

Report from Locality Planning Groups to Southern Area Outcomes Group

Months: March-June 2022

<p>Current Issues being Discussed at LPG: Including: Gaps in services/Emerging needs</p>	<p>Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health of Children & Young People:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member youth groups reporting higher levels of anxiety amongst children and young people, post lockdown (Confederation of Community Groups Newry, Newry LPG) • Approximately 50% of recently received T-BUC registration forms cited anxiety as an issue. (EA Youth Service, Newry LPG) • Feedback from families that their children really missed play and interacting with other children during lockdown. (Speedwell Trust, Dungannon LPG) • Inappropriate internet use, e.g. sexting and young people self-harming. (Barnardo's NI/FSH, Dungannon LPG) <p>Supporting Parents & Caregivers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Scheme places filled very quickly, even before information could be shared around networks. Demand this year is greatly outweighing capacity. (Various LPG Members, Newry LPG) • Very few opportunities for young people with a disability particularly around the older transition age, for summer activities/groups to participate in. (Newry Gateway Club, Newry LPG) • 80% of current caseload is young people with autism with a real lack of projects to refer young people into. Issues relating to transport costs for young people to access programmes. (Barnardo's TIS, Dungannon LPG) • Struggle to access services for young people reaching adult age with an autism diagnosis e.g. where Direct Payments will stop. (Barnardos' NI, Dungannon LPG - June) • Lack of Entry Level English Classes available in the local area. (Clanrye Group, South Armagh LPG - September) <p>Addressing the Impact of Poverty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost of fuel expected to rise again in the autumn, meaning additional financial pressures on families. (ABC Council/MUDC, Dungannon LPG - June) • Poverty and the rising cost of living as key challenges; difficulty accessing housing; and lack of/affordability of private rentals in the area. (STEP, Dungannon LPG - June) • Rising running costs hitting local community organisations who aim to address loneliness, mental health, etc. (SHSCT, South Armagh LPG - September) • Service users report poverty issues during conversations - signposted accordingly. (PIPS Hope & Support, South <p>Other Emerging /Unmet Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaping is on the rise in the area with young people apparently unaware of associated dangers with nicotine intake, mixing substances, etc. More awareness raising is needed. (Barnardo's NI/FSH, Dungannon LPG - June)
<p>Recent Achievements by the Locality Planning Groups</p>	<p>Locality Planning Groups: agreement to meet alternately via Zoom and face to face. Members encouraged to host meetings</p> <p>School Uniform Recycling Toolkit: Evaluation feedback submitted by Sperrin Integrated College – very positive (see attached evaluation card). Aiming to spread out across the Southern Area during the next year.</p> <p>Summer is Coming: Summer Activities resource downloaded 869 times.</p>

	<p>Back to School info sheet: Completed a resource for New Bridge Integrated College, Banbridge, with emotional wellbeing and mental health support highlighted for Year 8 students and parents (See attached document)</p> <p>Portadown Gets Active: Another successful Summer Programme aiming to help address holiday hunger – see attached Scorecard HERE</p> <p>ABC Loneliness Network: Participated in Catty Bench Initiative during Loneliness Week (13-17 June) where Chatty Benches across ABC area were staffed as information points and members of the public encouraged to share messages how they tackled loneliness</p> <p>FYI: 5 editions of our fortnightly e-bulletin FYI (9th June – 8th September). 239 pages and 358 pieces of information in total. Sent to 4135 contacts in total with download rate of 21.6%, however FYI is now also sent as an attachment do download figures may be less than previous.</p>
<p>Engagement with C&YP, Parents/ Carers:</p>	<p>Bounceback event on 25th August for local community & residents associations across ABC Council area, organised by Ark and Triangle Housing Associations. Engaged with 25 parents and made links with 5 groups.</p> <p>Meeting with ParentLine NI on 26th July to discuss the CYPSP Parental Participation Programme and the best way to involve parents through Locality Planning Groups. ParentLine NI attended the Armagh LPG meeting on 15th September to inform the group of this forthcoming work.</p>
<p>Meetings Held:</p>	<p>Meetings Held: Locality Planning Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armagh LPG – 15th September (15 attended) • Craigavon LPG – 20th September (11 attended) • Dungannon LPG – 28th June (10 attended) • Newry & Mourne LPG – 22nd June (13 attended) • South Armagh LPG – 6th September (11 attended) <p><u>Total attendance at LPG meetings: 60 members: 32 from statutory and 28 voluntary/community sectors.</u></p> <p>Meetings Held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Uniform Recycling Toolkit meeting (Joint with Mid Ulster LPG) (4 attended in total) • Can We Talk Conference Planning Group (Joint with Mid Ulster LPG) (8 attended in total) <p>Meetings Attended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 ABC Loneliness Network Steering Group (13 practitioners attended) • Ethnic Minority Families Needs Assessment meetings (7 attended in total) • PLIG meeting (12 attended) • Poverty Sub Group meeting with ABC Community Development & Community Planning (7 attended) • Portadown Gets Active Planning Group meeting (5 attended) • Poverty Sub Group meeting (5 attended)
<p>Upcoming Events:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can We Talk Conference, 25th October