

## **Regional LPG Report**

### **Summary:**

#### **Emerging issues:**

- Poverty/financial issues/food/fuel/digital poverty/increase dependency on foodbanks
- Childcare
- Education – home-schooling/restart/associated stress and anxiety/aggression and conflict
- Sleep/routine/boundaries
- Domestic violence/coercive control/non-intimate partner violence i.e. child-parent /sibling-sibling
- Difficulty engaging with families through virtual platforms
- Respite/CWD support/behaviour management
- Mental Health/depression/suicidal ideation/history of trauma triggered
- Relationship breakdown
- Contact and social distancing with Roma/Bulgarian families – connected community tensions

#### **Achievements:**

- Regional LPG members Guidance to changes in services during COVID-19
- Formation of subgroups to address emerging issues
- “Helping Children and Supporting Return to school after COVID-19” Webinar – 366 attended
- Positive Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Boxes – 500 distributed to young people through 41 organisations
- Our Journey Through Disability published – meetings taking place re: recommendations
- Portadown Gets Active
- Southern area men’s health network
- Daily Updates and FYIs

- Pilot Uniform bank in Derry
- Members distributed food parcels to very rural areas of Fermanagh and Omagh
- Money Advice Service Webinar
- Information leaflets translated
- Online DSV training delivered

### **Attendance at meetings**

Regional total of 301 at meetings

## Report from Locality Planning Groups to Belfast Area Outcomes Group

March –August 2020

<p><b>Current Issues being Discussed at LPG:</b> Including: Gaps in services/Emerging needs</p>	<p>(March – June) COVID 19 Related Concerns/Issues</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Childcare</li> <li>2) Education</li> </ol> <p>The above two were the emerging concerns that have developed through Covid 19 in all localities, together with the ever present poverty concern.</p> <p>Other issues that are very much to the fore in all localities included stress/anxieties of children and families spending so much time together, transitions for children with ASD returning to school, some groups have reported an increase in CP issues, some localities have reported a rise in homelessness for 17 – 24 yr. olds, lack of respite care for children with ASD</p> <p>(July-August)</p> <p>Education/Childcare;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social distancing in education and childcare facilities</li> <li>- Size of pods in cc facilities</li> <li>- Dates for return to school</li> <li>- Anxieties of children and parents/carers</li> <li>- Funding streams</li> </ul> <p>Poverty;</p>
<p><b>Recent Achievements by the Locality Planning Group.</b> How much did we do? How well did we do it?</p>	<p>formation of subgroups to explore issues in relation of Education and Childcare, a number of actions have been identified from these meetings</p>

Is anyone better off?	
<b>Engagement with Children and Young People, Parents/Carers:</b> including numbers	<p>Members from each locality informed the meetings of how their organisations were coping and how they were operating through the Pandemic – most stated that they were delivering services via telephone ie counselling/mentoring FSHs were working in partnership with Support Hubs that had been funded by DFC in delivering anti – poverty initiatives such as food parcels etc.</p> <p>Surveys on the impact of COVID 19 in South and East Belfast have been developed and are in the process of being shared with schools/parents/carers/children to complete</p>
<b>Meetings Held:</b> Break down of number of meetings held: How many attended:	<p><b>VIRTUAL MEETINGS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) South and East LPGs met as one group on the 11 June 20; 18 attendees</li> <li>2) North and West LPGs met as one group on the 4 June 20; 14 attendees</li> <li>3) North LPG met on the 16 June 20; 13 attendees</li> </ol> <p>Education sub-group meeting held on 30 July via Teams</p> <p>West Belfast LPG to meet on the 20 August North Belfast LPG to meet on the 17 August</p>
<b>Upcoming Events:</b>	<p>Education and Childcare sub–groups to be formed</p>
<b>Additional Information:</b>	<p>All meetings were facilitated via the Teams App and were very well attended. The meetings were amalgamated as it was more practical to do so – same issues across each locality.</p> <p>Organisations, communities and individuals have emerged to deliver services and supports well above their remits and there has been a great sense of partnership, especially when working through the poverty agenda.</p>

## Report from Locality Planning Groups to Northern Area Outcomes Group

March to August 2020

<p><b>Current Issues being Discussed at LPG:</b> Including: Gaps in services/Emerging needs</p>	<p>Covid 19 and its impact on mental health, feeling lonely, increase in online activity (for homework, socialising with friends, and gaming), and challenges of home schooling, difficulties accessing technology (lack of parental knowledge, lack of devices).</p> <p>Children's and young people's needs survey currently live on survey monkey to identify gaps in service and emerging needs to inform action plan.</p> <p>Virtual LPG meetings planned for near foreseeable future.</p>
<p><b>Recent Achievements by the Locality Planning Group.</b> How much did we do? How well did we do it? Is anyone better off?</p>	<p>Helping Children &amp; Supporting The Return To School Following The Covid-19 Pandemic Webinar ran on 24 June –366 attended. Awaiting evaluation.</p> <p>Positive Emotional Wellbeing/mental health boxes- Worked in partnership with NHSCT Health and Wellbeing Mental Health Manager, the Loneliness Network, Fresh Minds Education and young people to develop positive Emotional Wellbeing/mental health boxes to help those young people who were struggling the most with lockdown. 500 boxes across the four localities were given to 41 organisations to give to the most vulnerable young people aged 14-25.</p> <p>Children's and young people's needs survey developed in partnership with LPG members currently live on survey monkey.</p>
<p><b>Engagement with Children and Young People, Parents/Carers:</b> including numbers</p>	<p>Worked in partnership with NHSCT Health and Wellbeing Mental Health Manager, the Loneliness Network and Fresh Minds Education to engage with young people to assess needs during Covid lockdown. From this the young people were assisted to develop the positive Emotional Wellbeing/mental health boxes to help the most vulnerable young people during lockdown.</p> <p>Children's and young people's needs survey developed in partnership with LPG members currently live on survey monkey.</p>

<p><b>Meetings Held:</b> Break down of number of meetings held: How many attended:</p>	<p>One LPG Zoom meeting in each area held.</p> <p>Larne/Carrickfergus- 19/06/20 14 attended Mid-Ulster- 22/06/20 19 attended Antrim/Ballymena LPG- 23/06/20 14 attended Causeway- 30/06/20 13 attended</p>
<p><b>Upcoming Events:</b></p>	<p>Children's and young people's needs survey developed in partnership with LPG members currently live on survey monkey.</p> <p>PANTS Campaign launching 24 August</p>
<p><b>Additional Information:</b></p>	<p>NHSCT Health and Wellbeing Team reconfigured to prioritise Covid shielding service March-July</p>

**Report from Locality Planning Groups to Southern Area Outcomes Group  
Months February – July 2020**

<p><b>Current Issues being Discussed at LPG:</b> Including: Gaps in services/Emerging needs</p>	<p><b>Armagh</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental fitness issues being reported by parents. (YouthAction NI, 21 May)</li> <li>• Parental concern of younger children on Zoom meetings. Reaching families can be difficult if they don't have social media accounts. Challenge of creating with new ideas to keep young people interested as lockdown continues. (REACT, 21 May)</li> <li>• SVP under major pressure RE: shortage of fuel. IT poverty has been raised during helpline calls. (ABC Council, 21 May)</li> <li>• Parents raised the issue of lack of equipment to successfully complete/submit schoolwork (Clanrye Group, 21 May)</li> <li>• Feedback from parents: (i) Problems sleeping &amp; lack of routine and subsequent effects on mental health (hoping to do something around Sleep Scotland) (ii) Children wanting to be able to go out, but can't, then anxious when out in public (iii) Difficulties building relationships over virtual mediums (iv) Parents worrying about their children transitioning back to school and programmes (v) Parents feeling under pressure RE: home schooling and children stressed about work, separating home from school (vi) Parents now seeing life as it is currently being the new norm, some parents becoming more socially isolated (vii) Some families not having resources for crafts activities. (Arke Sure Start, 21 May)</li> <li>• No increase in referrals because women perhaps not feeling in a safe position to self-refer. (Women's Aid, 21 May)</li> <li>• New referrals much harder to engage as no physical connection with the service or worker. Challenge will be their service getting back into schools, owing to social distancing. (CAPS NIACRO, 21<sup>st</sup> May)</li> <li>• More substance usage in the home (Increase in Universal Credit has exacerbated this in cases), food banks have been a lot busier. Extremely busy at present, particularly with regards to emotional support. (BCM, 21 May)</li> <li>• Need to engage younger people more with the older people in the community. (SHSCT, 21 May)</li> </ul>
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### **Banbridge**

- Harder to develop new relationships during lockdown as unable to meet families face-to-face. (NIACRO/FSH, 9 June)
- Domestic violence incidences increasing as have related homicides in NI. (Rebekah Nelson, Women's Aid, 9 June)
- Majority of COVID-19 Community Helpline calls relating to food and a number of mental health support requests also received. Plan for helpline to continue post-lockdown responding to envisaged ongoing needs. (SHSCT, 9 June)
- Hub referrals have featured facing threat of unemployment, coping over summer months, single parenting and general anxiety around return to school. Child-to-parent violence has also been raised. (NIACRO/FSH, 9 June)

### **Craigavon**

- Home visits stopped due to COVID-19 restrictions, which has been challenging but overcome via a mix of online activities and phone contact. Emotional support ongoing via phone calls but practical support delivery has been difficult due to social distancing. Families worry about younger children being unable to effectively social distance. ( Home-Start, 2 June)
- Some referrals made to CAMHS recently for behavioural issues exacerbated owing to lockdown. Families requesting access to food hampers and fuel, via SVP. Also receiving a lot of queries around Free School Meals money. (EANI EWS, 2 June)
- Establishing contact with Roma families has proven difficult due to closure of drop-in clinics in Dobbin St and Mount Zion House. Unable to carry out home visits has really restricted maintaining contact with marginalised families. (EANI IES, 4 June)
- Dip in referrals in March/April, now increasing again both in volume and complexity. Depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation and historical trauma coming to the surface, relationship difficulties too. Some children enjoying time at home whilst others have struggled with lack of boundaries/routine. Lot of child referrals due to breakdown in the family unit, e.g. child being dropped off at dad's and going back to mum's flaring up issues



on lack of consistency. (Links Counselling Service, 2 June)

- Referral trends: parenting support & activities for children during lockdown, managing behaviour, emotional support for young people with anxiety, support with home-schooling, parenting pre-school, history of domestic violence, financial support, housing and supporting teenagers at risk. Lot of parents anxious of children returning to school and returning to work with childcare implications. (NIACRO/FSH, 2 June)

### **Dungannon**

- Ongoing needs with child protection & safeguarding. Particular issues for some families back living under the one roof. Introduced garden gate visits and walk & talks. Primary issues raised by families: financial strain/poverty, mental health, behavioural management. Some families also advising of a rise in anti-social behaviour. (Clogher Valley Sure Start, 18 June)
- Support staff have been dealing with increasing nos. of foodbank requests: STEP have been applying for various grants to support this. Advice staff have been working throughout the lockdown and seeing increasing nos. of people applying for Universal Credit. Seeing an increase in employment issues also. (STEP, 18 June)
- Issues affecting young people: mental health, not getting out for exercise, poor personal hygiene, lack of routine/structure, behavioural difficulties, aggression towards parents in the home (resulting in contact with the police on occasion). Working with parents on managing the home schooling process, including lack of technology, children not wanting to engage and working with school to address this, including getting some vulnerable children back into school. (CAPS NIACRO, 18 June)
- Lockdown has exacerbated existing problems such as behavioural issues with children, poverty. Recent increase in referrals. (Network Personnel CFSP, 18 June)
- Emerging needs during lockdown include financial difficulties, free school meals, access to technology. (EA YS, 18 June)
- Steady stream of referrals. Parent support has been busy, poverty and mental health as major issues. (BCM, 18 June)
- FSH referrals reduced significantly since lockdown, primarily a result of school closures and limited GP referrals. Support for families provided in different ways where FSH is either directly or indirectly involved, e.g.

online support services by Parenting NI, Womens Aid, Surestart. FSH seen an increase in the number of telephone enquiries resulting in some families signposted to online supports and the FSH has issued a number of food vouchers for their local foodbank. (Barnardo's/FSH, 18<sup>th</sup> June)

### **Newry**

- Patterns emerging mainly around material-led poverty: support for basic everyday needs, e.g. feeding the family, working from home. Many small businesses have been hit hard increasing need for food banks due to furloughed workers. FSH seeing families with a challenge to their income and are currently in a desperate situation. (SPACE/FSH, 13 May)
- Women's Aid dealing with rising Domestic Violence levels in personal relationships leading to the launch of some local initiatives such as IRIS. Rise in non-intimate DV incidences e.g. parent-to-child & vice versa. (SPACE/FSH, 13 May)
- Some fantastic partnership work on DV but still under-reported, particularly inter-family DV (parental assault by children), looking at ways to encourage individuals to report. (PCSP, 13 May)
- Approx. 1,000 calls to the COVID-19 helpline in 6-weeks, with the vast majority looking support for accessing food parcels, groceries delivered or seeking emergency food from food banks. Calls eased slightly but becoming more complex, e.g. mental health issues associated with lockdown. (SHSCT. 13 May)
- Recent tensions in N'hamilton area, in particular on non-adherence to social distancing by Roma families (SHSCT, 13 May)
- ASB dramatically dropped since lockdown with focus on maintaining lower levels. (PCSP, 13 May)
- 'Our Journey' parents group looking at issues around carers and support needs e.g. Direct Payments, need for ID allowing carers and child with a disability to leave their property more often for exercise/managing distress. (SHSCT, 13<sup>th</sup> May)

### **South Armagh**

- Needs in the community have evolved during the pandemic: lot of emotional support required at the start of lockdown, now switched to more practical support & financial concerns, e.g. increase in food bank, fuel, nappy

	<p>requests. The slowdown in clinic referrals (SLT and ENT) means there is now a long waiting list. (Home-Start, 23 June)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been a lot of change for the Bulgarian community in N/Hamilton and getting translated info. out is an issue, particularly in Bulgarian. (Sure Start, 23 June)</li> <li>• COVID-19 Helpline for the N&amp;M had approx. 1,000 calls during the lockdown. Main requests for food parcels, accessing fuel &amp; electric and making sure people, particularly those shielding, got their prescriptions. Begun to quieten down but cases now more complex in mental health (anxiety &amp; depression). Particularly concerned for the BME community, in particular Roma, on communication barriers, getting info. on COVID-19 out to families, social distancing owing to crowded living spaces. (SHSCT, 23 June)</li> <li>• Many families expressing concerns around food &amp; finance (linked to job loss) and mental health (children &amp; young people very anxious about returning to school. Dealing with bereavement (including pets) and signposting families to the SHSCT Bereavement Helpline. Access to laptops &amp; multiple devices for home learning flagged by parents as an issue so working with schools to offer alternatives. Lack of routine highlighted by families. Some families returning to home countries and sometimes EWS have not been notified, which poses as an issue when trying to contact families. (EANI EWS, 23<sup>r</sup> June)</li> <li>• Many children not doing schoolwork as it was causing conflict &amp; aggression in the home. (CAPS NIACRO, 23 June)</li> <li>• Referrals via the COVID-19 Community Hub to date have received approx. 750 referrals, with the majority from N/Hamilton &amp; Crossmaglen. At present, they have between 350-400 food parcels going out weekly. (NMandDD Council, 23 June)</li> <li>• Recent referral trends: Families with children with disability struggling RE: social isolation, lack of respite, frustration with siblings, etc. Children managing bereavement. (SPACE/FSH, 2 June)</li> <li>• Have had a 70% increase in work since the start of lockdown and staff have been working at night, per parents' availability. (SPACE, 23 June)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recent Achievements by</b></p>	<p><b><u>Our Journey Through Disability:</u></b> Final Report for Our Journey printed and available in digital format.</p>

<p><b>the Locality Planning Group.</b> How much did we do? How well did we do it? Is anyone better off? (can be included as a report card)</p>	<p>Meetings with HSCB &amp; SHSCT to implement recommendations. Shane Devlin (SHSCT) to put forward to CYPSP for regional endorsement Planning group to meet with Colm McCafferty in late August to identify actions from recommendations</p> <p><b><u>Newcomer Families Needs Assessment:</u></b> 3 Zoom meetings to further the Needs Assessment, identify current COVID-19 related issues and link with the Virtual Hospital to ensure better communication with BAME communities</p> <p><b><u>Portadown Gets Active:</u></b> Easter programme over 2 days online – 30 families involved Summer Programme commencing July 24<sup>th</sup> for 9 days in total (Mon-Wed for 3 weeks). To include parents support session with ParentLine NI to prepare families for return to school.</p> <p><b><u>Southern Area Men's Health Network:</u></b> Partnership event on 6<sup>th</sup> March in Tandragee Recreation Centre on DeMENTia: Men in the Middle (See Scorecard 20.2)</p> <p><b><u>Emotional Wellbeing &amp; Mental Health Resource:</u></b> With Designer to create an easily navigated resource for reference to local support for children and young people with regards to their emotional being and good mental health. 32 services included, 92 programmes/initiatives registered. To be included on CYPSP website for reference by families and workers</p> <p><b><u>Daily Update:</u></b> Individual piece of information, resource or opportunity shared among our contacts over 68 days during lockdown. All COVID-19 related to provide support for children, young people and families</p> <p><b><u>FYI:</u></b></p>
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	<p>Fortnightly e-bulletin became a weekly one during the start of lockdown until July, to update all contacts with Govt guidance, resources and support for children, young people and families.</p> <p><i>Testimonials from members include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many thanks for sending through the newsletters, it is a vital source of information of what is going on in local areas. (Action Trauma)</li> <li>• Thank you very much for the newsletters and the regular updates that have been both inspiring and informative throughout this period. (Barnardo's NOVA Trauma Support Service)</li> <li>• I would appreciate if you would give this feedback. It's good to have so much in "one place" and certainly cuts the time down for practitioners search websites etc., as the links are there. Darren and Joanne are doing a great job 😊. (Health Visiting Manager)</li> <li>• Thank you so much for everything. You have been so kind to me and I really appreciate all of your help. The quality of your work and how you engage with people is inspirational, especially throughout the Covid crisis. (EY Toybox)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Information Leaflet:</u></b></p> <p>Locality Planning has also produced an information leaflet to include the structure of CYPSP and Locality Planning, Action Plan and further information (see attached).</p>
<p><b>Engagement with Children and Young People, Parents/Carers:</b> including numbers</p>	<p><b>PGA Easter Programme: 30 children</b> <b>Our Journey: 24 parents/carers</b></p> <p><b><i>Total engagement with 30 children, and 24 parents/carers</i></b></p>
<p><b>Meetings Held:</b> Break down of number of</p>	<p>Armagh LPG – 5 March (14 attended) and 21 May (via Zoom) (20 attended) Banbridge LPG – 9 June (via Zoom)(14 attended) Craigavon LPG – 4 Feb (14 attended) and 2 June (via Zoom) (12 attended)</p>

<p>meetings held: How many attended:</p>	<p>Dungannon LPG – 27 Feb (9 attended) and 18 June (via Zoom) (17 attended) Newry LPG – 11 March (11 attended) and 13 May (via Zoom) (13 attended) South Armagh LPG – 18 Feb (14 attended) and 23 June (via Zoom) (10 attended)</p> <p><b><i>Total 148 attended LPG meetings: 62 in pre-lockdown, 86 via Zoom</i></b></p>
<p><b>Upcoming Events:</b></p>	<p>Trust-wide resource of emotional &amp; mental health &amp; wellbeing services available for children and young people: due for early September</p> <p>Ongoing meetings of Task &amp; Finish Group to produce Needs Assessment for Newcomer Families</p>
<p><b>Additional Information:</b></p>	<p>Thank you to Joanne Patterson, our Locality Planning Support Officer who finishes her post as maternity cover in September. Joanne has produced FYI and the Daily Updates as well as providing all admin support to the role and has been instrumental in furthering the work of Locality Planning, welcoming new members and sharing information across our contacts.</p>

## Report from (Northern Sector) Locality Planning Groups to Western Area Outcomes Group

June – August 2020

<p><b>Current Issues being Discussed at LPG:</b> Including: Gaps in services/Emerging needs</p>	<p>Given the current pandemic the normal locality planning process has been halted. Locality planning meetings took place over zoom and focused on the emerging needs of children and young people as we come out of the covid pandemic.</p> <p>They were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Anxiety and mental health of children and young people – huge concern was expressed at the growing mental health worries that children and young people have expressed throughout this pandemic. Children and Young people have expressed concerns re isolation, anxiety, depression, loneliness and service providers expressed their concerns re the demand that will be put on their services when they are able to resume.</li> <li>➤ Return to school – concern has been expressed that children and young people have heightened concerns regarding returning to school, concerns as to whether they will be safe, the unknown of what will happen and the uncertainty particularly for transition children who did not get closure leaving primary school and moving onto secondary.</li> <li>➤ Young children expressing 'over' attachment to parents and how they will cope when parents return to work and/or they have to go to nursery or primary school.</li> <li>➤ Huge concern was raised for our most vulnerable children and young people and the fact that fewer eyes have been on these children and that they have been in a confined environment that may be unsafe for them. The concern has been that we may see a big increase to Gateway over the coming weeks/months.</li> <li>➤ Concerns were also raised for the increase in domestic violence incidents during lockdown and the demand on services such as Women's Aid.</li> <li>➤ NSPCC produced a report to highlight the impact of sexual abuse on children and young people during the coronavirus pandemic.</li> </ul> <p>Key themes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• abuse getting worse during lockdown</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• relatives providing childcare</li> <li>• sexual abuse by a family member</li> <li>• previous experience of child sexual abuse</li> <li>• speaking out during the pandemic</li> <li>• finding support.</li> </ul> <p>➤ The growing frustrations with the issues of connectivity and access to IT equipment and the impact that this is having particularly on our most socially deprived areas has been of grave concern this quarter. Lack of cohesion and direction from EA has been an issue raised throughout the locality groups, whereas the support given to parents and pupils depends solely on the individual school</p>
<p><b>Recent Achievements by the Locality Planning Group.</b> How much did we do? How well did we do it? Is anyone better off?</p>	<p>As this report is given during a pandemic it is difficult to measure the achievements of the locality planning process. One achievement has been the establishment of a pilot uniform bank in Derry which provided free uniforms to students in a local primary school. This was run in partnership with the LP Coordinator, local school and local community originations.</p> <p>Coordinator continues to keep in contact with LP members and the work they are involved in throughout this period.</p>
<p><b>Engagement with Children and Young People, Parents/Carers:</b> including numbers</p>	<p>Engagement with Young People continued on a weekly basis throughout this quarter using zoom. The Unicef youth steering group (which consists of 14 members) continued to meet and have agreed the outcomes of the programme, these outcomes were written by the young people and presented by them to the adult steering group for their comments. We are now at the stage of action planning and several online workshops have been set for September to focus on the action plan and the specific actions to achieve the agreed outcomes. There will be a recruitment drive throughout September to recruit new young people and the coordinator has a meeting with WHSCT Assistant Director to look at representation of young people who are involved with social services.</p>
<p><b>Meetings Held:</b> Break down of number of meetings held:</p>	<p>There were 3 locality planning meetings held this quarter; Derry 21 participants Waterside 12 participants</p>



<p>How many attended:</p>	<p>Strabane 14 participants</p> <p>Unicef adult steering group continues to meet on a fortnightly basis. Unicef youth steering group continues to meet weekly.</p>
<p><b>Upcoming Events:</b></p>	<p>none</p>
<p><b>Additional Information:</b></p>	<p>LP Coordinator has been involved in community mobilisation group which was established through covid to coordinate the distribution of food parcels for the shielded population and those most in need. It has been agreed that this group will continue to a work together to address the emerging needs of poverty. This will have a direct impact on the LP process as anecdotally what has been raised is the emerging needs and concerns for those families struggling financially as well as emotionally/mentally.</p>

## Report from (Southern Sector) Locality Planning Groups to Western Area Outcomes Group

**March – August 2020**

<p><b>Current Issues being Discussed at LPG:</b> Including: Gaps in services/Emerging needs</p>	<p>Affordable / Accessible Childcare, Online Platforms – Gaming/bullying/Sexting, Coercive Control in Relationship, Child on Parent Abuse, Trauma/Stress/Separation Anxiety, Addiction, poor housing conditions for Syrian families, young people as carers – hope they coped with shopping &amp; getting medication, increase in smoking, Gambling &amp; getting Breakfast Clubs/After Schools going again to allow parents to work full days.</p>
<p><b>Recent Achievements by the Locality Planning Group.</b> How much did we do? How well did we do it? Is anyone better off? (can be included as a report card)</p>	<p>During Covid members mobilised themselves within the F&amp;O Community Response Hub as Fermanagh &amp; Omagh Help and Hope and undertook many different pieces of local action to keep families safe and secure.</p> <p>Members distribute food to very rural areas and listened online and on the phone to family challenges.</p> <p>After a tragic stabbing in a local estate the Coordinator facilitated an Action Group which downloaded funding to distribute 60 fresh food boxes left on people's houses over 4 weeks. Several of these properties have 5+ children so the Coordinator organised the putting together of activity packs with donations from members of LPGs. This work continues with social distancing activities planned over the next weeks.</p> <p>The Coordinator organised an online session with The Money Advice Service who provided useful information to support families during Covid.</p> <p>The Coordinator designed leaflets with useful contact details for mental health support, DSV, Finance &amp; Family Support. She managed to get funding to get these translated into Lithuanian &amp; Polish.</p> <p>Members have been involved in the roll out of online DSV training with 6 of the members recording</p>

	<p>20 minute sessions of their work &amp; ethos, what they can provide and how they can be contacted. After participants view this, they are invited into a live session where they can ask questions about what they learnt or make comments. 70+ practitioners have received training through this. Work has also been carried out by members on a DSV campaign &amp; compiling lists of emergency housing for those who wished to leave home after the lockdown.</p>
<p><b>Engagement with Children and Young People, Parents/Carers:</b> including numbers</p>	<p>No direct contact, but the Coordinator has been liaising closely with her local Hubs and attending their virtual meetings. Also a COVID Social Work Service has been set up in the area and she has been supporting them with contact information for local supports.</p>
<p><b>Meetings Held:</b> Break down of number of meetings held: How many attended:</p>	<p>Over Covid the Coordinator had frequent 1:1 contact with the members by phone &amp; Zoom and regularly sent emails. Also, FODC organised a Collaborative meeting of all those involved in the response weekly and many members took part in this.</p>
<p><b>Upcoming Events:</b></p>	<p>An on-line session with Gamecare for the members is planned for later in the month as members are bringing Gaming /Gambling forward as an issue.</p>
<p><b>Additional Information:</b></p>	<p>Over COVID membership increased as the Food Banks wished to join as did several Clergy who were involved in the response.</p> <p>Coordinator still attended online meetings with Neighbourhood Renewal, Peace IV, WDSVP, Community Planning and Covid Regional Response.</p>