

Report from Locality Planning Groups to Southern Area Outcomes Group

Months: March-May 2021

Current Issues being Discussed at LPG:

Including: Gaps in services/Emerging needs

Armagh (4th March and 6th May)

- Anxiety among young people and mental health issues in the future. (Cedar Foundation, Barnardos, REACT)
- Young people suffering from social isolation. (REACT, YJA)
- Facing Zoom fatigue with young people and in general people's mental health very low. (BCM, Barnardos)
- Issues of young people's mental fitness. (Youth Action)
- Anti-social behaviour is an issue. (PSNI)
- Received calls from Community groups about anti-social behaviour in Drumbreda. Working with PSNI and PCSP, more patrols and Community Group have set up Neighbourhood Watch. (ABC Council)
- Lack of wearing masks coming through as an issue with the BAME community. (SHSCT)
- Vaping of Spice and reports of walkers with no High Vis. (PCSP)

Banbridge LPG (24th March and 26th May)

- Young people meeting up in parks and drinking, exposure to harm. (Futureproof)
- Young people feeling isolated, lacking motivation, a lot of screen time. Frustration with education, worry about the future. Some struggling with going back to school. (EAYS)
- Issue around technology, for some online does not work for them. (Cedar Foundation)

Craigavon LPG (16th March and 18th May)

- Placements for Service in the Community is all on hold. Young people are waiting and on hold. (Youth Justice Agency)
- A lot of reports of anti-social behaviour in Lurgan Park, organised fights, ASB in the local community. (PSNI)

Dungannon LPG (13th April)

- Poverty: food poverty, fuel poverty, job losses, increased debt, Universal Credit delays, affordability of housing, accessing laptops, technology for families with more than 1 child (BCM, EA EWS, STEP, NIACRO CAPS, MUDC)
- Increase in mental health issues (PSNI, EA EWS, STEP)
- Behavioural issues with children and young people, isolation (EA EWS, STEP)
- Domestic Violence (PSNI, Network Personnel)
- Violence from child to parent (BCM)
- Emerging issue around technology, for some kids online does not work for them. The one-to-one support needed cannot be offered to them through an iPad. (Cedar Foundation)
- Higher number of families with children with ASD experiencing issues. (Network Personnel)
- Working with parents to understand there is a requirement for children to engage with home schooling. (NIACRO CAPS)
- Zoom fatigue among young people impacting education. (BCM)



Current Issues being Discussed at LPG:

Including: Gaps in services/Emerging needs (Continued)

- Need is for emotional and practical support for children going back to school, routine and confidence building. (Clanrye)
- Families stressed with home-schooling, parents trying to work from home and home school. (Parenting Partnership)
- Migrant population have faded off from the College. (SWC Dungannon Feb 21)
- ASB has increased in last few weeks. (PCSP Dungannon Apr 21)

Newry & Mourne (10th March and 12th May)

- Mental health (YJA, NOW Group, Youth Action mental health in young men)
- Anxiety (NOW Group, Youth Action, MCT COVID-related and among young children)
- Loneliness/social isolation among young people. (EA EWS, Youth Action, NOW Group)
- Behavioural problems with young children aged 5 -8 (MDT)
- Zoom fatigue (Youth Action, Volunteer Now)
- Increased demand for Resilience courses for young people. (Bolster Community)
- Families are struggling financially especially vulnerable families. Secured grants for families and provide devices for children, utility bills and educational toys and books. (Women's Aid)

South Armagh LPG (20th April)

- Mental health especially parental mental health. (Home Start, Bolster Community)
- Issues around risk taking behaviours, drugs, and alcohol. (NMandDC)
- Children's mental health, increase in relationship breakdowns. (Bolster Community)
- Engagement in schoolwork is not working for all children this time round. Group work is more difficult due to restrictions and over Zoom some children are struggling to engage. (NIACRO CAPS)
- Lack of routine and structure in children's lives (EA EWS, Clanrye Group)
- Anxiety among GCSE age group on cancellation of exams. (EA EWS)
- Lot of housing support required. (Clanrye Group)
- Families are struggling financially especially vulnerable families. Secured grants for families and provide devices for children, utility bills and educational toys and books. (Women's Aid)
- Need is for emotional and practical support for children going back to school, routine and confidence building. (Clanrye)

Recent Achievements by the Locality Planning Group.

<u>Portadown Gets Active:</u> Easter Programme 8-9 April 2021. 38 children, 22 families participated. 7 hours of activities, 6 workshops including sports, cooking, gardening & nature and arts & crafts. Scorecard 21.1 attached with report.

<u>Infant Mental Health Awareness Workshops:</u> 5 workshops completed. 120 attended, 85 completed evaluations. Very positive feedback – see Final Report as attachment.

Adolescent Special Interest Group: Online screening of Resilience documentary and presentation given on CYPSP and Locality Planning to raise awareness of CYPSP among clinical/medical staff across NI.

<u>FYI</u>: **6** editions of our fortnightly e-bulletin FYI: 264 pages and 340 pieces of information in total. Sent to 739 contacts per fortnight (excluding sharing by members).



Engagement with	PGA Easter Programme: 38 children, 22 families
C&YP, Parents/ Carers:	Total engagement with 38 children and 22 families
Meetings Held:	Meetings Held: Locality Planning Groups
	 Armagh LPG – 4th March (18 attended) and 6th May 21 (16 attended) Banbridge LPG – 24th March (10 attended) and 26th May 21 (14 attended) Craigavon LPG – 16th March (17 attended) and 18th May 21 (18 attended) Dungannon LPG – 13th April 21 (13 attended) Newry & Mourne LPG – 10th March (21 attended) and 12th May 21 (18 attended)
	South Armagh LPG – 20 th April 21 (7 attended)
	<u>Total attendance at LPG meetings: 152</u>
	Meetings Held: Action Plan:
	 Locality Planning Groups Action Plan: Portadown Gets Active - 2 meetings (7 attended) Adolescents Special Interest Group (18 attended) Armagh Youth Providers – Shaping Armagh mtg (4 attended)
	 Meetings Attended: Infant Mental Health Workshops – 3 workshops (66 attended) Portadown Drug & Alcohol Network (18 attended) Mid Ulster Youth Voice (12 attended)
Upcoming Events:	 Continuing Action Planning with LPG's 3 Summer is Coming Networking events to share details of summer activities at end of June Linking ABC Community Planning with youth organisations to get the views of young people for Shaping Armagh
	Thanks to Kerry O'Hagan who is leaving her post as Locality Support Officer on 22 nd June 2021.