

**Newry Locality Planning Group
Minutes of Meeting - 20th January 2021 at 10am
Via Zoom Video Conference Call**

Attendees			Apologies
Darren Curtis (CYPSP)	Geraint Griffiths (Youth Action)	Jim McDonald (Newry Gateway)	Kerry O'Hagan (CYPSP)
Micheal Carlisle (Youth Justice Agency)	Rosie Carey (EA Youth Service)	Clara O'Callaghan (Volunteer Now)	Jacinta Linden (SPACE - Chair)
Louise Quinn (Crisis Café)	Sean Maguire (CCG)	Claire Loughran (PCSP/NMDDC)	Bevin O'Hare (Home Start)
Louise Hurst (Women's Aid)	Louise Malone (Youth Action)	Kerri Morrow (NMandDD Council)	Alannah Brennan (NM&DDC)
Gail Bailie (SHSCT)	Laurence Bellew (Newry Centre of Mission)	Annie Clarke (SHSCT)	
Josephine O'Hare (Now Group)	Gavin McGee (Tusla /CAWT MACE)		

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action - By Whom
Welcome, Intros. & Apologies	Darren welcomed all attendees. Apologies noted, per above.	
Previous Minutes 10/11/20	Previous Minutes shared on screen & agreed, with no amendments.	
Member Agency Updates & Unmet Needs in the Newry Area	<p>Micheal (Youth Justice): Had been back working face to face with young people before Christmas. Due to restrictions now working online with young people. Waiting to see if restrictions will lift soon to allow for meeting with young people.</p> <p>Rosie (EA Youth Service): From November had been back working face to face with young people and Centres had begun to open. Now back to online. Not all young people engage well online and a lot of turn cameras off. It's difficult as the young people who most need engagement shy away from online work. Started a new scheme at the end of Nov called LYNC which is an apprenticeship scheme linking young adults aged 18-25 to new careers. 8-month programme including 2 placements, and participants are paid during the programme. Due to restrictions unable to take part in placements in Feb 2021. Two new EA programmes START and REACH.</p> <p>Jim (Gateway): Very little change from previous meeting, still have rooms for rent and for 2021 hope to expand out into physical disability. Received funding from National Lottery to update kitchens in the building to make them suitable for wheelchair users. Hope to use lounge area as a once a month drop in coffee shop for the Newry area with the aim to increase to more frequent opening. Everything else on hold.</p> <p>Louise (Crisis Café): Café was set up by Louise and Grainne, Social Workers with 20-year experience in trauma, mental health, and work with sexual abuse teams. Feedback from young people through participation groups was accessing mental health services at a time when they needed it. Set up a young people's advisory group on what services young people are asking for. Worked with Friendship Café in Belfast, looked at statistics - 70% of young people who die by suicide in NI have never accessed mental health services, knew that services needed to be more accessible to young people. Decision was that Cafes would be led by young people and ensure they are empowered to develop the café. Young</p>	
Member Agency		

<p>Updates & Unmet Needs in the Newry Area (Continued from previous page)</p>	<p>people came to the café and then once they got to know everyone, came for drop-in crisis support. A lot of young people access the service. New pilot café in South Armagh started last August. The café also provides young Mental Health Ambassadors, with each school in the area represented with an Ambassador. Now with restrictions, work is now online and has gone very well. Upcoming events: Study with me Live, activities that would have taken place in the café going online next week.</p> <p>Geraint (Youth Action): Work across Newry, Mourne and Down specifically with young men. A lot of work now remote and young men nor really engaging. No group work at the moment. Offering one to one mentoring scheme, this has increased since Covid. Able to meet up outside to offer face to face support. Any referrals/organisations for workshops, contact Geraint.</p> <p>Louise (Women's Aid): Very busy, centres still open but have reduced footfall into them. Linked with NIHE to get emergency housing for those with Covid symptoms who need to isolate prior to coming into the Refuge. The Refuge has had a great refurb, received lots of donations from the community. A lot of support online and currently a waiting list for children's support. Current campaign for hairdressers and barbers to avail of Awareness training. Lock down has really increased numbers, helplines very busy.</p> <p>Gail (SHSCT): Unable to do STEP programme, hoping this September to deliver a scaled down version with schools. Prior to Christmas ran a small girl's group with Early Years and will be running a young males programme with Early Years. Last year's summer scheme for Newry and Mourne did not go ahead but in planning stages for this summer at a smaller level. Programmes with young people have been going ahead at weekends, very small numbers. Still responding to need via bespoke packages.</p> <p>Josephine (Now Group): Work in supported employment for young people with Learning Disabilities and Autism from age 16 years. Supports with interviews and engaging with employers. All services and training are online. Funded via European Social Fund.</p> <p>Karen (Home Start): Support families with children under 5 years. With new restrictions have had to suspend face to face services. Home visiting families are receiving remote support and family groups and parenting programmes have moved online. Charity shops and sensory rooms closed. Delivering essentials to families and foodbank vouchers.</p> <p>Clara (Volunteer Now): Support any volunteer led organisations and volunteers. Staff have been working at the vaccination centre in Craigavon. Team of volunteers coming in now to take over the role. A lot of interest from volunteers looking to help organisations out. Big increase in number of youths coming through to offer their time. Bank of volunteers of all ages in need of roles to open up.</p> <p>Sean (CCG): Work with young people through community associations has been severely restricted due to closed facilities. Community groups help outdoor Christmas activities. Main role at the moment is to support community groups access funding to provide support in communities.</p> <p>Claire (PCSP/NMDDC): Support a lot of community organisations who work with children and young people. At moment community organisations have been stepped down. Opening a new grants programme at the start of the new financial year. Run a Peace IV programme and have appointed Bolster Community to deliver a youth programme called Youth Up Front for ages 13-15. A lot of work around Covid and promoting the message around restrictions. Working on Domestic Violence and funded the Hairdressing project with Women's Aid. Also looking at a shared schools programme and developing interactive videos based around Good relations and Online Safety.</p> <p>Louise (Youth Action): The Amplify project targets young people aged 14-24 based on personal development, citizenship, and peace building. Group work moved online, for some people it is great for others it is more of a struggle. Can meet a young person if they are in crisis.</p>	<p>Geraint contact details: geraint@youthaction.org</p> <p>Kerry to circulate literature on Youth up Front.</p>
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<p>Updates & Unmet Needs in the Newry Area (Continued from previous page)</p>	<p>Laurence (Newry Centre of Mission): From a background of youth work in Belfast and into a new role in the Centre of Mission working with Scott McDonald. Keen to hear what the needs are in the Newry area and how can best serve the City. Previous work included designed Healthy Heart project and fitness programme in 44 schools. Thanked everyone for sharing information on what is happening in the area.</p> <p>Gavin (Tusla /CAWT MACE): Cross Border Project covers Newry and Louth. Just signed the contracts for Services to deliver a range of parenting programmes, mental health workshops and programme for parents with children under the age of 3. Aiming to get requests for Services in as soon as possible. Will be sending out paperwork on how to access the Services as a lot will be new. Aiming for access to many of the Services to be through the Family Support Hub and the Trust. Launching of the Trauma informed Practitioners Toolkit soon. A pilot programme taking place on the 24th Feb and anyone interested in finding out more, contact Gavin.</p> <p>Kerri (NMDDC): Running interest topic courses online which have been picked up well. Finishing a seventh photography course: lot of interest from young people and putting it online in the next few weeks. Held a series of Dry January themed comedy events in partnership with other organisations. Good Relations and Safety programmes taking place. Upcoming Drug & Alcohol awareness sessions to local schools, youth service and youth clubs. Council grants went live on Monday and are open for 6 weeks. Applications are online only.</p> <p>Annie (SHSCT): Community Development. Great uptake on online parenting programmes. Training Brochure available for Promoting Wellbeing- range of training courses for communities. More popular course around healthy eating and mood & food. All courses free. Daily Mile initiative which a lot of schools would have signed up to is now online. 2021 Census takes place in March and majority will be online this year.</p>	<p>Gavin's contact details: gavin.mcgee@tusla.ie</p>
<p>Newry LPG Action Plan</p>	<p>CYPSP Key priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing in particular children in the 5–10-year age group • Early Intervention support for children with disabilities and their families • Support to children whose wellbeing is being affected by disruption to their schooling. • Contribution to Strategic cross departmental actions in response to food and fuel poverty as well as locality-based services & responses. <p>Feedback: Expanding of the age group for mental health as Covid has had an effect on older age groups. Need for relief after Covid with assistance. Young people have not been included in all the Covid stuff that's happening, happening above them. Young people not seeing the point of returning to school or engaging with education, due to the stop-start nature of education the past year. Young people listing Covid as the biggest impact on their mental health especially among young men. Digital poverty is more based on Wi-Fi. Families can access devices, but it is the expense of Wi-Fi. Increased number of surveys sent out by organisations and lack of feedback. Cross information from organisations.</p> <p>Infant Mental Health Awareness Workshops: book via Eventbrite. Dates of workshops are 21st Jan and 5th March. Demand has been huge.</p>	<p>Area based profile and list of emerging needs to be sent out by Kerry.</p>
<p>FSH Update</p>	<p>Feedback to be requested for next meeting.</p>	
<p>SAOG Update</p>	<p>Work continues with the Newcomer families Need Assessment Group, and a group has been set up to look at the voice of children and young people and engagement via existing structures. Gauge ideas on Action Plans from young people.</p>	
<p>AOB</p>	<p>Jim - get a few organisations together to set up Virus Control Champions for the young people we have. Have local Champions of young people to relay Covid related messages to their peers via video.</p>	<p>Interested members to meet further</p>
<p>Date of Next Meeting</p>	<p>10th March 2021 via Zoom <i>Thank you, as always, for your time and input!</i></p>	