

# Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Annual Report 2021/22



***October 2022***



## Foreword from CYPSP Chair

### Aidan Dawson

Welcome to the 2021/22 Annual Report for the NI Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP/Partnership). This report outlines the progress that the CYPSP has made in the collaborative delivery of early intervention Children's Services Planning in Northern Ireland.



During 2021/22, we continued to operate in a year that brought continued significant challenges for us all. We maintained Partnership meetings, welcomed new members and strengthened cross Departmental collaboration.

Progress/improvement has been made in important areas, and this is evidenced through completed outcomes and performance monitoring and through completed Outcome Based Accountability (OBA) report cards.

The views of children and young people are fundamental to the development and implementation of CYPSP Strategic Planning. It is therefore the collective goal of the CYPSP to continuously develop and improve our approach to engaging children and young people in this process, and to capture the voice of children and young people in a manner which reflects the commitment of CYPSP to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

I want to take this opportunity to thank every one of you for all of the work done this year and to acknowledge the continued efforts made to work collaboratively to improve outcomes for children and young people.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Aidan Dawson'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Aidan Dawson, HMFPH  
CYPSP Chair**





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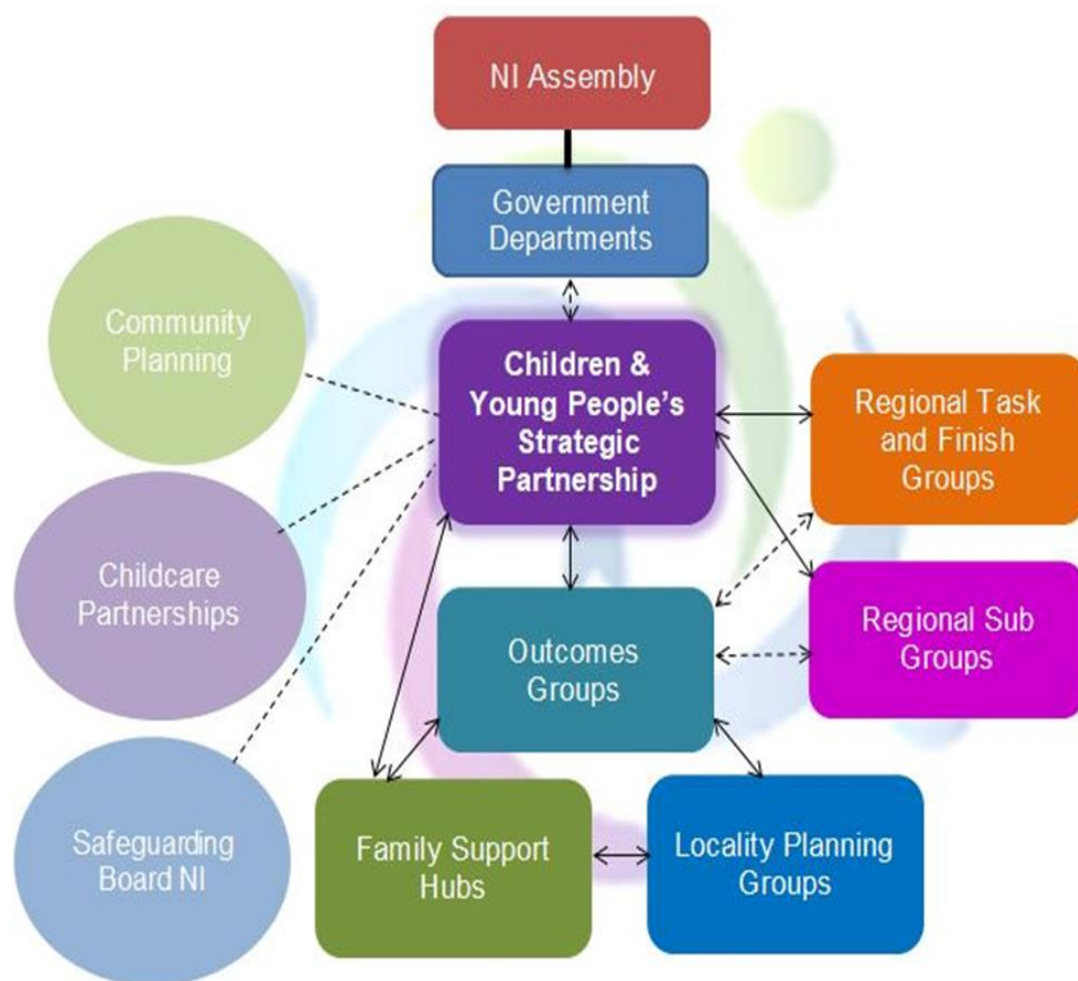
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# CYPSP Infrastructure

## Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People





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Performance Group of the Department of Health (SPPG) to support the Children's Services Planning (CSP) process.

The purpose of the NI Children and Young People's Plan (the Plan) is:

- To establish an agreed basis for collaboration in the delivery of children's services in order to address the outcomes of wellbeing as set out in the Northern Ireland Children and Young People's Strategy (2019-2029) and in line with the Programme for Government;
- To ensure that the Plan and supporting activities are focused on improving outcomes in relation to children in need;
- To promote co-production with children, young people and their families in the CSP integrated planning process;
- To support an integrated, multi-agency, information-based planning process;
- To identify opportunities for pooled budgets;
- Incorporate children's rights into the planning process;
- To ensure an effective and efficient, fully mandated planning structure which is representative of all key stakeholders is in place to support the delivery of the Plan.

**This report is the Annual Review for 2021/22.**



## Section 2: CYPSP Activity

### Record of Meetings

It was agreed that the Partnership would move to quarterly meetings. Meetings continued to take place virtually in accordance with Covid-19 restrictions, and good attendance levels were noted.

MEMBERSHIP		
Number of Partners		
Statutory	Vol/Com	BAME
22	12	1
MEETINGS		
Number of Partners in Attendance		
Date	Statutory	Vol/Com/BAME
6 May 2021	18	9
23 Aug 2021	13	11
8 Nov 2021*	17	12
3 Feb 2022	14	10

\* The Partnership meeting on 8 November 2021 was in the form of a workshop which focused on aligning processes, strengthening connections, championing the work of CYPSP and joining up action planning to aid with the development of the 2021-24 Plan.

Agendas, minutes and associated documentation from all meetings are available on the CYPSP website at <https://cypsp.hscni.net/children-and-young-peoples-strategic-partnership/>

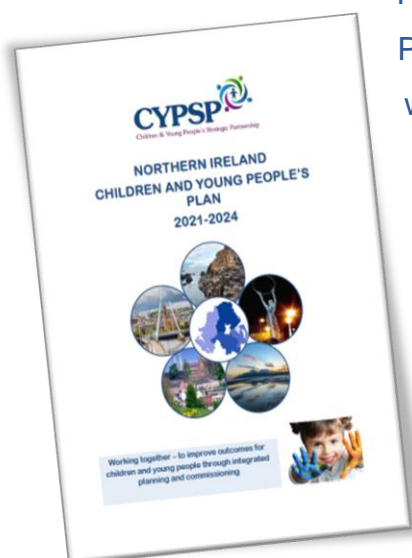
### Appointment of a New CYPSP Chairperson

February 2022 marked the departure of Mr Shane Devlin, Chief Executive of the Southern Health and Social Care Trust as Chair of CYPSP and Mr Aidan Dawson, Chief Executive of the NI Public Health Agency was appointed as the new Chair of CYPSP in March 2022.





## NI Children and Young People's Plan 2021-2024



The 2021-24 Plan was produced and approved by the Partnership in July 2021 and outlines the priorities which will drive the work of agencies supporting early intervention for children, young people and their families. The Plan was developed in consultation with children, young people, parents, service providers and partners at regional and local level. The Plan is available to download from CYPSP's website at <https://cypsp.hscni.net/children-and-young-peoples-strategic-partnership/our-plan/>

### Regional Subgroups / Task and Finish Groups / Reference Groups

Regional Subgroups, Task and Finish Groups and Reference Groups were re-aligned to CYPSP's regional priorities for 2021-24. As a result, a number of existing Groups were refreshed and a new Task and Finish Group was established.

Regional Subgroups act as a conduit between the five CYPSP Outcomes Groups, the Strategic Partnership (CYPSP), and other key strategic drivers, to review and share learning and good practice and identify those issues which will benefit from a regional approach.

Progress of these Groups is outlined on the next pages.





**Children's Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing (MHEWB) Regional Subgroup**  
**Chair: Monica McCann, Barnardo's, Co-Chair: Maxine Gibson, SPPG/DoH**

MEMBERSHIP		
Number of Partners on Subgroup		
Statutory		Vol/Com
7		4
MEETINGS		
Number of Partners in Attendance		
Date	Statutory	Vol/Com
14 Apr 2021	6	1
2 June 2021	5	1
4 Aug 2021	5	1
10 Feb 2022	6	4
PROGRESS		
<p>The Subgroup agreed its revised Terms of Reference in February 2021. Work is continuing in regard to establishing core and ad hoc membership. The Subgroup meetings are providing an opportunity for the coordination of information regarding service provision, both at locality level and within the member organisations, which will inform the wider CYPSP and other associated strategic drivers, in particular the Emotional and Wellbeing Services Framework, the Family Support Hub Network, and any relevant outworking's from the recommendations from the NI Mental Health Strategy. Work is ongoing to strengthen the links with children and young people through appropriate representation and the provision of updates from the Children and Young People's Participation Network.</p>		





## Children and Young People with Disabilities and Transitions (CwD) Regional Subgroup

Chair: Maxine Gibson, SPPG/DoH, Co-Chair: Rosaleen Dempsey, RNIB

MEMBERSHIP	
Number of Partners on Subgroup	
Statutory	Vol/Com
10	8
MEETINGS	
The Subgroup did not meet in 2021/22	
PROGRESS	
<p>The Subgroup Terms of Reference have been revised and the Subgroup reconvened in April 2022, to focus on the early offer of help as identified in Theme 1 of Draft Regional Disability Framework (Framework) which is: <b><u>"Improve our early offer of help and community based supports"</u></b> and Theme 4 of the Framework which is: <b><u>"Getting Transitions Right"</u></b>.</p> <p>The Group is also committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring the inclusion of the voice of children and young people, utilising feedback and consultation from groups already in existence;</li> <li>• Maintaining oversight of the recommendations from the 'Our Journey Through Disability' Report to ensure that CYPSP Outcome Groups are taking forward the recommendations as agreed by Outcomes Groups Chairs;</li> <li>• Ensuring a strategic approach to a shared language in respect of children with disabilities;</li> <li>• Acknowledging alignment with other key strategic documents such as the Children's Co-operations Act and Dept for Communities (DfC) Disability Strategy (These links are outlined in the <a href="#">NI Children &amp; Young People's Plan 2021-24</a>).</li> </ul>	





## Special Educational Needs (SEN) Strategic Development Regional Task and Finish Group

Chair: Ricky Irwin, Dept of Education

MEMBERSHIP		
Number of Partners on Subgroup		
Statutory		Vol/Com
6		5
MEETINGS		
Number of Partners in Attendance		
Date	Statutory	Vol/Com
2 Feb 2022	5	3
PROGRESS		
<p>This new Task and Finish Group had its first meeting in February 2022, at which the Terms of Reference were reviewed and signed off. The purpose of this Group is to strengthen links between the Special Educational Needs Transformation agenda including the Education Authority Strategic Development Programme (EA SEND SDP) and Dept of Education’s New SEN Framework, and the CYPSP Voluntary, Community Youth Sector partners as well as those with lived experience, to ensure these perspectives are integrated in the development of SEN policy and services.</p>		





## Children and Young People and Offending Reference Group

**Chair: Stephen Martin, Youth Justice Agency**

MEETINGS
The Reference Group did not meet in 2021/22
PROGRESS
Following the standing down of the Children and Young People's Offending Subgroup during Covid-19, the process of re-establishing the Subgroup as a Reference Group to CYPSP commenced in February 2022. Terms of Reference and membership have been revised and the newly refreshed. The Reference Group had their first meeting in May 2022. The Groups concerns are defined as: children and young people at risk of offending; children and young people in the justice system; and children and young people for whom offending and its consequences present as significant risk.

## PHA Regional Ethnic Minority and Migrant Advisory Group

**Chair: Paddy McEldowney, Public Health Agency**

MEETINGS
The Reference Group met 4 times during 2021/22 via Zoom
PROGRESS
The PHA Regional Ethnic Minority and Migrant Advisory Group agreed to become a Reference Group for CYPSP in November 2021 with CYPSP represented on the Group from 2020. The aim of the Regional Minority Ethnic & Migrant Health and Social Wellbeing Advisory Group is to provide leadership, advice and support for health and social care professionals, community and voluntary groups and others seeking to improve the health and social wellbeing of minority ethnic and migrant communities across Northern Ireland. To date the Group have assisted CYPSP with the development and launch of their Migrant Minority Ethnic Needs Assessment in respect of access to multi-agency services and continues to support CYPSP with the roll out of key recommendations from the Report.





## Section 3: Co-Production

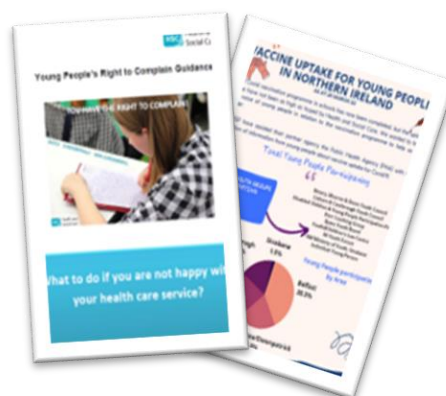
### The Voice of Children and Young People

The voice of children and young people is central to CYPSP's planning process. To ensure meaningful and direct contribution from children and young people, as partners to the CYPSP strategic planning and review process, the Regional Children and Young People's (CYP) Participation Network was launched in January 2022. The membership of the CYP Participation Network builds on our relationships with existing youth groups, and includes representation/collaboration from the following organisations:

- Education Authority (EA) Youth Voice Groups NI wide (11 council areas)
- Youth Advisory Panel - Children's Law Centre
- Pure Mental NI
- Bytes Project
- Northern Ireland Youth Forum
- Include Youth
- Futureproof Youth Group
- Bolster Youth Group
- Disabled Children and Young People's Participation Project

### CYP Participation Network Achievements in 2021/2022

- Workshops were facilitated with the Children's Law Centre Youth Forum to co-produce guidelines for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) on the right to complain based on recommendations within NI Commissioner for Children and Young People (NICCY) *Still Waiting* Report.



- 65 young people were surveyed on behalf of the Public Health Agency around the barriers and challenges associated with the uptake of the Covid-19 vaccination.





- Assisted in the production and design of the Youth Wellness Web and the co-design and distribution of a wallet card to promote the resource.



- CYPSP has become a member of the Project Board of several EA Youth Voice Groups including Mid and East Antrim, Antrim and Newtownabbey, Causeway Coast and Glens, Fermanagh and Omagh and Derry and Strabane District Council Areas. Consultation with these young people is planned for the coming year.

"One reason I joined Youth Voice is to advocate for inclusion in schools for children with physical disabilities as well as learning and sensory difficulties. Another is to promote uniform recycling as families struggle with the cost of these, especially after Covid and with bills rising"

"participants indicated that they feel a part of the decision- making process.." (Causeway Coast & Glens Youth Voice)

"[The Youth Wellness Web] is something that is really needed. I will definitely make use of this and I can think of friends and people in my school that will use it as well."

Further information including the Terms of Reference of the CYP Participation Network, completed consultations and the Certificate of Recognition provided to young people who contribute to the consultations run by the CYP Participation Network will be available to view on the [CYPSP website](https://www.cypsp.hscni.net/) in the coming months.



## Parental Participation

The provision of a Parental Participation Service for CYPSP is contracted directly by the SPPG to enable the perspective of parents to influence the activities of the CYPSP and its working groups, by developing and promoting effective ways of engaging parents in the planning process and in the context of the agreed regional priorities for CYPSP. From January 2022, this work has been taken forward by Children in Northern Ireland (CiNI), and work has progressed regarding strengthening links between parents and Outcomes Groups, and the proposed development of a network of Parent Champions.

**Parent Champions**

**USE YOUR VOICE FOR CHANGE**

**WHO WE ARE**

The Parent Participation service recognizes the importance of designing services with parents using their voice and the skills of practitioners together to improve services. We understand the vital role that parents have in creating improved outcomes for children and families. We can help to support parents to influence the activities of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) and to support service providers to develop and improve co-production practice with parents.

We will do this through:

- Recruitment
- Training
- Building Purposeful
- Building Relationships
- Building Capacity
- Protection of their position

**EXPECTATIONS**

- Create opportunities within your organisation for co-production with parents
- Promote co-production within your organisation
- Support colleagues with co-production
- Meeting with other parent champions to share knowledge of best practice
- Participate in best practice events
- Engage directly with CYPSP

**BENEFITS**

- Working and support from the Parent Participation Service
- Training and development opportunities
- Working closely with CYPSP
- Being effective service users and making a difference to children and families
- Helping to build a better future for children and families
- Helping to build a better future for children and families

**HOW TO BE A CHAMPION**

- Step 1: Have a conversation with your line manager and get approval
- Step 2: Complete an expression of interest to become a Parent Champion
- Step 3: You will be briefed on the role of Parent Champion and be invited to attend an induction
- Step 4: You will be linked in with other Parent Champions and progress on your co-production journey

**TAKE ACTION**

**For more info:**  
Email: [PPTeam@ci-ni.org.uk](mailto:PPTeam@ci-ni.org.uk)  
[www.ci-ni.org.uk](http://www.ci-ni.org.uk)

**Passionate Parents**

**USE YOUR VOICE FOR CHANGE**

**TAKE ACTION**

**WHO WE ARE**

The Parent Participation service recognizes the importance of designing support with parents using their voice and the skills of practitioners together to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families. We believe that parents are vital to achieving this and we are here to support parents to influence the activities of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP).

**What is the CYPSP?**

It brings together agencies which include organisations from the voluntary and community sector whose goal is to improve the lives of children and young people in Northern Ireland.

"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" (CYPSP Website)

**WHY JOIN?**

- It is our belief that parents/carers should have a platform to have their voices heard
- This space is for you and you will be the drivers of how this space is shaped and what you will achieve
- This is an opportunity to have an impact on policies that affect you and your family and to influence the people who are there to support you
- Listening to parents / carers views and experiences helps organisations and professionals know what is working well and where they can do better
- Along the way we can support you to gain valuable skills and experience to take with you into other areas of your life such as parenting, employment and volunteering, among others.

**HOW DO WE ACHIEVE THIS?**

Parent Champions  
Parent Forum  
Parent Voice  
Parent Power  
Parent Impact  
Parent Influence

**WHAT WILL WE DO?**

The first get together will be a blank canvas, where you can discuss your experiences and what could have been done to support you better

Here are some ideas...

- Issues important to parents / carers and their children and family
- Gaps in support
- Policy changes
- How professionals that provide support can work better with parents!

...but it is your space so it is really up to you what is talked about!

**WHAT SUPPORT WILL I HAVE?**

The parent participation service is here to support any parent who wants to get involved. We are here to remove any barriers that may be in the way. We believe in equality and being an inclusive service for all. Please speak to us about any of your concerns.

We are here to support you!

**For more info:**  
Email: [PPTeam@ci-ni.org.uk](mailto:PPTeam@ci-ni.org.uk)  
[www.ci-ni.org.uk](http://www.ci-ni.org.uk)



## Section 4: CYPSP Outcomes Groups

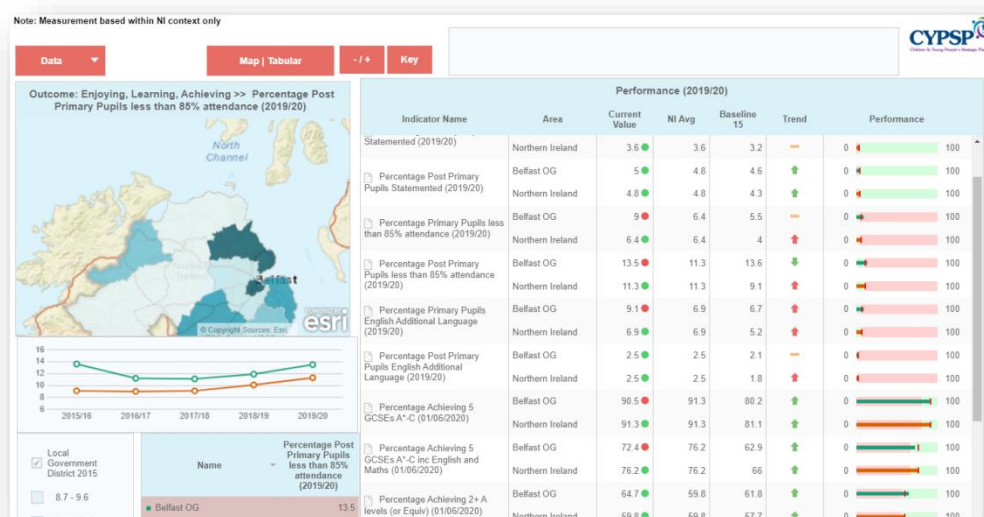
The Partnership supported the work of five Outcomes Groups (OGs) to coordinate and plan Early Intervention Family Support Services in their respective area. OGs have continued to meet online over 2021/22 due to Covid-19.

### Record of 2021/22 OG Meetings

OG Area	Meeting				
	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Belfast</b>	15 Apr 2021	15 June 2021	26 Oct 2021	18 Jan 2022	2 Mar 2022
<b>Northern</b>	15 June 2021	12 Oct 2021	27 Jan 2022	30 Mar 2022	
<b>South Eastern</b>	4 May 2021	20 Sept 2021	23 Mar 2022		
<b>Southern</b>	30 June 2021	22 Sept 2021	1 Dec 2021	26 Jan 2022	
<b>Western</b>	30 June 2021	25 Aug 2021	27 Oct 2021	15 Dec 2021	23 Feb 2022

### OGs Performance

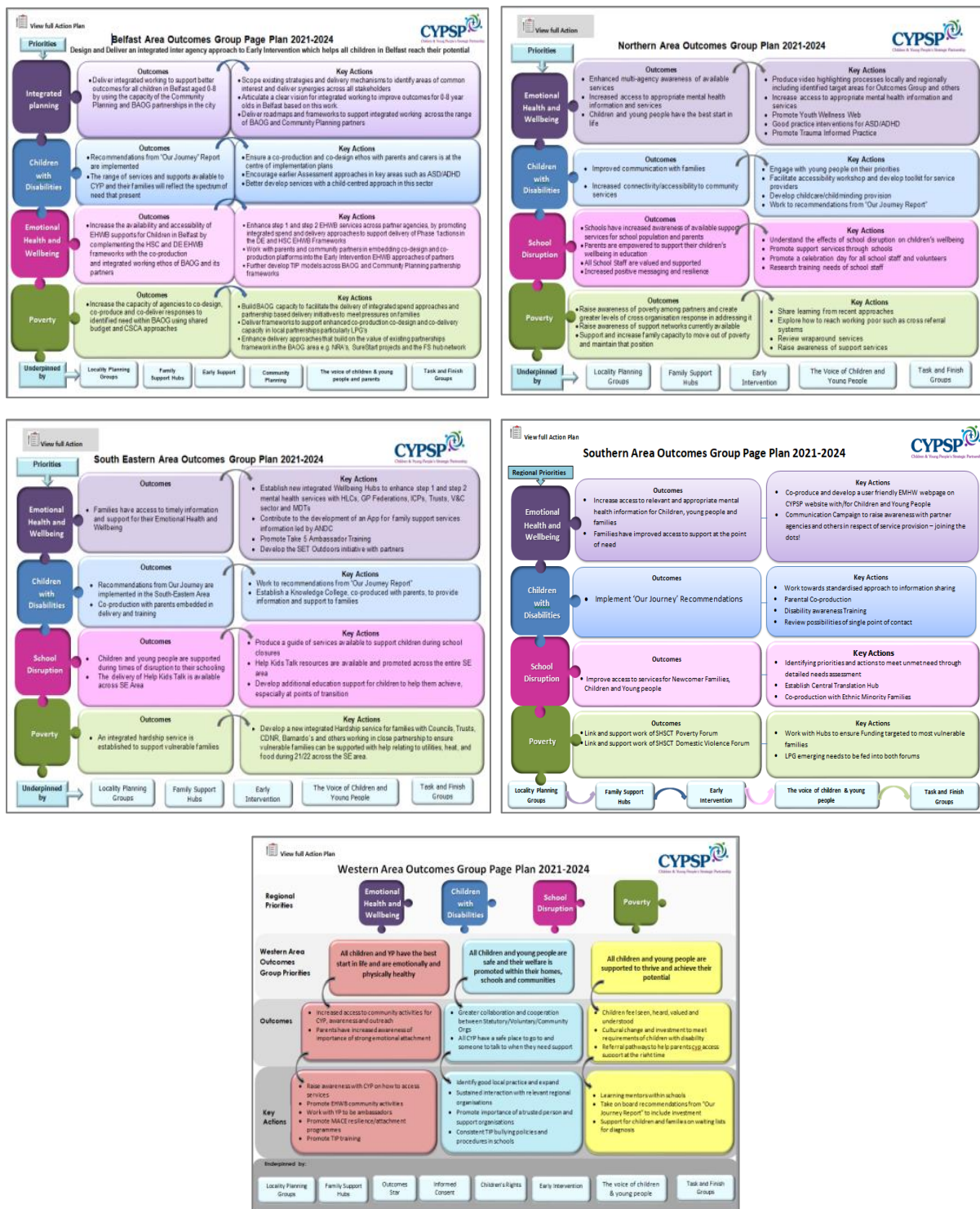
The CSP Information Team produced Performance Profiles and printable reports for each OG area. These can be viewed at [Performance Profiles](#) and [HSCT Reports](#).





## 2021-24 Action Plans

In line with the 2021-24 NI Children and Young People's Plan, each of the OGs produced a Plan on a Page to reflect the three-year action plan. Individual OG Plans including baseline data can be viewed by clicking on corresponding image below.

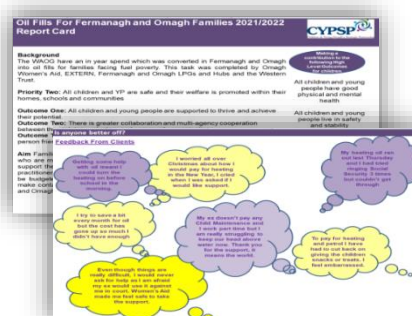
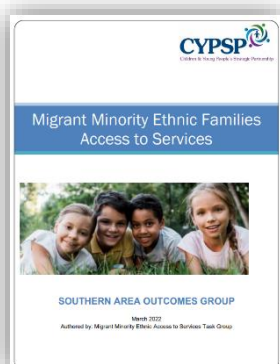




## Outcomes Groups Achievements in 2021/22

Below are some examples of the quality, breadth and nature of collaborative OG working, across the region.

- Establishment of local Task and Finish Groups across all five OGs;
- Launch of CYPSP's Youth Wellness Web – a central emotional health and wellbeing resource designed and developed with young people;
- Integrated spending pilots by Belfast Area OG in response to poverty funded by Belfast Area OG, Belfast City Council and GP Federation;
- Northern Area OG agreed jointly commissioned conference around mental health and emotional wellbeing;
- Continued funding of bespoke family support services re: behavioural challenges, therapeutic and parenting support by South Eastern OG;
- Migrant Minority Ethnic Families Access to Services needs Assessment by Southern Area OG;
- Distribution of funding to help families struggling during the ongoing cost of living crisis by the Western Area OG.





## Section 5: CYPSP Locality Planning

There are 23 (25\*) Locality Planning Groups (LPGs) across NI, which are chaired by locality/community representatives. LPGs work together at grassroots level to address emerging local needs and to inform their respective OG plans. These Groups work to support multi-agency early intervention for populations. In 2021/2022, there were 550 partner organisations involved in Locality Planning. *\*There are two LPGs in South Eastern OG area that have been developed independently but who link in with the CYPSP structure.*

### Record of 2021/22 LPG Meetings

Belfast Outcomes Group Area						
LPG	Date of Meeting	No. of Attendees		LPG	Date of Meeting	No. of Attendees
East Belfast	16 Apr 2021	13		South Belfast	17 June 2021	14
	18 Aug 2021	12			19 Aug 2021	10
	14 Oct 2021	14			7 Oct 2021	9
	9 Dec 2021	18			8 Dec 2021	10
	3 Feb 2022	13			9 Mar 2022	15
North Belfast	20 Apr 2021	12		West Belfast	5 May 2021	15
	22 June 2021	15			30 June 2021	14
	17 Aug 2021	9			25 Aug 2021	13
	19 Oct 2021	15			20 Oct 2021	15
	7 Dec 2021	12			15 Dec 2021	12
	8 Feb 2022	18			2 Feb 2022	16

Northern Outcomes Group Area							
LPG	Date of Meeting	No. of Attendees		LPG	Date of Meeting	No. of Attendees	
Larne / Carrickfergus	5 May 2021	16		Antrim / Ballymena	18 May 2021	19	
	18 June 2021	13			24 June 2021	19	
	15 Sept 2021	19			16 Sept 2021	22	
	12 Nov 2021	18			11 Nov 2021	15	
	26 Jan 2022	18			25 Jan 2022	22	
	25 Mar 2022	16			29 Mar 2022	14	
Newtownabbey	24 April 2021	21		Causeway	11 May 2021	9	
	29 June 2021	19			28 Sept 2021	13	
	28 Sept 2021	20			2 Nov 2021	12	
	30 Nov 2021	19			25 Jan 2022	15	
	18 Jan 2022	17		22 Mar 2022	16		
	30 Mar 2022	19					
Mid Ulster	11 June 2021	18					
	10 Sept 2021	22					
	12 Nov 2021	19					
	25 Feb 2021	18					





Southern Outcomes Group Area						
LPG	Date of Meeting	No. of Attendees		LPG	Date of Meeting	No. of Attendees
Armagh	6 May 2021	16		South Armagh	20 Apr 2021	7
	1 July 2021	13			22 June 2021	9
	9 Sept 2021	9			14 Sept 2021	10
	11 Nov 2021	13			23 Nov 2021	9
	6 Jan 2022	11			11 Jan 2022	14
	24 Mar 2022	21			15 Mar 2022	14
Dungannon	13 April 2021	7		Newry	12 May 2021	18
	1 June 2021	12			24 June 2021	15
	31 Aug 2021	8			1 Sept 2021	11
	19 Oct 2021	14			3 Nov 2021	17
	7 Dec 2021	14			26 Jan 2022	18
	8 Feb 2022	15				
Craigavon	18 May 2021	18				
	7 Sept 2021	12				
	16 Nov 2021	11				
	1 Feb 2022	10				

Southern Eastern Outcomes Group Area						
LPG	Date of Meeting	No. of Attendees		LPG	Date of Meeting	No. of Attendees
Ards & North Down	No meetings held			Down	No meetings held	
Early Intervention Lisburn	Information unavailable			Colin Neighbourhood Partnership	Information unavailable	

Western Eastern Outcomes Group Area						
LPG	Date of Meeting	No. of Attendees		LPG	Date of Meeting	No. of Attendees
Waterside	18 May 2021	10		Strabane	27 May 2021	17
	20 July 2021	8			24 June 2021	10
	19 Oct 2021	13			30 Sept 2021	9
	11 Nov 2021	12			3 Mar 2022	
Derry	29 Apr 2021	20		Limavady	No meetings held	
	11 Nov 2021	18				
	10 Feb 2022	12				
Omagh	22 Apr 2021	7		Fermanagh	21 Apr 2021	12
	23 Sept 2021	10			22 Sept 2021	9
	27 Jan 2022	8			26 Jan 2022	13
	24 Mar 2022	11			23 Mar 2022	15





## LPG Performance

The LPG Coordinators continue to meet virtually as a Regional Group which enables them to share best practice and identify recurring issues. Meetings were held on 22 April 2021, 10 December 2021 and 21 February 2022.

## LPG Achievements in 2021/22

The LPG network has continued to undertake a breadth of work, particularly in response to new and emerging needs identified. Examples of the breadth of work undertaken are reflected in the completed OBA report cards, all of which can be viewed under each LPG at <http://www.cypsp.hscni.net/locality-planning-groups/>

Below are some examples of the quality, breadth and nature of collaborative locality based working, across the region.

### Northern Area Locality Planning Groups:

Mental health and emotional wellbeing has been a consistent issue raised at Northern LPGs, and concerns that Covid-19 has further impacted this. The LPGs distributed “Looking After Me” journals to children and young people to help them explore and express their feelings through the guided journal. The full report card can be viewed [here](#).



### Southern Area Locality Planning Groups:

LPGs in the Southern Area continued to be active throughout 2021/22. Below are links to the examples of the Portadown Gets Active - Holiday Hunger initiatives for children and young people in the area.

[Portadown Gets Active Easter 2021](#)

[Portadown Gets Active Summer 2021](#)

[Portadown Gets Active Halloween 2021](#)

[Portadown Gets Active Winter 2021](#)





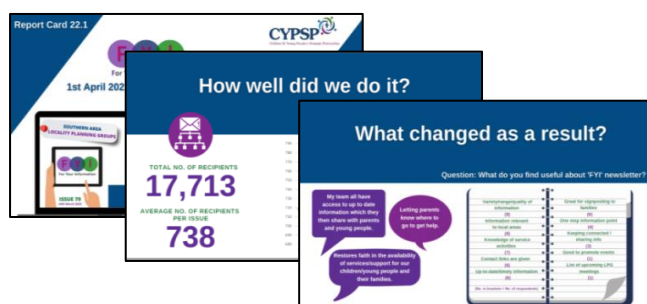
## Western Area Locality Planning Groups:

All six of the Western Area LPGs worked to support families who are struggling with food and fuel poverty. Support was provided to families through oil fills, electricity and gas top ups and food hampers or vouchers of different values. Approximately 1,700 families were supported in this way.

One father stated:  
*"I recently lost my wife and job; I found it extremely hard to cope with my four boys on my own and couldn't keep on top of bills and groceries. The school contacted the Family Support Hub and within an hour they arrived at my door with food and a voucher."*

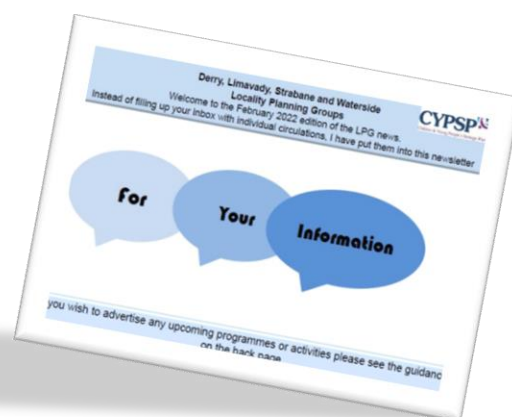
## LPG Newsletters:

Down and Ards & North Down Locality Planning Groups, Southern Area Locality Planning Groups and Derry, Limavady, Strabane and Waterside Locality Planning Groups all produce monthly/fortnightly newsletters.



The Southern LPGs FYI was evaluated throughout 2021/22 – the report card is available at: [The Difference 'FYI' Newsletter is Making! – Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership \(CYPSP\) \(hscni.net\)](https://www.hscni.net/newsletter-is-making)

A Fortnightly News was introduced for the four Northern Sector LPGs in the West (Derry, Limavady, Strabane and Waterside). Feedback from members has been very positive and has been downloaded up to 312 times per edition. Members are finding this a useful way to share information about activities, training and funding.



## Strengthening Links Between LPG Network and CYPSP Infrastructure

The link between the strategic Partnership and work at locality level is crucial to the success of Children's Services Planning and work is ongoing to ensure clarity of lines of communication across the LPG network.





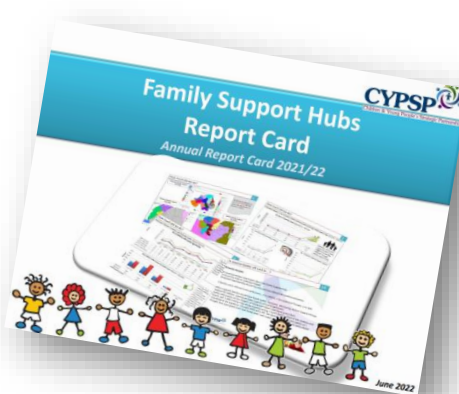




## Regional Hub Network Performance

Quarterly and annual report cards are collated in respect of regional Hub activity and data analysis is produced by the CSP Information Team. This information is provided by each Hub via regional monitoring forms. Annual report cards are produced for a regional overview as well as for each Trust area. These reports can be viewed on the CYPSP website.

The 2021/22 Annual Report Card can be found [here](#). In addition a further report is collated with [family samples](#) collected by the Hubs, this captures a snapshot of the impact Hubs have had on individual families.

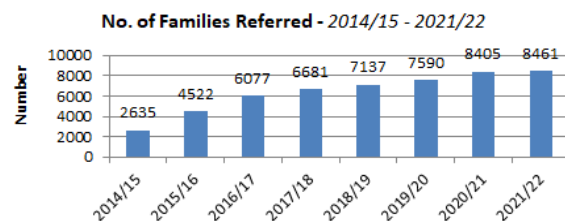
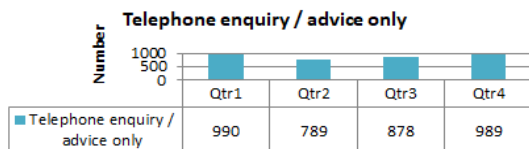
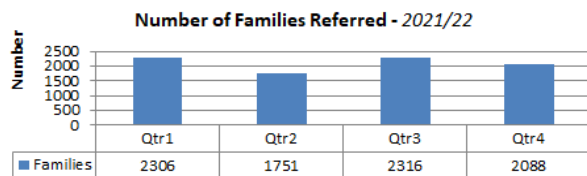


The illustrations which follow show:

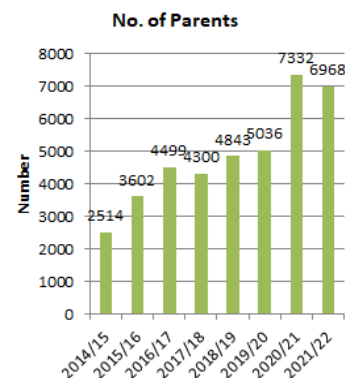
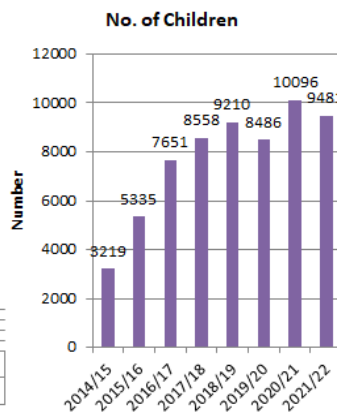
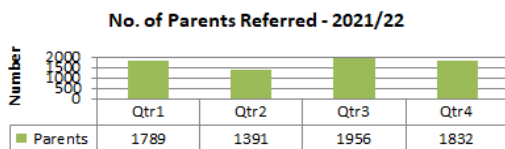
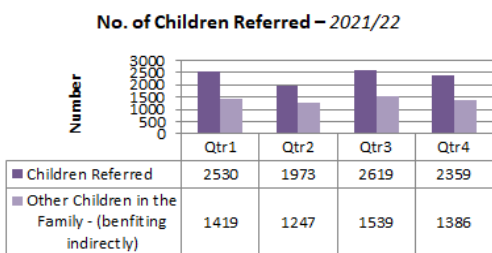
- the Hub network supported **8,461** families in 2021/22;
- the increase in referrals to Hubs year on year;
- a high number of referrals to Hubs for Ethnic Minority and Migrant (EMM) families. An increase in the number of Eastern European families has also been seen (171 in 2020/21 to 247 in 2021/22);
- 20% of children/young people who were referred to Hubs having a disability - this is a 2% increase from 2020/21;
- high numbers of families and young people who are on the waiting list for ADHD and ASD assessments being referred to Hubs;
- self-referrals being the leading source of referrals, accounting for 21% of referrals received. Hub Coordinators reported seeing families previously involved coming back requesting support for different issue and see this as a reflection of the relationships and trust built between families and the Hubs.



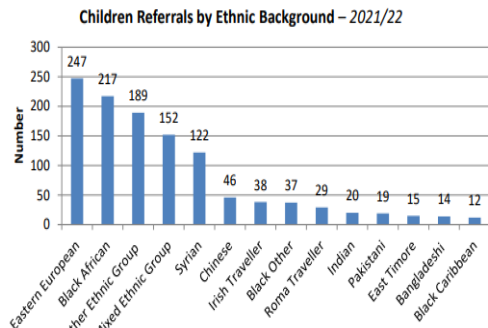
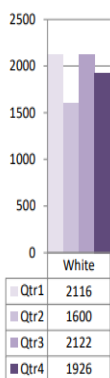
## Performance Measure 2: No of Families, Children & Parents Referred through Family Support Hubs – 2021/22



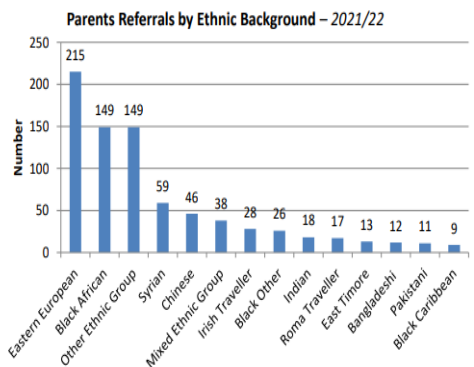
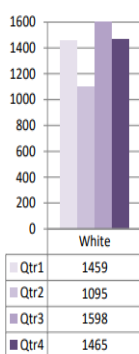
In 2021/22, **8461** families were referred through family support hubs, **56** more families than in 2020/21. There were also **949** families referred for Covid-19 issues only. The hubs received **3646** telephone enquiry/advice only calls in 2021/22, a slight rise since 2020/21.



Produced by CYPSP Information Team



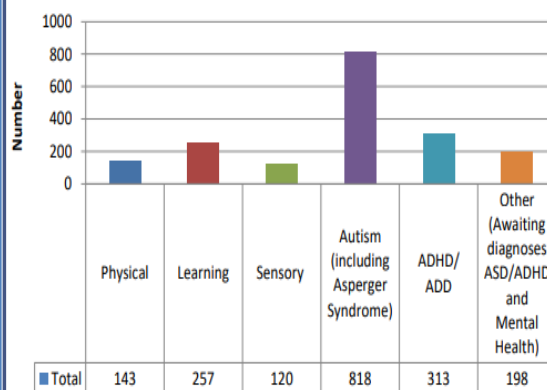
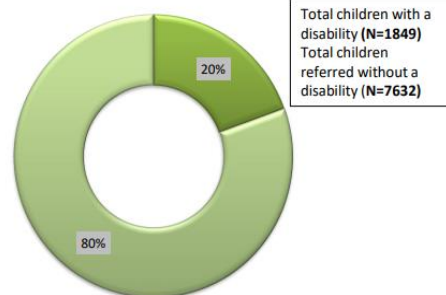
Please note: 560 children ethnic background - Not Stated



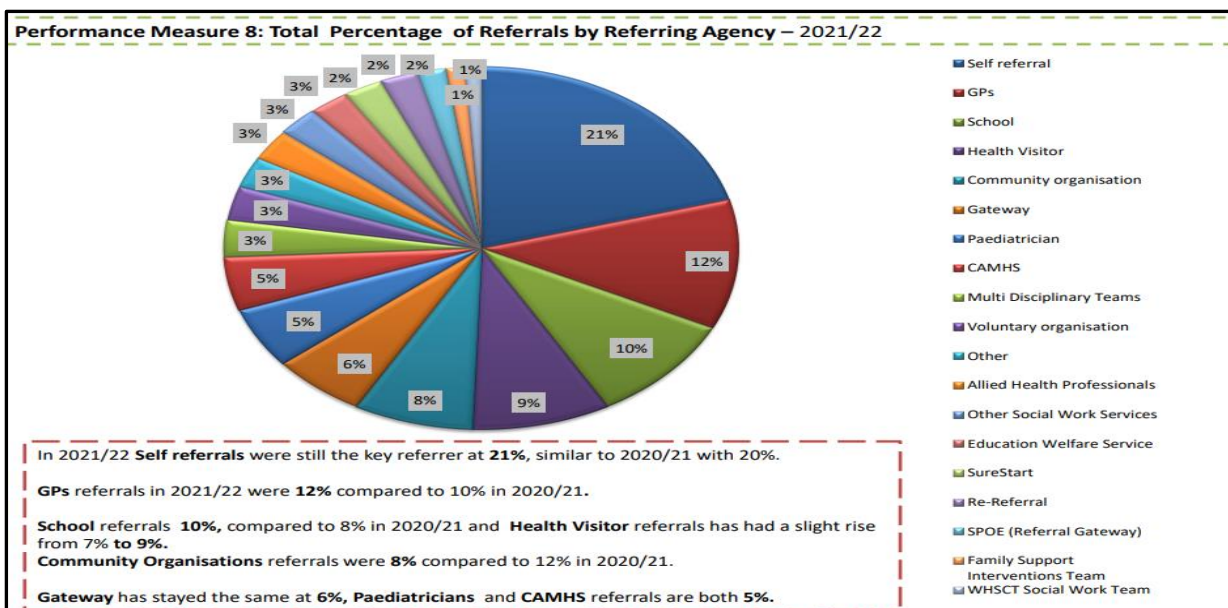
Please note: 561 parents ethnic background - Not Stated

## Performance Measure 4: Children with a disability referred -2021/22

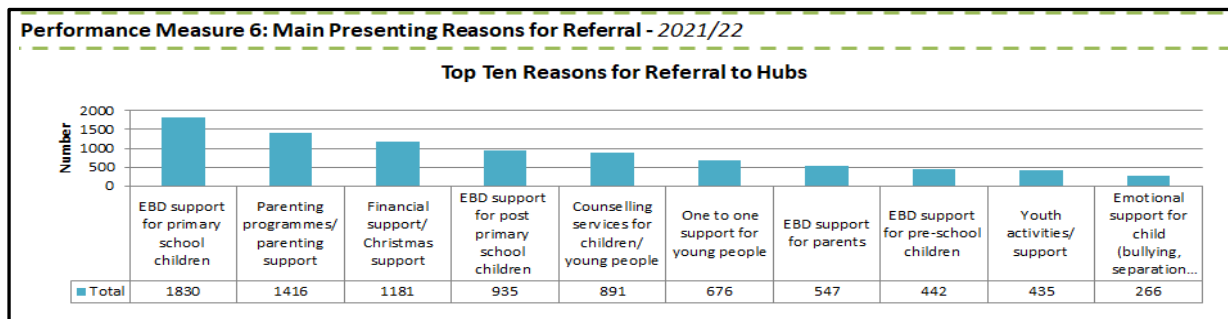
### Children Referred with a Disability







Emotional Behavioural Difficulty (EBD) for primary school aged children continues as the most common reason for referral, which has been the case every year since monitoring began with the exception of 2020/21 where financial difficulties were the most common reason.



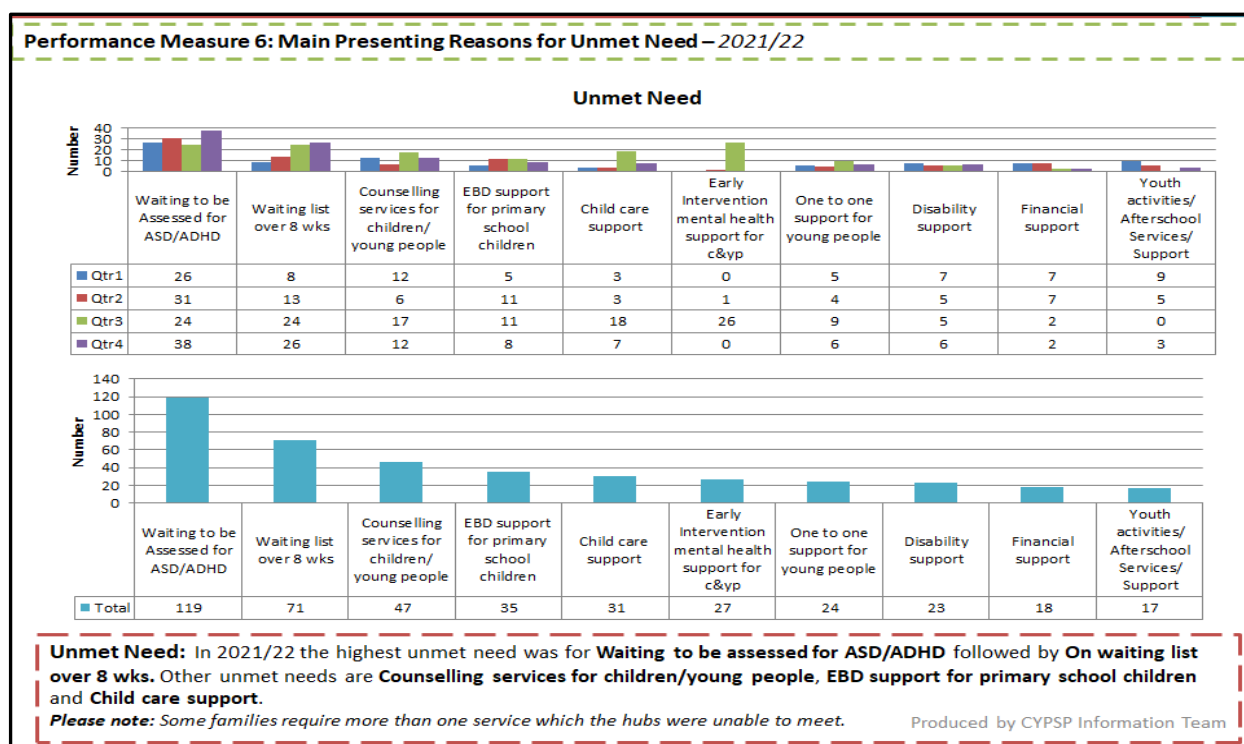
There has been a significant rise in the number of referrals, which are outside of the threshold for service, or do not contain enough information to facilitate assessment of need. This equates to a 51% increase. Hub Coordinators continue to review these and where there are patterns of specific agencies or individuals making inappropriate referrals they are providing them with information about the role and limitations of Hubs.

Statutory services are under significant pressures and this has had an impact on the demand on Hubs. As with statutory services, our colleagues in the community and





voluntary sector are also reporting difficulty with recruiting staff. With the increase in demand outstripping resources and services available there are increasingly waiting lists for services.



Despite the challenges faced by the Hubs, the vast majority of referrals are being dealt with within four weeks with a further significant number in the five to eight week timescale.

Access to interpreting services remains an issue for Hub Coordinators and services. This lack of availability has an impact of the range of services Hubs can signpost families to if they do not speak English. As we welcome more migrant and refugee families it is anticipated that this will grow as an area of unmet need.

In conjunction with Hub Coordinators and the CSP Information Team, the monitoring forms completed monthly and quarterly have been amended to better capture areas that have consistently been reported as unmet need. The amendments will ensure we have real time and quality information to evidence the specific areas of unmet need. Changes are particularly focused on referrals for families and children with, or waiting for a diagnosis of Autism/ADHD/ADD as this remains one of the greatest areas of





unmet need identified. Another area of change relates to our EMM families and access to interpreting services and translated materials.



### Social Care Institute of Excellence (SCIE) Review of Family Support Hubs

The Review of Family Support Hubs (the Review) is a complementary piece to the previous review undertaken by SCIE in 2016. The 2021 Review focused on key aspects of the Hub model, explored changes and improvements in the last five years in relation to the impact of Hubs on families and local services, the interaction between the Hubs, community services, and statutory services, and the access of families with children with disabilities to local services. The Review also included an analysis of the monitoring data.

Amongst the key findings in the Interim Review Report (November 2021), SCIE noted the following benefits of the Hub:

*“Families highlighted that the hubs offer accessible and timely support that are community-based, trauma-responsive and non-stigmatizing. For hub members, the key benefits included having access to accurate and up to date information about the community and local services, better integration between services, and having the access to families who are reluctant to engage with support facilitated. On the strategic level, participants highlighted that hubs are key in providing information and influencing strategic developments at the local level and across Northern Ireland.”*

The Review also included a number of recommendations to further improve and develop the Hubs. The key recommendations within the Review from participants and SCIE were in line with work already being progressed such as improving reach towards EMM families and development of a Hub collective.

The full Interim Review Report and recommendations can be accessed [here](#).



Building on the recommendations of the SCIE Interim Review Report, there have been a number of areas of work already progressed.

- **A Collective of Hub Coordinators** has been established with the aim of sharing experiences and learning and to strengthen relationships between Coordinators across the region. At present it is anticipated that this will be bi-monthly and is open to all Hub Coordinators.
- **Hub Learning Sets taking forward a number of recommendations from the Interim Review Report.** The topics were agreed following a workshop with all the Coordinators held at the end of January 2022 and were framed as follows:
  - Developing cultural confidence and reach to BAME families;
  - Strengthening outcomes for children and families;
  - Improving Partnership Working to Support Family Support Hubs to Deliver Effective Early Intervention Support.

The first workshop took place on 22 March.

The final phase of the SCIE Report is due 2022/23.

### The Family Support Hub Newsletter

The Family Support Hub Newsletter continued to be issued bi-monthly and has been downloaded **6,846** times in 2021/22, which shows the popularity of this resource. Copies are available to download at <http://www.cypsp.hscni.net/family-support-hubs/>





## Section 7: Funding

### Summary of SPPG Investment in Outcomes Groups 2021/2022

SPPG invested £100,000 in each OG through each Health and Social Care Trust, to assist with the commissioning and maintenance of Early Intervention Family Support Services based on local priorities and relevant OG Plans.

OG Area	Summary
<b>Belfast</b>	The £100K has contributed to the commissioning of family support services in Belfast for home visiting and mentoring services. The OG is working on a procurement process to start in 2022/23 onwards of their funding to address several priorities in their action plan.
<b>Northern</b>	The £100K investment supported £75K contract with Cedar Foundation for Northern Outreach Service Children with Disabilities Project. This contract is due to finish in December 2022, Northern Area OG currently reviewing. £25K for LPG activities including mental health support and a range of health and wellbeing activities.
<b>South Eastern</b>	The £100K together with additional funding utilised to continue the existing service level agreements with Action for Children, Barnardo's and the YMCA to deliver bespoke one to one tailored family support packages to assist families experiencing behavioural challenges and to provide therapeutic and parenting support. Funding was also used to purchase some packages of support from the Family Meeting Service in the Trust. This helped support families impacted by parental separation.
<b>Southern</b>	The £100K, supported practical family support to parents and children delivered in the home and was targeted at most vulnerable families including ethnic minority interventions. This was delivered by:- £33K - Belfast Central Mission £33K - Parenting NI £33K - Bolster £1K - Outcomes Star Licence
<b>Western</b>	The £100K funding supported the Western area 2021/22:- £12.5K for UNICEF work with DCSDC. Remaining funding distributed via six LPGs (£15,853 each) to provide food and fuel support directly to families.





### Summary of Investment in CYPSP LPGs

OG Area	No. of LPGs	No. of LPG Coordinators Funded by SPPG	LPG Coordinator Organisation Responsible
<b>Belfast</b>	4	Recurring funding for FYE funding 1 Coordinator and P/T Admin Support	BHSCT
<b>Northern</b>	5	Recurring funding for FYE recurring for 2 posts for 1 x LPG Coordination and 1 x Participation Officer. Is now used to part-fund 4 x Health and Wellbeing Officers who work across CYPSP Locality Planning and Health Improvement	NHSCT
<b>South Eastern</b>	2 (+2)*	1 P/T LPG Coordinator funded by SEHSCT	SEHSCT
<b>Southern</b>	6	Recurring funding for FTE 1 x Coordinator + P/T Admin (equivalent to 1 x Band 6 1 x Band 4)	CiNI
<b>Western</b>	6	Recurring funding for 2 FTE Coordinators	WHSCT

*\*There are two LPGs in South Eastern OG area that have been developed independently but who link in with the CYPSP structure.*

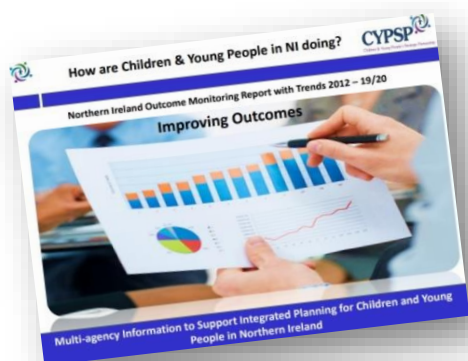
### SPPG Investment in Hubs

The SPPG provides core funding to the Hubs via the five Health and Social Care Trusts and Hubs will access additional funding as and when these are available.





## Section 8: CYPSP Information and Communication Support



The purpose of the CSP Information Team is to provide a comprehensive regional planning and information / communications function to support planning and commissioning of early intervention children's services through liaison and the gathering of knowledge and Intelligence from other key agencies. During 2021/22, the CSP

Information Team continued to:

- Maintain NI Outcome Monitoring Report – [How are children and young people doing in NI](#);
- Maintain an [interactive mapping system](#) and performance profile system monitoring trends of high level outcomes and agreed indicators from Programme for Government and the NI Children's Strategy across different geographical levels including Trust / OGs, LPGs, Sure Starts, and Council areas;
- Maintain [UNCRC Child Rights indicators](#) monitoring electronic system on the CYPSP website;
- Maintain the central [Family Support Hub](#) monitoring system and associated quarterly and annual report cards;
- Maintain the CYPSP website and social media sites (Twitter / Facebook and Instagram) all have achieved verified status (blue tick).





## CSP Information Team Activity in 2021/2022

The CSP Information Team continue to utilise online functionality by facilitating, managing and further developing a number of key resources. These included:

### 1. CYPSP Online Support and Resources Hub



The CYPSP Support and Resources Hub provides live themed information and support for mental health, autism, bereavement, education, children and young people activities, parenting, disability and much more. The CYPSP website continues to act as a central repository for information and guidance across services and working to ensure cross referencing to other on-line information via voluntary and community service providers, PHA, SPPG, Education, Housing, Police and Justice. View resource at <https://cypsp.hscni.net/covid-19-daily-updates/>

### 2. CYPSP Online Translation Hub Service



The CYPSP central Translation Hub has grown significantly since its launch in August 2020 providing information on health, education, family support, Covid-19, housing, employment, safety and Police, with new sections added during 2021/22 providing information on Money Advice, Tetum Translated Information and a Ukraine Advice section. View page at <http://www.cypsp.hscni.net/translation-hub/>

### 3. Youth Wellness Web



Following engagement with Health and Social Care Trusts, LPGs, schools, direct engagement with children and young people, Community Planning and the Northern Ireland Youth Forum Survey - Elephant in the Room, a need was identified in relation to children and young people accessing relevant and appropriate mental health information in a user friendly format.

The CSP Information Team led on a project to develop a central unique page on the CYPSP website to provide simple and easily navigated access to information, signposting to services and early intervention support. Co-production was at the core



of this project from the outset ensuring that the voices of children and young people were central to this piece of work. The Site was launched in August 2021 and is now extensively used. Visit the site at <https://cypsp.hscni.net/youth-wellness-web/>

#### 4. Parent Support Page



##### Parent Support

The Parent Support Page continues to provide information on parenting programmes and Facilitator training available across Trusts along with registration details – this includes evidence based programmes – Mellow Bumps Incredible Years programmes - for Toddlers; Pre-school; Autism and Speech and Language Delay, Odyssey Parenting your Teen and Family Links Nurturing. A new MACE Programme (Multiple Adverse Childhood Experiences) section was added to the page during Autumn 2021 providing dates and access to cross border parenting support events. View page at <http://www.cypsp.hscni.net/ebpp/>

#### 5. CYPSP Online Venue Locator



##### Venue Locator

As we moved out of the first lockdown we were receiving numerous requests in relation to partners providing social distanced support on a one to one or small group basis requiring accessible venues – a searchable venue locator system was developed and launched at the end of June 2020. This resource was updated in January 2022. View page at <https://venues-cypsp.hscni.net/>

#### 6. CYPSP Children's Resource Pack



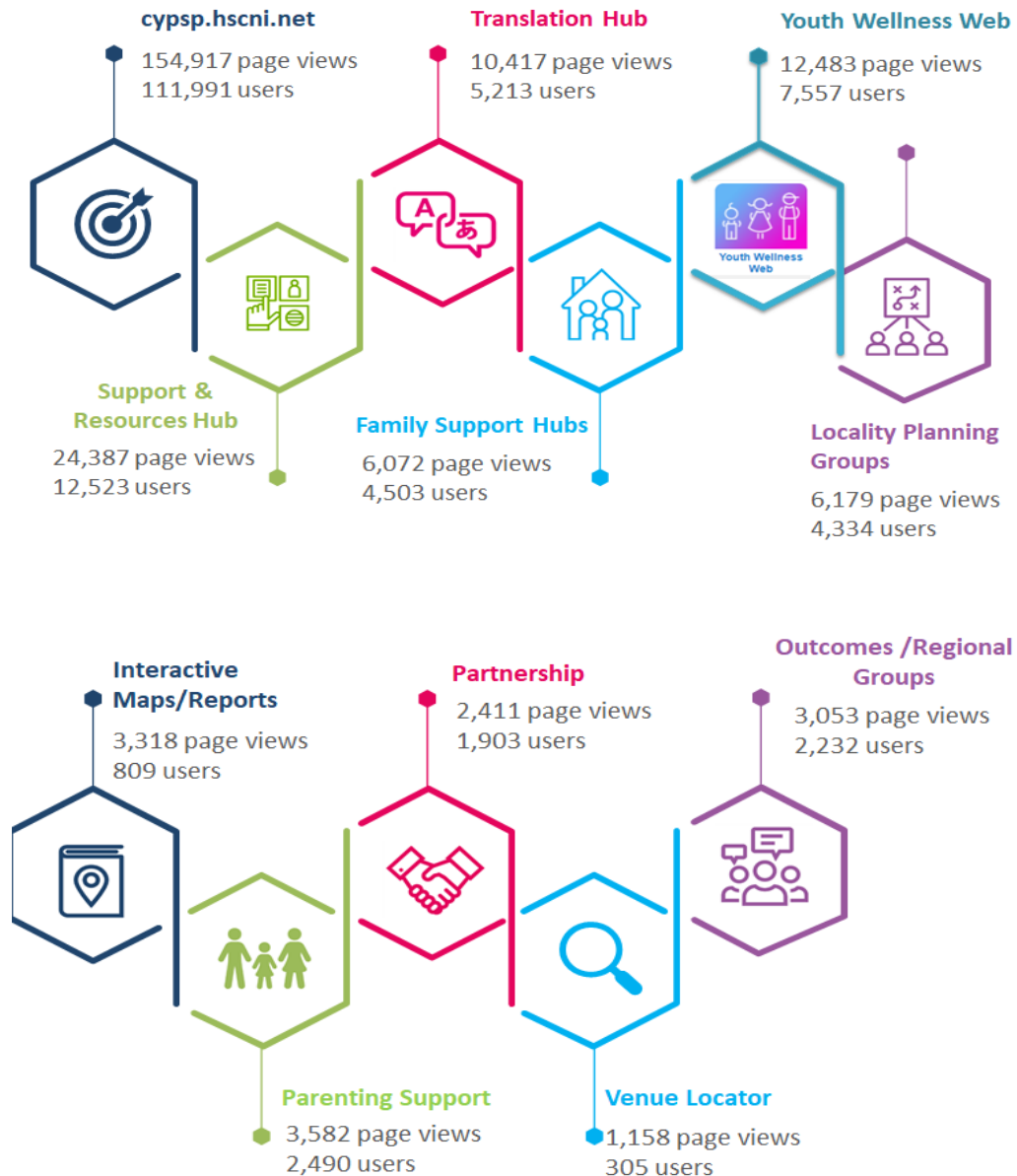
The Children's Resource pack is updated three times each year and includes information and activities for children and young people. The pack has proved to be very popular with parents and schools. In total it has been downloaded **9,421** times – [Children & Young People's Resource Pack 2021](#)



## CYPSP Website Reach




Website Stats 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022



  
2,000 followers

  
4,360 followers

  
344 Followers

