder Duration: Option 1 (condensed) 1.5 - 2 Hrs Option 2: (OCN Level 2 certificate) 6 - 8 Hrs Participant Number: up to 30</p> <p>This is a suicide awareness workshop.</p> <p>Key Themes: Exploring attitudes; Suicide awareness; Signposting; Selfcare. (Participants must be 15yrs and over)</p>	 <p>Mental Health First Aid Duration: 16 Hrs (delivered over 2 days) Participant Number: minimum of 10 /maximum of 24</p> <p>This course is designed to increase a person's willingness, confidence, and capacity to provide help to a person who is developing a mental health problem or who is currently in a mental health crisis, until professional help is available or until the crisis resolves.</p> <p>Key Themes: Recognising the symptoms of mental health problems; Providing initial help; Guiding a person towards appropriate professional help. (Participants must be 18 yrs and over)</p>
<p>Be ALERT</p> <p>MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS Duration: 1.5 – 2 hrs Participant Number: up to 35</p> <p>The aim of this course is to provide an understanding around mental health, versus mental ill health, and how to take steps towards helping yourself or someone else you are concerned about.</p> <p>Key Theme: Recognition, Awareness, Signposting, Self-care</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● BUILDING PERSONAL RESILIENCE or ● BUILDING PERSONAL RESILIENCE IN THE WORKPLACE or ● BUILDING THE RESILIENT STUDENT <p>Duration: 1 – 1.5 Hrs Participant Number: up to 35</p> <p>Group and individual learning on how to develop the skills needed to cope, survive, and thrive in challenging circumstances. This course can be adapted to suit adults, students, or younger age groups.</p> <p>Key themes: what is resilience; resilient thinking and mindset; stress management; self-awareness; selfcare.</p>	<p>B+POSITIVE Duration: 2.5 - 3 Hrs Participants Number: up to 35</p> <p>This workshop helps to provide an understanding of the issues affecting our mental health and promoting positive mental health through group discussion and activities.</p> <p>Key Themes: Developing self-care plans; Breaking the stigma cycle. (Participants should be 11 yrs and over)</p>



training@pipshopeandsupport.org



SOUTHERN TRUST AREA

TRAINING



Southern Health and Social Care Trust
TOGETHER, IMPROVING CARE, TRANSFORMING LIVES



HOPE OPPORTUNITY
RECOVERY
Wellness College
SHECT



Southern Trust Recovery College
Wellbeing education for everyone

Upcoming Courses – March 2026

Recovery College Course Prospectus

April to June 2026



Southern Trust Recovery College
Wellbeing education for everyone



TOGETHER, IMPROVING CARE, TRANSFORMING LIVES



Southern Health and Social Care Trust
TOGETHER, IMPROVING CARE, TRANSFORMING LIVES

To register your interest in any courses, please get in touch using the contact details below:

Tel: 02837561938

Email: Recovery.college@southerntrust.hscni.net

Alternatively, you can use the below link to register your interest:

[Recovery College Register Form | Southern Health & Social Care Trust](#)

To access our Free Online Recovery College Courses, which are available 24 hours a day, register [HERE](#)

 Southern Health
and Social Care Trust



Free Online Brain Development Session for Parents/Carers of 5–11-year-olds.

Friday 20th March 2026 10am-11.30am

Learning about Brain Development will support you to understand about:

- Supporting your Childs Emotional/Social Development
 - Managing Emotions and Normal Anxiety
 - Your Childs Developing Brain
 - Key Developmental Stages
 - Supporting Sleep

For further information or to book a place please contact

lisa.lenaghan@southerntrust.hscni.net/ 07841970432

 Southern Health
and Social Care Trust



Wee Brains Matter the First Five Years. Brain Development Session for Parents.

Free and Friendly Online session led by your local
Health Visitor to learn about:

- How and why relationships build wee brains
- Understanding your baby's/child's emotions and behaviours.
- Everyday play that boosts all areas of your child's development.
 - Strategies/tips that support healthy development and manage emotions/behaviours

Date Tuesday 24th March 2026.

Time 10am – 11.30am.

To book a place contact by email or phone:

Email: Mona at mona.hanna@southerntrust.hscni.net

Or Phone: Mona Hanna 07452509055



lisa.lenaghan@southerntrust.hscni.net



mona.hanna@southerntrust.hscni.net



For Parents/Carers Free Online Teenage Brain Development Session

Tuesday 31st March 2026 from 7pm-8.30pm

Learning about Teenage Brain Development will support you to understand why:

- Teenagers feel emotions/anxiety so intensely.
- Teenagers have difficulty reading faces, gestures and emotions of others.
- Why social acceptance and rejection by their peers matters
 - Why the conflict with Parents
 - Risk taking versus a time to take risks.
 - Why their sleep pattern changes.

For further information or to book a place please contact
lisa.lenaghan@southerntrust.hscni.net / 07841970432



lisa.lenaghan@southerntrust.hscni.net



Free Online Sleep Awareness Session for Parents/Carers of Children 0-5 Years on Wednesday 15th April 2026

Time: 10am-11.30am

To register at this session email/phone:

Email: mona.hanna@southerntrust.hscni.net

Phone: 07585889605



mona.hanna@southerntrust.hscni.net



SOUTHERN TRUST AREA

EVENTS

PARENTING PROGRAMME SHOWCASE 2026: NEURODIVERSITY

SAVE THE DATE:
March 31st 2026
10am-12pm
Online via Zoom

Register by clicking here for the link, or scanning the QR code

Who?
 This event is for parent programme facilitators, peer coaches, managers, funders and anyone interested in finding out more about parent programmes.

What?
 CDICs and key figures from four evidence-based parenting programmes currently active across NI will speak to their knowledge and experience, highlighting key information about each programme's work with neurodiversity.

Why?
 Hear about the dynamic range of support available, along with what specific programmes work best to support parents and families with neurodiverse children in NI.

Any questions, contact:
 cphillips@ncb.org.uk
 smckeever@ncb.org.uk

<https://forms.office.com/ResponsePage>

Supporting Victims of Sexual Violence

WHAT'S LEFT UNSAID

Canal Court Newry **10/09 2026** Thursday 9.30am - 1pm

Lived Experience | Learning | Professional Networking

Secure Your Spot Today

www.eventbrite.co.uk/whats-left-unsaid



Delivered by



Free webinar:
**Conception to reception:
Reframing school readiness**

Tuesday 24 March
11:30 - 12:45

BOOK NOW



www.eventbrite.co.uk/conception-to-reception



Build children's social competence, self-confidence and emotion regulation skills.

Help parents to respond to behavioural difficulties.

Support strong parent-child relationships.

invest in play®

Building Stronger Relationships For The Whole Family

A 12-week programme for parents/carers of children aged 5-12 years

Start Date: Tuesday 24th March 2026

Time: 10am-12pm

Location: ABC Community Network, Magharee House, 82 Thomas Street, Portadown BT62 3NU

For more information please contact:
 Maria Killen, Parenting Partnership
 Phone: 07880 474747

Email: parenting.partnership@southerntrust.hscni.net



Click or scan here for the Referral Form



Understanding Your Child's Behaviour

A Solihull Approach (Togetherness) programme for parents and carers of toddler and pre-school aged children

This programme is for parents and carers who want to know more about parenting and how children develop, and to understand children's behaviour better.

Our evaluation of previous programmes has shown that parents have found them helpful, they tend to feel less anxious and their children's behaviour tends to improve.

We will explore issues like:

Having fun	Communication
Development Needs	Parenting styles
Behavioural Difficulties	Sleep

DATES & TIMES

Date of programme is
15th April 2026
7.00pm - 9.00pm
For 10 weeks Online

For more information please contact:
Maria Killen, Parenting Partnership
Phone: 07880 474747
Email: parenting.partnership@southerntrust.hscni.net

Click or scan here for the Referral Form

Teen programmes

Programme: Parents Plus Special Needs Programme
Start date: Wed 10th Sept-22nd of Oct 2025
Duration: 7 weeks (10am-12.30pm)
Location: Clanrye, 34 Amagh Business Centre, Loughgall Road, Amagh
Attendees: Parents/carers of young people 11-18 years in the Southern Trust with a confirmed Autism diagnosis.
Facilitators: Clanrye & Parenting Partnership
Enquires/Referrals: e Claire.convery@clanryegroup.com
 t: 07483 059876

Programme: Parents Plus Special Needs Programme
Start date: Tues 13th Jan-Tues 3rd of March 2026
Duration: 7 weeks (10am-12.30pm)
Location: St Pauls High School Bessbrook
Attendees: All parents/carers of young people 11-18 years with special needs within Newry & Mourne area
Facilitators: Parenting Partnership & Newry MDT Team
Enquires/Referrals: Parenting Partnership-07880474747
 e parenting_partnership@southerntrust.hscni.net
 t: Or Newry GP MDT Team-07425630856
 e Veronica.kerr@southerntrust.hscni.net

Programme: Parents Plus Special Needs Programme
Start date: Thurs 19th Feb-Thurs 2nd April
Duration: 7 weeks (6pm-8.30pm)
Location: Online
Attendees: Parents/carers of young people 11-18 years in the Southern Trust with a confirmed Autism diagnosis.
Facilitators: Clanrye
Enquires/Referrals: e Claire.convery@clanryegroup.com
 t: 07483 059876

General Enquiries

Maria Killen
 Parenting Partnership Manager
 ☎ 07880 474747
 ✉ parenting.partnership@southerntrust.hscni.net
 Or
Martina McCooey
 Child Development Interventions Co-ordinator
 ☎ 028 3756 4462 / 07795 450278
 ✉ martina.mccooey@southerntrust.hscni.net

For further information on these and other programmes please visit our webpage below. Additional programme information will be added throughout the year

[Parent Support – Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership \(CYPSP\) \(hscni.net\)](http://ParentSupport-ChildrenandYoungPeople'sStrategicPartnership(CYPSP).hscni.net)



Evidence Based

SUPPORT PROGRAMMES FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Giving every child the best start/opportunity in life

2025/ 2026 Southern Trust

Please visit our CYPSP webpage to access the range of **evidence-based parenting programmes** available to families resident in the Southern Trust Area from September 2025 to June 2026

The programmes span the age range pre-birth to teens and are available for the families of typically developing/children and young people with special needs

Further information available [HERE](#)

PlayBoard NI's

Spaces to Be

FREE mental health and well-being programme for children aged 9 – 11, featuring fun play sessions and interactive staff training, enhancing Shared Education



Rooted in the child's right to play, the programme empowers children to:

- Increase mental health literacy
- Enhance emotional resilience
- Develop self-help and coping skills
- Foster inclusivity and acceptance of difference
- Build cross-community relationships

Supporting the NI Curriculum:

- Personal Development & Mutual Understanding
- Personal Skills & Thinking Capabilities
- World Around Us
- Physical Education
- Arts

Bookings open for 2026-2027

100% of participating staff said:

- ✓ Training will have a positive impact on their practice
- ✓ They will apply what has been learned in real-life work situations
- ✓ They would recommend PlayBoard training to schools and settings
- ✓ The trainers were excellent

GET IN TOUCH*

E: OurGeneration@playboard.co.uk
playboard.org
ourgeneration-cyp.com



A project supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). *Selection criteria applies. Playboard NI is registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NC104724, company limited by guarantee no. NI3025, charity no. X1996639.



OurGeneration@playboard.co.uk

IGNITE COMMUNITY

EMPOWER YOUNG VOICES, CREATE LOCAL IMPACT
JOIN THE IGNITE COMMUNITY PROGRAMME TODAY!

- A 30-Hour Social Innovation Programme**
Inspiring youth-led change that makes a real difference in local communities.
- Fits into Your Existing Youth Group or Project**
Delivered during your usual session times - no extra hours needed!
- Flexible & Tailored to Your Group**
We adapt the format, content, and delivery to suit your needs - we meet you where you're at.
- Empowers Young Voices**
Supports young people to speak up, be heard, and lead positive change.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT **FUN!** **LEADERSHIP SKILLS** **EMPOWERMENT** **EMPATHY**

CREATIVITY **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Want to empower young people with real-world skills? We can help!

- ✓ We deliver the programme directly to your youth group
- ✓ Or, we'll train and support you to run it yourself

Learn more here:
<https://ignitecommunity.carrd.co/>

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST HERE!

YOUNG SOCIAL INNOVATORS

PEACEPLUS
 Northern Ireland - Ireland
 Co-Funded by the
 European Union UK Government

Ignite Community - Empowering Young People to Lead Change

Ignite Community is a fully funded, cross-border youth programme for young people aged 9-25 across the border counties and Northern Ireland

The programme supports young people to explore issues that matter to them, develop leadership and teamwork skills, and design and deliver their own social action projects

Through hands-on workshops and collaborative activities, participants build confidence, strengthen their voice, and learn how to turn ideas into real impact within their communities

Ignite Community is youth-led, inclusive, and focused on creating positive change across all backgrounds and traditions

If you work with young people and would like to find out how Ignite Community could support your group, we'd love to connect!

E-mail: saleh.rifaie@youngsocialinnovators.ie



Are you a person from the LGBTQIA+ community in Northern Ireland?

SHARE YOUR STORY!

We especially want to hear from:

- Trans and non-binary people
- Older LGBTQIA+ people
- People with disabilities
- Those from different community backgrounds
- Anyone whose voice often goes unheard
- Every perspective matters



www.surveymonkey.com/r/PBTWNYR

YOUTH VOICES MATTER

Are you 14-24 and living in NI or the border region? We want to hear from you to help shape youth policy and support services

Parent/guardian consent needed for under 16s (NI) and under 18s (RoI)

⌚ Takes 5-7 mins

👤 Anonymous & Confidential

🎓 University research



Tell us what it's really like growing up here



SCAN TO TAKE PART

Fully anonymous, we don't even need a name!



Any questions?
j.cherry@ulster.ac.uk

<https://linktr.ee/j.cherry>



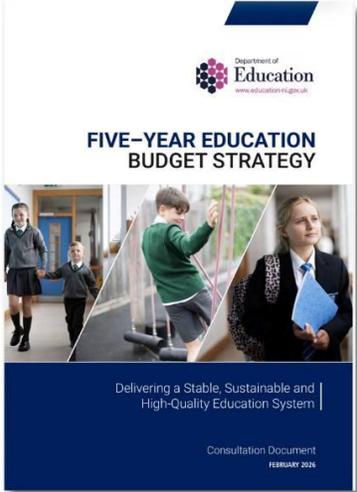
 Department of
Education

**FIVE-YEAR EDUCATION
BUDGET STRATEGY**

Public Consultation

PUBLISHED

FIVE-YEAR EDUCATION BUDGET STRATEGY



HAVE YOUR SAY ON:

-  HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT
-  SCHOOL MEALS
-  SEN IN MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS
-  SCHOOLS ESTATE
-  FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOLS



Attendance Matters

SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY

CONSULTATION LAUNCHED




 Department of
Education
www.education-ni.gov.uk

 www.education-ni.gov.uk/attendance-matters

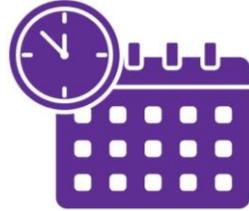
Draft Early Learning and Childcare Strategy

LAUNCHED




 Department of
Education

 www.education-ni.gov.uk/elc-strategy



Application
Deadline
TOMORROW!



The *elle*
Community
Foundation
Northern Ireland

**The RTÉ Toy Show
Appeal 2026 Grants
are now open for
applications.
Apply today on
our website!**

RTÉ
TOY
SHOW
APPEAL 



<https://communityfoundationni.org/rte-toy-show-appeal>



SOUTHERN TRUST AREA

FUNDING



 <https://asdafoundation.org/local-community-spaces-fund>



SCREWFIX
FOUNDATION



**SUPPORT.
FIX.
IMPROVE.**

Together we have raised an incredible **£15 million!**
We have donated to more than 3,000 projects and helped over 1.5 million people in need.



Thank you for your support

 www.screwfix.com/screwfix-foundation



YouthAction NI is seeking Youth Workers

to join their team on the Amplify project



Amplify is a regional youth work project operating in disadvantaged and polarised communities.

Company Benefits

- *Inclusive and Friendly Working Environment**
- *Attractive annual leave with length of service rewards**
- *Allocated well-being days at Christmas**
- *Occupational Family Friendly Policies**
- *Occupational Sick Pay**
- *TOIL (Time Off In Lieu)**
- *Personal Development including in service training opportunities**
- *Investors in People Award (Silver)**

Join YouthAction to light the way to a better future for young people



MARCH 2026

KING'S TRUST COURSES

EXPLORE+

Age: 16-24 Taster: 18 Mar

Start date: 24 Mar

Location: Belfast

A six-month personal development programme. Take part in a range of activities on areas such as employability skills, good relations, citizenship, and positive progression. Opportunities to gain qualifications, identify strengths, and receive 1:1 support to help you progress towards your goals!

GET HIRED

Get Hired in Customer Service

Age: 16-30

Dates: 2 - 3 Mar

Location: Belfast

Meet customer service staff from EE, learn about the roles available, and interview for live vacancies.

Get Hired in Health and Social Care

Age: 18-30

Dates: 26 - 27 Mar

Location: Belfast

Find out about opportunities in health and social care, and interview for employers with live vacancies.

GET STARTED

Get Started with Nails

Age: 16-30 Taster: 3 Mar

Dates: 9 - 13 Mar

Location: Belfast

Gain practical experience from a professional nails technician and work towards a Beauty Guild qualification.

Get Started with Content Creation

Age: 16-30 Taster: 10 Mar

Dates: 16 - 20 Mar

Location: Belfast

Learn how to create and edit content for social media, with a focus on podcasting, video content, and visual marketing.

Get Started with Photography

Age: 16-30 Taster: 16 Mar

Dates: 23 - 27 Mar

Location: Belfast

Learn about framing, light, focus, exposure, and editing from a professional photographer, and pathways into a career.

ENTERPRISE

Age: 18-30

Dates: Available year round

Location: Online with 1:1 support

Take part in expert-led workshops on finance, marketing, business planning, sales, and more. Get support to build a business plan and access grants to help you launch your business.

GET READY

Get Ready for a Career in Digital with W5

Age: 16-30 Taster: 3 Mar

Dates: 9 - 20 Mar

Location: W5 Life, Belfast

Develop Digital skills and learn about opportunities in STEM. Build communication, problem solving, and critical-thinking skills. Work towards an OCN Level 2 Digital Skills for Life & Work qualification.

DROP IN

Drop in to chat to our friendly staff and find out about our programmes. Get money back for your travel in by bus or train

King's Trust Belfast Centre

6E Weavers Court, Belfast, BT12 5GH

20 Mar, 10am - 12pm

Free parking is available at our centre, or we are easily walkable from Grand Central Station

USEFUL INFO

All our courses:

- are free to attend
- don't impact benefits

We also:

- reimburse transport costs
- cover childcare costs (subject to application)

CONTACT US

outreachni@kingstrust.org.uk

0800 842 842

kingstrust.org.uk





SOUTHERN TRUST AREA

EMPLOYABILITY

CLANRYE GROUP YOUTH ACADEMY



RECEIVED YOUR RESULTS & NEED TO FAST TRACK TO GET YOUR GRADES?

Less time in the classroom and spend one year getting real-world skills, paid placement and student-centred support.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Avail of vocational sampling with hands-on learning in Clanrye Group's Youth Academy Centres & on work placement.
It's the same 2 year qualification packed into 1!

WHY WILL YOU LOVE IT?

- Receive £40 EMA every week PLUS travel and a bonus when you hit your goals.
- Gain a recognised certificate with supportive tutors, 1:1 coaching, day trips and social enterprise projects.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

If you're 16-18 (up to 24 if you've been in care), not currently in full-time education or full-time work, and enjoy hands-on learning.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Scan this code to view further details on the Clanrye Group Youth Academy.



ENROL TODAY

LOCATIONS
Newry
Armagh
Banbridge

CONTACT US
(028) 3089 8119
info@clanryegroup.com
www.clanryegroup.com









 info@clanryegroup.com

Skills for Life & Work

A vocational training programme for young people aged 16-21* with a recognised learning difficulty / disability.
**Up to 24 years if in care*

EARN AS YOU LEARN
£40
per week

Clanrye Group
Here To Support You

A 3 YEAR programme offering structured and supervised training alongside employability support to help prepare each young person for the world of work.

Qualifications

- Essential Skills (Literacy, Numeracy & Digital Skills)
- Construction (in partnership with SRC)
- Catering & Hospitality (in partnership with SRC)
- Retail & Customer Service
- Horticulture
- IT Technician
- Business Administration
- Warehousing
- Personal Development
- Employability

Employability Support

- Employability workshops
- Work placement opportunities (2 days per week)

Enrichment Activities

- Life & Independent Skills
- Sports, trips and fun activities
- Confidence building sessions
- Positive mental health promotion
- Pastoral Care



ENROL TOAY

LOCATIONS
Slieve Gullion
Newry
Portadown
Lurgan
Armagh
Banbridge

CONTACT US
(028) 3089 8119
info@clanryegroup.com
www.clanryegroup.com









 info@clanryegroup.com

APPRENTICESHIPS NI GET STARTED. GET SKILLED.

WHO CAN APPLY:

- ▶ Anyone of minimum school leaving age.
- ▶ In employment or about to take up employment for at least 21 hours per week.
- ▶ Existing employees can apply if they are moving into a new job role that requires significant new training.

CHOOSE FROM A VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION IN:

- Horticulture
- Retail
- Customer Service
- Warehousing & Storage

WHAT'S INVOLVED IN AN APPRENTICESHIP:

- ▶ On-the-job-training – learn practical skills in the workplace with support from supervisors or mentors
- ▶ Off-the-job training (day release) – structured learning, one day attendance at Clanrye Group
- ▶ Opportunities to gain qualifications in Essential Skills Numeracy, Literacy & Digital ICT if required
- ▶ Gain a level 2 qualification in your chosen vocational area

CONTACT US
028 3089 8119
chloe.marron@clanryegroup.com

LOCATIONS
Newry
Slieve Gullion
Lurgan
Banbridge

chloe.marron@clanryegroup.com

Areas include

APPRENTICESHIPS NI GET STARTED. GET SKILLED.

This programme is open to all school leavers aged 16+

Clanrye Group, via Apprenticeships NI, can provide you with high-quality vocational training to help you build real skills and confidence.

- Train in a real job
- Earn while you learn
- Build a career

Scan the QR code and take your first step - APPLY TODAY!

To get started contact us today ...

CONTACT US
Chloe Marron
028 3089 8119
chloe.marron@clanryegroup.com

LOCATIONS
Newry
Slieve Gullion
Lurgan

FIND US ON

chloe.marron@clanryegroup.com



SOUTHERN TRUST AREA

EMPLOYABILITY

PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland

Co-funded by the
European Union | UK Government

SKILLS CONNECT

Skills Connect is a project supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). The programme is delivered by Cedar in partnership with the NOW Group, OCN NI, Ulster University and the Dundalk Institute of Technology.

Skills Connect provides person-centred support to empower individuals with disability, autism or brain injury. The programme aims to overcome barriers to employment through skills-based training, attainment of accredited vocational qualifications, and the development of meaningful career pathways.

If you are interested in retraining or upskilling in one of the following areas, Skills Connect is designed for you.

- Hospitality and Tourism
- Health and Social Care
- Green Economy
- Employability Skills

If you would like to speak to a member of the Skills Connect team contact:

Maria Kelly, Employer Liaison Officer
Telephone: 07483520622
Email: maria.kelly@cedar-foundation.org



Cedar
Opportunity Choice Inclusion



 maria.kelly@cedar-foundation.org

STAR
SKILLS TRAINING AND REINTEGRATION
NORTHERN IRELAND

FREE EMPLOYABILITY WORKSHOP FOR REFUGEES

Friday, 27.03.2026
Thursday, 02.04.2026
10:00 am - 1:00 pm



REGISTER HERE

Learn about job searching, CVs, interviews, and workplace culture

Certificate of attendance

For more information or support registering contact +447907865234 



 <https://forms.office.com/responsepage>



We're looking for volunteers to support our Street Collection on 17th March,
10am - 4pm in Armagh City Centre

By giving just a couple of hours, you can help us raise vital funds and
awareness for those affected by sexual violence

Every donation and every conversation helps us continue providing specialist
support to those who need it most

Whether you can help for an hour or few, your time will make a real difference

📍 Armagh City Centre

📅 17th March

🕒 10am - 4pm

If you'd like to volunteer, please message us to get involved

Together, we can stand with survivors and create change

Get in touch - E-mail: info@advocacyvsv.com or call 07852 594 677



Advocacy
VOICE OF HOPE VSV

WE'RE RECRUITING BOARD MEMBERS

AdvocacyVSV is looking for new Board Members with skills in:

- ✔ Accountancy & Financial Management
- ✔ Money Management & Governance
- ✔ Legal Expertise
- ✔ Social Care / Health & Wellbeing
- ✔ Business Development & Strategy

Use your expertise to help strengthen support for victims and survivors of sexual violence.
Voluntary role | Strategic impact

APPLY NOW → info@advocacyvsv.com

www.advocacyvsv.com 07852 594 677




 info@advocacyvsv.com

RECRUITING NOW



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Are you a mum, dad, grandparent or carer?
We need people with your experience to volunteer at your local Home-Start.

- ✔ Make a difference to the lives of parents and children
- ✔ Enhance your well-being
- ✔ Access free, high quality training

Find out more:
www.home-start.org.uk/volunteertoday



 www.home-start.org.uk/volunteertoday

Southern Health and Social Care Trust
TOGETHER, IMPROVING CARE, TRANSFORMING LIVES

Promoting Wellbeing Division

PROUDLY INVESTING IN OUR VOLUNTEERS

Could you give the gift of a lift?

Have you..

- Some free time on your hands
- A driving licence and access to a car?
- What it takes to be someone's helping hand?

We have various volunteer driver roles available across the Southern Trust area:

Role 1 involves bringing people to and from Day Care Services.

Role 2 involves bringing looked after children to and from school

“I truly enjoy being a volunteer driver. I have met some wonderful people and seen some beautiful parts of the country. And hopefully have made some positive difference in people's lives.”

- All Volunteer Drivers will be registered through the Volunteer Service.
- Full training will be provided
- Mileage will be reimbursed at a rate of 45p per mile, capped at 10,000 miles per year.

For more information contact:
Email: volunteer.service@southerntrust.hscni.net or Phone: 02837563946



volunteer.service@southerntrust.hscni.net



Belfast

Comhaltas
Fleadh Cheoil
na hÉireann
Belfast 2026

Be part of the Fleadh

Sunday 2 - Sunday 9 August 2026

Celebrating
Together



Belfast
City Council



Comhaltas



Arts CCE

 www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteer-at-the-fleadh

*V*Training

UPCOMING SESSIONS



**Volunteering, Safeguarding,
Volunteer Management,
Governance**



 <https://mailchi.mp/volunteernow/vtraining>

The graphic features a light blue background with a green curved banner at the top. On the left, an illustration of a man with white hair and glasses looking at a clipboard. The HSC logo and 'Health and Social Care' text are in the top left. 'Support Resources' is written in the top right with icons of a house, a knot, and a speech bubble. The main title 'The Practitioner's Toolkit' is in large bold letters, with a subtitle 'Mental Health and Ethnic Minority Groups' below it. At the bottom, four blue buttons are arranged horizontally: 'Introduction', 'Quick Tips', 'Barriers to Accessing Services', and 'Accessing the Appropriate Support - List of Resources'.

**The Practitioner's Toolkit:
Mental Health and Ethnic Minority Groups**
is now available!

This toolkit considers how mental health is viewed in different cultures, barriers to accessing services, cultural competences in mental health, 'dos and don'ts' quick reference guide

There is also information on interpreting and translation services as well as other support organisations that practitioners can refer clients to

Download the toolkit [HERE](#)



The **Online Safety Hub** is a central place where young people, parents, carers and professionals can find practical advice and support about child safety online, all in one easy-to-use site

Visit the Online Safety Hub [HERE](#)

Updated regularly with resources from trusted organisations as part of the Northern Ireland Executive's [Online Safety Strategy](#), the Hub now includes video tours for [adults](#) and [young people](#) to guide you through its features

The Hub is designed for sharing, so please use the resources, spread the word and help us grow by contributing your organisation's content [HERE](#)



FREE resources for primary school aged children

A fun and engaging session for making safer passengers and future drivers



If you work with primary school-aged children, we've got everything you need for a fun and engaging road safety session they'll love - And it's free!

Backseat Boss is an educational initiative for KS1, KS2 and SEN students, brought to you by AXA UK

With engaging lessons, games, and activities, children will learn how to be safer passengers and future drivers

The ready-to-go session makes road safety rules stick, with:

Fun games and activities

Simple, memorable safe driving rules

All lesson materials provided

Learn more about the programme and get your free resources

[HERE](#)



SOUTHERN TRUST AREA

RESOURCES

 English

CYPSP
Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership

The CYPSP Translation Hub provides you with important information on Health, Education, Housing, Employment, Government Services, Cost of living, Contacts for support and much more.....

 العربية


Scan me

www.cypsp.hscni.net/translation-hub

 Health	 Family Support	 SureStart	 Cares	 Cost of Living Crisis	 Education
 Housing	 Employment	 Safety/Community	 Police	 Money/Grant Advice	 COVID-19
 Government Services	 Trism Translated Information	 Ukraine Advice	 Sign Language	 EU Settlement Migration	 Youth Wellness Web

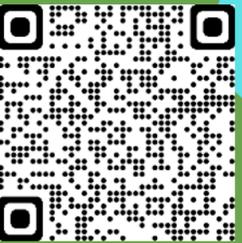
CYPSP
Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership

Youth Wellness Web

A place where everyone deserves to be helped at any time, no matter how big or small the problem is!

If you're struggling, it's okay to reach out:

Visit
cypsp.hscni.net/youth-wellness-web/


Scan QR code

**SCHOOL BULLYING
WELLBEING
BEREAVEMENT
MENTAL HEALTH**

Call Childline on:
0800 1111

Call LIFELINE on:
0808 808 8000

Text Shout:
852558

Deaf & hard of hearing
textphone users:
18001 0808 808 8000



<https://cypsp.hscni.net/translation-hub>



<https://cypsp.hscni.net/youth-wellness-web>



SOUTHERN TRUST AREA

RESOURCES

CYPSP
Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership

"Behind every child who believes in themselves is a parent who believed in them first" Matthew Jacobson



Resources to help you:

Your influence as a parent is one of the most significant factors in your child's life chances. We want to support and work with you as the primary care giver and educator for your children to ensure what we offer is meaningful, consistent and available at the point of need.

Scan QR codes or visit our parents support pages for lots of advice, information, support services, parenting programmes and much more

Parent Support
The Parent Support webpage is designed for Parents and Organisations working to support families using group work approaches.
cypsp.hscni.net/ebpp/

WELCOME TO THE YOUTH WELLNESS WEB
Parents/Carers support
tinyurl.com/kxf2yk7v



<https://cypsp.hscni.net/youth-wellness-web/parent-teacher-zone> / <https://cypsp.hscni.net/ebpp/>



SOUTHERN TRUST AREA

FAMILY
SUPPORT

PARENTLINE NI

A safe space for every parent,
every step of the way!



Call us today on 0808 8020 400

 0808 8020 400

Parents, carers, family members...

If you need us
we're here

0808 8020 400



 0808 8020 400

 parentline@ci-ni.org.uk

 www.ci-ni.org.uk/parentline



**Apply for
free support
for your child**



WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

The **National Deaf Children's Society** and **Family Fund** have partnered to deliver a new UK-wide funding programme for families raising deaf children aged 0 to 11

The programme helps families access assistive technology, specialist equipment, and British Sign Language (BSL) learning, supporting children to communicate, learn and take part fully in everyday life

What Funding Is Available?

You can apply for funding towards:

- Assistive technology for hearing, communication or learning
- BSL learning for children and families
- Computers or tablets to support communication and learning

Who Can Apply?

You may be eligible if:

- You are the main carer of a deaf child aged 0–11 (or still in primary education)
- Your child has any level of hearing loss, including temporary or hearing loss in one ear
- You live anywhere in the UK

There is no income threshold

This programme has its own eligibility criteria, and you can apply even if you've had a Family Fund grant before

How To Apply

Apply directly through Family Fund - Check eligibility and apply online via the Family Fund Website [HERE](#)

Delivered by Family Fund in partnership with the National Deaf Children's Society

Where will the service be delivered?

Each of our services have offices across the Trust Areas and will also ensure they can find a location for your appointments that suits you. You can also request your appointments to be held online if that is your preferred option.

Getting Started is Simple

- Self-refer - Complete our simple online forms or call us directly
- Ask someone to help. They can complete the referral form or call us with your permission

For information, advice and to find out more about services near you visit www.DrugsandAlcoholNI.info



"Addressing drugs and alcohol together"



Who delivers the service

The service is delivered by 3 organisations across each of the 5 HSC Trust Areas.

If you live in the Belfast Trust Area contact Inspire Addiction Services

Tel: 0800 987 4117
Email: addictionservices@inspirewellbeing.org
Website: www.inspirewellbeing.org

If you live in the Northern Trust Area contact Links Counselling Service

Tel: 028 3834 2825
Email: office@linkscounselling.com
Website: www.linkscounselling.com/stepstochange
Online Referral Form:
www.linkscounselling.com/get-counselling

If you live in the Southern Trust Area contact Links Counselling Service

Tel: 028 3834 2825
Email: office@linkscounselling.com
Website: www.linkscounselling.com/stepstochange
Online Referral Form:
www.linkscounselling.com/get-counselling

If you live in the South Eastern Trust Area contact Inspire Addiction Services

Tel: 0800 987 4117
Email: addictionservices@inspirewellbeing.org
Website: www.inspirewellbeing.org

If you live in the Western Trust Area contact ASCERT

Tel: 0800 2545 123
Email: steps2change@ascert.biz
Website: www.ascert.biz/project/steps-to-change/



Project supported by the PHA



Steps to Change

Supporting adults and families across Northern Ireland who are affected by the use of drugs or alcohol



Are you concerned about your substance use or a loved one's substance use?

We understand that reaching out to access counselling support for the first time or having previous involvement can be overwhelming.

This free, confidential and professionally qualified service will support you to feel comfortable and safe as we work with you to understand your needs and offer you the right support.

We will work with you at your own pace, in your own way.

What to expect with this service?

The service can offer:

- One to One brief advice or therapeutic support to adults aged 18+ years
- Family Support including advice, information and structured support to families impacted by a loved one's substance use, even if loved ones are not engaged in support



How We Work Together

Your choice - Whether that's cutting down, stopping, or finding balance

You lead - We follow your goals and timeline

Flexible support - Face to face, phone, or online sessions

Up to 10 sessions of one to one support – Designed around what works for you

Families can receive up to 5 sessions of family support

Completely confidential - Your privacy matters

How to access the service

This service has an open access. We accept referrals from;

- Adults seeking help can self-refer
- Family members or friends
- Professional referrals welcome



Services Available Through The Hub May Include...

- Practical Support
- Disability Support
- Drug & Alcohol Support
- Emotional Health & Wellbeing
- Signposting to Other Supports
- Advice & Guidance
- Family Support
- Education Support
- Youth Support
- Parenting Programmes
- Behaviour Support
- Parenting Support

"The hub linked me with services I didn't know existed"

"It was so simple to make a referral and I got the help I needed"

"After a friend recommended that I contact the hub, I rang and spoke to the hub co-ordinator who helped me to make a self-referral"



There Are 3 Family Support Hubs In the Southern Trust Area

ARMAGH & DUNGANNON HUB

Caroline Williamson
PosAbility, Barnardos
Grange Building Tower Hill
Armagh
BT61 9DR
M: 07514 724926
T: 028 3741 4541

CRAIGAVON & BANBRIDGE HUB

Lisa Grant
NIACRO
26 Carleton Street, Portadown Co. Armagh
BT62 3EP
T: 028 38331168
E: familysupporthub@niacro.co.uk

NEWRY & MOURNE HUB

Allison Slater
Bolster Community
Unit 1, Killeavy Road
Newry
BT35 6UA
T: 028 3083 5764
E: familysupporthub@bolstercommunity.org

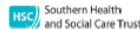


Southern Area **FAMILY SUPPORT HUB**

Many families need a little extra help sometimes



Information for Families



The 3 **Family Support Hubs** in the Southern Area continue to operate as normal and are open for referrals

Please make any **referrals by e-mail** [HERE](#)

Download the **December edition** of the **Family Support Hubs newsletter** [HERE](#)

Click on the below thumbnail to watch the **Southern Area Family Support Hub promotional video**



What is the Family Support Hub?

- The Family Support Hub is a meeting of representatives from community, voluntary and statutory organisations who deliver services for children and families in your area.
- Each Family Support Hub has a lead body who co-ordinates the meeting and receives the referrals.
- The members of the Family Support Hub are from a range of statutory and community/voluntary agencies who offer services in your area. These agencies include; Education Welfare, Health Visiting, Womens Aid, Homestart, Social Services Surestart and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.
- Referrals will not be accepted without your consent. If the young person you are seeking support for is over 16, they must also sign the referral form.
- For more information follow this link <https://vimeo.com/216493917>

Your Family Support Hub Will

- Meet once a month to discuss referrals to identify and connect you and your family to the service you need at a time when you need it.
- Work in partnership with you and your family.
- Act professionally ensuring all information is treated in a confidential manner.

How The Hub Works

A referral form is submitted to your local hub-coordinator.

The Hub Co-ordinator may contact you for more information prior to the Hub meeting.

Hub Co-ordinator will present all referrals received to the monthly meeting. The Hub members will then discuss your referral and aim to match your family to the best service for you.

Only core Hub Members attend the meeting, you will not need to attend.

You will receive a letter from the Hub Co-ordinator to let you know what service was identified as most appropriate to meet your needs.

The service that was identified as most appropriate will then contact you directly.

You can choose whether or not you wish to accept the support that has been offered. You are in control.

What Are The Criteria For Making A Referral To The Hub?

- Your family would like support - this is a voluntary process and you can withdraw your referral at any time.
- You are a family with children aged 0 -17 years.
- No social worker currently involved with your family.

Some of the challenges the Hub can help with



Who Can Refer To The Hub?

- You can make a self-referral to the family support hub or a referral can be made by anyone working on your behalf i.e. teacher, doctor, health visitor or community group.
- You can download a referral form from <http://www.cypsp.hscni.net/family-support-hubs/> or just pick up the phone and call your local family support hub co-ordinator. Details can be found on the back of this leaflet.





SOUTHERN TRUST AREA

FOSTER CARE



Could you be the change in a young person's life?

Supported Lodgings/STAY

Supported lodgings/STAY hosts provide accommodation to care-experienced young people and young refugees, and offer practical and emotional support to guide them towards independent living.

Hosts receive training, support and financial assistance.

0800 0720 137
adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net



The **STAY** project, (**Supported Transition Accommodation for young people**) offers a bedroom to a 16-21 year old, who needs lodging type accommodation. These young people are usually in work, college, apprenticeships or school. They have faced challenges in life, but are managing well, and are close to being able to live independently, but need that final bit of 'long arm' support!

You can be working full-time, or be unemployed, have experience as a parent, or none at all. We will talk you through the process, and explain the financial and emotional support we offer to our hosts and young people, and we do a short assessment and some basic background checks.

You may want to offer a short-term option to a young person who has arrived to NI and has no family supports or networks, a long-term situation, or respite.

All you need is a desire to help, and a spare bedroom.

If you are interested you can contact Fidelma Ruddy **07354168277** or Mark Coiley on **07860918712** for an informal chat, with no obligation



SOUTHERN TRUST AREA

FOSTER CARE

HELLO SPRING

Give a child a brighter future

Start your journey to become a Short Breaks carer today!

Short Breaks Service
for children with a disability

Could you become a Short Breaks foster carer?
If you can commit to a minimum of one overnight of care per month for a child with a disability get in touch with our team.
We offer: Allowances | Training | Support

START HERE

Contact:
T: 02837 564350
E: shortbreaks.team@southerntrust.hscni.net
Short Breaks | Southern Health & Social Care Trust



shortbreaks.team@southerntrust.hscni.net



The nicotine content of many 2ml nicotine pods for multi-pod devices is equivalent to a pack of 20 cigarettes

If you don't smoke, don't vape!

And, if you are smoking and need help to quit, find a local stop smoking service this **No Smoking Month**

Find out more [HERE](#)

FREE 1-TO-1 SUPPORT PROVIDED BY VERVE HEALTH TRAINERS

**WANT TO CREATE YOUR OWN PERSONAL HEALTH PLAN?
WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH THROUGH MOTIVATION AND SUPPORT?**

The Health Trainer Service is:

- Completely FREE!
- Available across the Southern Health and Social Care Trust

The Health Trainer will:

- Help you develop your own personalised health plan
- Signpost and refer to activities, programmes and services
- Provide encouragement and motivation to help you achieve your personalised goals

The areas in which the Health Trainer can provide support are:

- Physical activity
- Alcohol awareness
- Eating a healthier diet
- Mental and emotional wellbeing

If you live in the SHSCT and would like to talk to a qualified Health Trainer contact:

Motivational support available by phone or face to face. Self-referrals welcome to this FREE service.

www.verve-network.co.uk

Contact the Community Health Trainer Service
T: 028 3756 3946 E: verve.network@southerntrust.hscni.net

HEALTH TRAINER ONE TO ONE HEALTH AND WELLNESS COACHING

SUPPORTING YOU TO MAKE HEALTHIER CHOICES...

Supporting you to **become more active**

Supporting you to look after your **mental and emotional wellbeing**

Supporting you to assess **how much alcohol is too much**

Supporting you to **connect to services and activities**

Supporting you to **make healthier eating choices**

Motivational support available by phone or face to face. Self-referrals welcome to this FREE service.

www.verve-network.co.uk

Contact the Community Health Trainer Service
T: 028 3756 3946 E: verve.network@southerntrust.hscni.net





ABC COUNCIL AREA

Domestic Abuse Training

Coercive Control Awareness & Response Initiative (CARI)

armaghsanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

Behind the Screen: Power, Pressure & Digital Boundaries

Online spaces aren't neutral. They influence how we see ourselves, relate to others, and understand what's "normal." Join us for an interactive session exploring how social media and digital platforms can reinforce harm — or be powerful tools for resistance and change.

How Online Influence Works

Explore both positive and negative impacts of digital spaces on behaviour and beliefs

Recognise Digital Harm

Identify pressure, manipulation, and harmful narratives that appear online

Set Healthy Boundaries

Learn strategies for maintaining digital wellbeing and protecting yourself online

Event Details

Location: Brownlow Community Hub, Craigavon BT65 5DL

Date: Monday 23rd March

Time: 10am – 1 pm

Facilitator: Tina Cadwell, specialist in digital influence, online harm, and coercive control

Book Your Place

Contact Tracy at Bolster Community

Phone: 028 3083 35764

Email: tracy@bolstercommunity.org

Part of the Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) programme. This session includes a neurodivergent-inclusive approach to understanding online spaces.



www.eventbrite.com/domestic-abuse-training



tracy@bolstercommunity.org



ABC COUNCIL AREA

GET HOPPING INTO A GETACTIVEABC EASTER

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENTS

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:
 EASTER MULTI-SPORTS CAMPS | SOUTH LAKE SPLASH INTO EASTER
 WATERSPORTS ACTIVITY DAY | LORD MAYOR EASTER EGG TRAIL | EASTER AT
 CRAIGAVON GOLF & SKI | OXFORD ISLAND EASTER TRAILS & WALKS
 EASTER GOLF

getactiveabc.com/easter

Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council

<https://getactiveabc.com/easter>

EASTER MULTI-SPORTS CAMPS

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT **BOOK ONLINE**

ALL CAMPS SUITABLE FOR AGE 5-11YRS

8, 9, 10 April	10.00am-12noon	Dromore Community Centre	€15PP
8, 9, 10 April	10.00am-12noon	South Lake Leisure Centre	€15PP
8, 9, 10 April	2.00pm-4.00pm	Orchard Leisure Centre	€15PP

getactiveabc.com/easter

Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council

<https://getactiveabc.com/easter-multi-skills>



ABC COUNCIL AREA



safeTALK
suicide alertness for everyone

action mental health

Join our FREE safeTALK training

Lurgan YMCA, 4 Carnegie Street, BT66 6AS

Thursday, 19th March 2026 @ 10am

OUR generation

PEACEPLUS Northern Ireland - Ireland

Co-funded by the European Union and UK Government

Northern Ireland Executive



Community Support Hub

A welcoming and warm space offering confidential help, support and advice for everyone.

- ABC COUNCIL
- HOUSING ADVICE
- MONEY ADVICE
- HEALTH
- EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

Northern Ireland Executive
www.northernireland.gov.uk

T:buc
Changing for the better, together

Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council



<https://register.enthuse.com/safeTALKLurgan>



www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/community-hub



ARMAGH LPG AREA

THE FIRST PLACE

HOME OF St. Patrick Festival

Armagh City
10-18 March 2026

LINE-UP INCLUDES:

- ♦ St Patrick's Open-Air Concert with The Tumbling Paddies and Guests
- ♦ Brian Finnegan and Friends in Concert
- ♦ Walking Tours ♦ Irish Coffee Masterclass
- ♦ Stained Glass Tour and Workshop
- ♦ Family Fun ♦ Sunrise at Navan

TO FIND OUT MORE AND PLAN YOUR VISIT SEE

[VisitArmagh.com/stpatrick](https://visitarmagh.com/stpatrick)



<https://visitarmagh.com/stpatrick>

What are General Practice Multi-Disciplinary Teams?

We understand that your physical health, mental health and social wellbeing are all equally important to you. To enhance the existing practice team and assist you in achieving these aims, you can now book an appointment with a physiotherapist, social worker, and mental health practitioner. You will also have improved access to health visitors and district nurses.

Multi-disciplinary teams seek to address any issues that you face at the earliest opportunity, providing access to a range of experts who can provide you with the care, advice and support that you need.

- ▶ GENERAL PRACTICE
- ▶ PHYSIOTHERAPY
- ▶ MENTAL HEALTH
- ▶ PHARMACIST
- ▶ SOCIAL WORK
- ▶ DISTRICT NURSING & HEALTH VISITING



Further Information

Further information about all of these services can be found at www.health-ni.gov.uk/mdt

Appointments

If you would like to book an appointment with any of these new services, please contact:



Suggestions, Comments, Complaints

We value your opinions and will act on them whenever possible. If you have any feedback on the services you have received, please fill out a feedback form.



General Practice Social Work



As part of the new practice based multi-disciplinary team, your GP practice now has a social work service available to registered patients of all ages.

You can book this service directly without first seeing your GP.



HEALTH AND WELLBEING 2026
DELIVERING TOGETHER

All three GP surgeries in **Rathfriland Health Centre** now have a Senior Social Worker, Kellie O'Donnell, as part of the team. Patients from any practice can now self refer. Please contact reception staff to book an appointment. Visit [HERE](#)

What are General Practice Social Workers?

General practice social workers have joined the multi-disciplinary team within your GP practice. Your social wellbeing affects how you feel about yourself, how well you function and the overall quality of your life. Issues which affect your social wellbeing may have a significant impact on your physical or mental health.

Social workers can discuss any problems you have and explore what is important to you. They will provide you with practical advice, help and support in order to address these problems.

Where the social worker feels that you may benefit from other services, they may work with other people or groups in your local community that can support your needs.

Types of Support Provided

The sort of things that we could help you with are:

- ▶ Isolation or loneliness
- ▶ Carer support
- ▶ Relationship difficulties
- ▶ Parenting difficulties
- ▶ Housing difficulties
- ▶ Stress
- ▶ Bereavement
- ▶ Traumatic life events
- ▶ Financial difficulties
- ▶ Alcohol and drug issues

Together we can:

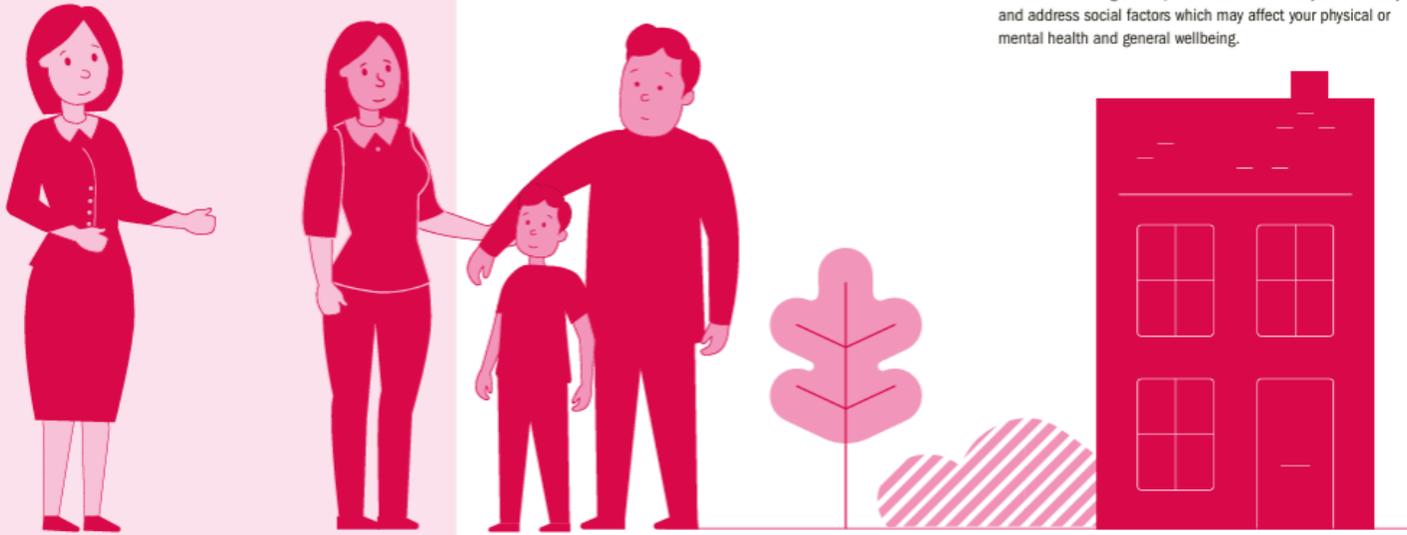
- ▶ Discuss any issues you are facing
- ▶ Explore what is important for you
- ▶ Agree what help we can offer you
- ▶ Provide you with support

What is Social Work?

Social work seeks to improve the social wellbeing of individuals, families and communities. Social workers do this by:

- ▶ Promoting people's independence
- ▶ Supporting people's social inclusion and participation in society
- ▶ Helping people to keep safe and well

If you choose to use this service, social workers and social work assistants working in the practice will work with you to identify and address social factors which may affect your physical or mental health and general wellbeing.



All three GP surgeries in **Rathfriland Health Centre** now have a Senior Social Worker, Kellie O'Donnell, as part of the team

Patients from any practice can now self refer

Please contact reception staff to book an appointment

Visit [HERE](#)



BANBRIDGE LPG AREA

CYBER QUEST
QUALIFICATIONS

AGED 16-25yrs?

BUILD CONFIDENCE, LEADERSHIP AND CYBER SKILLS
Coming to Newry & Banbridge areas, CyberQuest is a 6 month programme to support your growth and next steps.

YOUR JOURNEY

- CONNECT WITH OTHERS
- DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS
- PROGRESS TO HIGHER LEVEL QUALIFICATIONS

INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION OF DIGITAL LITERACY

Level 2 - Leadership and Management

CYBER AWARENESS TRAINING

YouthAction NORTHERN IRELAND

This project is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)

PEACEPLUS Northern Ireland - Ireland
Co-funded by the European Union and UK Government

Contact Debbie for more details via deborah@youthaction.org

CYBER QUEST



deborah@youthaction.org



CRAIGAVON LPG AREA

CALLING ALL SPORTS CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

We are creating place plans for Craigavon, Lurgan and Portadown and we would love to hear from you. You are invited to come along to an engagement session to discuss all things sports in your area.

Tuesday 24 March
4.00pm - 7.00pm
Sports Place Forum
South Lake Leisure Centre

Wednesday 25 March
7.00pm - 8.00pm
Sports Place Workshop
Online (Registration required)

Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Community Planning Partnership

<https://cdn.jotfor.ms/260255224133345>

Join our Community Conversation

Let's talk about safety, support, and trust

The Police Service of Northern Ireland is hosting a private listening event for Eastern European communities, older people, and people with disabilities to share experiences, ideas, and concerns about:

- Personal and community safety
- Domestic abuse and access to support
- How services can be made more inclusive and accessible for everyone

You're welcome to attend whether or not you've had personal experience. This is a safe and supportive space to listen, learn, and share.

Please note: this is not a reporting event.

Tuesday 24th March 2026
Seagoe Hotel, Portadown

Arrival from 9:30am (tea and coffee served)
Event begins at 10:00am
Event finishes at 1:00pm
Lunch served from 1:00-1:30pm

Interpreters, accessible facilities, and specialist support organisations will be available throughout the event.

Your voice will help the Police Service of Northern Ireland develop safer, more accessible pathways to support and improve how we engage with and serve the Eastern European communities, older people and people with disabilities

Please RSVP by 6th March 2026 to: Lynsey.McKee@psni.police.uk
When replying, please also advise of any dietary requirements.

Lynsey.McKee@psni.police.uk

MUGA PROGRAMME

GETACTIVEABC.COM
GET ACTIVE | GET MOVING | GET OUTDOORS



The project will:

- Increase the sporting and physical activity levels of the local community
- Build community capacity by taking ownership of facility and the associated programming.
- Provide diversionary activities for this identified target age group.
- Bring different communities together through the use of sport and themed workshops.

This programme is funded by Department for Communities and Sport Northern Ireland. The programme is organised and delivered by Armagh City, Banbridge, Craigavon Borough Council's Sports Development Team.



<https://getactiveabc.com/community-engagement-mugas>



CRAIGAVON LPG AREA



TADA WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO
JOIN US

FOR TEA/COFFEE AND SCONES

TADA's ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 25th March 2026 in Millennium
Court, Portadown BT62 3NX

10.30am registration and browse information
stalls

Please reply your attendance before Friday
20th March 2026

RSVP 028 38398888

or email info@tadarsn.com



info@tadarsn.com

NEWRY & MOURNE LPG AREA





Schools Networking Event
[Newry & Mourne and South Armagh Areas]
Wednesday 4th February 2026
SCORECARD 26.2

What did we do?



- 40 Services** registered for an information table
- 14 Schools** registered for staff to attend on the day
- 16 Pupils** from Newry Nigh School volunteered on the day



- Resource Produced** with info. on all services attending on the day
- Event Evaluations** taken from services & schools to obtain feedback

How well did we do it?

How would you rate the value of this event today to connect school staff with local support for young people and families?

TOTAL	STALL HOLDERS	SCHOOL STAFF
100% agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful' or 'Useful'	100% agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful' or 'Useful'	100% agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful' or 'Useful'
75% (36 out of 48 Respondents) agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful'	74% (23 out of 31 Respondents) agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful'	76% (13 out of 17 Respondents) agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful'

What changed as a result? [SCHOOL STAFF]

How likely are you to use any of the information or these services for the benefit of your school in the future?

100% said they were 'Extremely Likely' or 'Likely' to use the information or these services for the benefit of their school in the future	70% said they were 'Extremely Likely' to use the information or these services for the benefit of their school in the future
--	---



(17 out of 17 Respondents)



(12 out of 17 Respondents)



NEWRY & MOURNE LPG AREA



FAMILY VOLUNTEERING

WE NEED HELP WITH

Supporting seeds and sapling growth in the Tree Nursery in Silent Valley

- Sat 28th March 2026: Mourne Heritage Trust, Silent Valley @ 10.30am

INTERESTED IN JOINING US?

Contact Bronagh:
07708 077 954
bronagh.demeillers@volunteernow.co.uk



bronagh.demeillers@volunteernow.co.uk



FAMILY VOLUNTEERING

WE NEED HELP WITH

- Sat 28th March 2026: Mourne Heritage Trust, Silent Valley,
- Sat 18 April 2026: Tesco Newry food donation collection
- Sat 16 May 2026: Newry Canal Tow Path IWA I
- Sun 14 June 2026: Gateway choir event

INTERESTED IN JOINING US?

Contact Bronagh:
07708 077 954
bronagh.demeillers@volunteernow.co.uk



bronagh.demeillers@volunteernow.co.uk



NEWRY & MOURNE LPG AREA

CYBER QUEST

QUALIFICATIONS

- INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION OF DIGITAL LITERACY
- Level 2 - Leadership and Management
- CYBER AWARENESS TRAINING

YOUR JOURNEY

- CONNECT WITH OTHERS
- DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS
- PROGRESS TO HIGHER LEVEL QUALIFICATIONS

Aged 16-25yrs?

BUILD CONFIDENCE, LEADERSHIP AND CYBER SKILLS
Coming to Newry & Banbridge areas, CyberQuest is a 6 month programme to support your growth and next steps.

YouthAction NORTHERN IRELAND

This project is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)

PEACEPLUS Northern Ireland - Ireland
Co-funded by the European Union and UK Government

Contact Debbie for more details via deborah@youthaction.org

CYBER QUEST



deborah@youthaction.org



NEWRY & MOURNE LPG AREA



Tender Beginnings Birth Trauma Support Group

Providing safety, connection, understanding,
healing and practical tools

What We Offer

- Sharing stories
- Coping tools and grounding practices
- Birth debrief
- Support in navigating the health/maternity system
- Exploring family & relationship impacts
- Practical wellbeing and self-care
- Referrals and resource sharing
- Peer mentoring

When & Where

Meets: Last Tuesday of every month

First session: Tuesday 27th January

Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Location: Newry Sure Start Building, Unit 1, Fiveaways, Armagh Road, Newry

Get in Touch

To register your interest or for further information:

Email: info@homestartnewry.com

Phone: 028:302 66139

You are not alone – support is here.



info@homestartnewry.com



RECRUITING NOW

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Are you a mum, dad, grandparent or carer?
We need people with your experience to volunteer at your local Home-Start.

- Make a difference to the lives of parents and children
- Enhance your well-being
- Access free, high quality training

Find out more:
www.home-start.org.uk/volunteertoday




www.home-start.org.uk/volunteertoday

SOUTH ARMAGH LPG AREA




Schools Networking Event
 [Newry & Mourne and South Armagh Areas]
 Wednesday 4th February 2026
SCORECARD 26.2

What did we do?



- 40 Services** registered for an information table
- 14 Schools** registered for staff to attend on the day
- 16 Pupils** from Newry Nigh School volunteered on the day



- Resource Produced** with info. on all services attending on the day
- Event Evaluations** taken from services & schools to obtain feedback

How well did we do it?

 How would you rate the value of this event today to connect school staff with local support for young people and families?

TOTAL	STALL HOLDERS	SCHOOL STAFF
100% agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful' or 'Useful'	100% agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful' or 'Useful'	100% agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful' or 'Useful'
75% (36 out of 48 Respondents) agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful'	74% (23 out of 31 Respondents) agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful'	76% (13 out of 17 Respondents) agreed the event was 'Extremely Useful'

What changed as a result? [SCHOOL STAFF]

 How likely are you to use any of the information or these services for the benefit of your school in the future?

100% said they were 'Extremely Likely' or 'Likely' to use the information or these services for the benefit of their school in the future	70% said they were 'Extremely Likely' to use the information or these services for the benefit of their school in the future
--	---



(17 out of 17 Respondents)



(12 out of 17 Respondents)



DUNGANNON LPG AREA



Bedtime Calm

Simple Steps to Help Your Kids Sleep Better and Wake Up Happier!



Johanna Callaghan
THE SLEEP SUCCESS COACH



Google Meet

Thurs 12th March (12:30pm)

Struggling with bedtime battles? Discover easy, effective strategies to create a calm bedtime routine. Say goodbye to sleepless nights and hello to happier mornings!

**To book your place, Contact Anita.
Email register@cwsan.org or phone 075 4063 5862**



This project is supported by PHA, through NICH project, managed by Community Networks in Northern Area



register@cwsan.org



Click on the below issue nos.
to view recent editions of 'FYI':

[Issue 162](#)
19th February 2026

[Issue 161](#)
29th January 2026

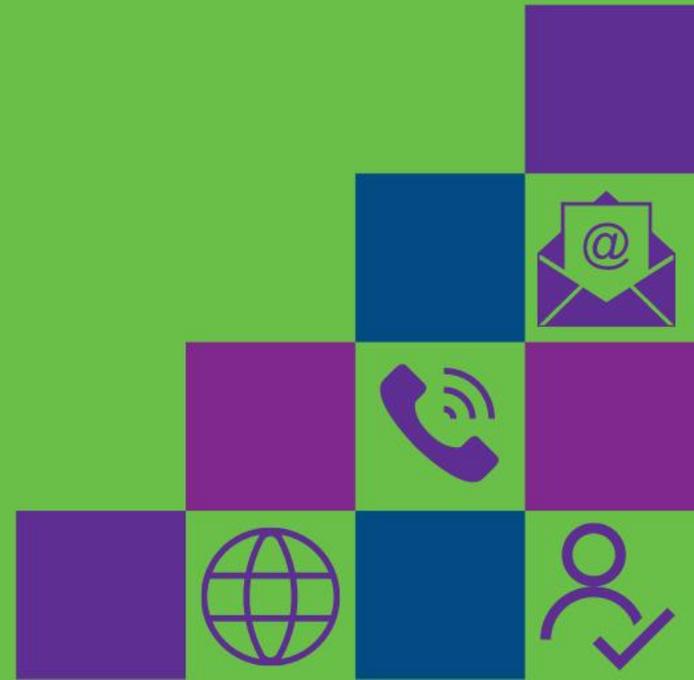
SUBMISSION

- ✓ Submit the information in the format you would like it to be included. We can't transform a word-heavy document into a flyer.
- ✓ Less words, bigger pictures!
- ✓ We do not advertise or endorse those events or programmes which are privately funded as a business.
- ✓ Information will usually be included for x1 edition, unless otherwise requested.



GUIDELINES

- ✓ 'FYI' will usually be issued every three weeks, on a Thursday. Please send your articles for inclusion by 4pm of the Tuesday prior to this.
- ✓ We may have to decline to advertise information which is not applicable to better outcomes for children and young people.
- ✓ Your feedback is welcome. (We are not perfect, but strive to be as good as we can.)
- ✓ Please let us know if 'FYI' has helped your service, event or activity in any way.



UPCOMING 2025 LPG MEETINGS

South Armagh	Tues. 24 th Mar
Banbridge	Wed. 15 th Apr
Newry & Mourne	Wed. 22 nd Apr
Dungannon	Tues. 28 th Apr
Armagh	Thur. 7 th May
Craigavon	Tues. 12 th May

Meetings are usually scheduled to begin at 10am
Formats will alternate between face-to-face & Zoom
(Refer to the Meetings Calendar on our [Linktree](#))



SCAN QR CODE
FOR INSTANT
ACCESS TO OUR
INFO. HUB



For further information on Locality Planning or 'FYI', contact:

Joanne Patterson (localityplanning@ci-ni.org.uk)

CYPSP, 2nd Floor, Health & Social Care Board, Tower Hill, Armagh. BT61 9DR

'FYI' NEWSLETTER CALENDAR
JANUARY TO JUNE 2026



JAN	ISSUE 160	Publication: 8 th Deadline: 6 th
	ISSUE 161	Publication: 29 th Deadline: 27 th
FEB	ISSUE 162	Publication: 19 th Deadline: 17 th
MAR	ISSUE 163	Publication: 12 th Deadline: 10 th
APR	ISSUE 164	Publication: 2 nd Deadline: 31 st
	ISSUE 165	Publication: 23 rd Deadline: 21 st
MAY	ISSUE 166	Publication: 14 th Deadline: 12 th
JUN	ISSUE 167	Publication: 4 th Deadline: 2 nd
	ISSUE 168	Publication: 25 th Deadline: 23 rd



Please submit your artwork in a print-ready format (jpeg, png or pdf) to localityplanning@ci-ni.org.uk



Advertise in our upcoming issue!

Circulation Date:

2nd April 2026

Copy Deadline:

31st March 2026



localityplanning@ci-ni.org.uk



Sign up to receive 'FYI' Newsletter TODAY!

E-mail: localityplanning@ci-ni.org.uk

