

**Newry & Mourne LPG**  
**Minutes of Meeting - Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 10am**  
**Newry Youth Resource Centre**

<b>Attendees</b>		<b>Apologies</b>
Darren Curtis (CYPSP Acting Chair)	Seán Maguire (CCG)	Jacinta Linden (Bolster Community)
Joanne Patterson (CYPSP – Minutes)	Annie Clarke (SHSCT)	Rosie Carey (EA Youth Service)
Allison Slater (Bolster Community / FSH)	Ryan Duffy (PSNI)	Geraldine Morgan (EWO)
Kirsty Wilson (Bolster Community)	Patrick Hughes (EA Youth Service)	Louise Malone (Youth Action NI)
Eleanor McKenna (PIPS Hope and Support)	Nicola Wallace (The Prince's Trust)	Elaine Trainor (SHSCT, MDT)
Micheál Carlisle (Youth Justice Agency)	Donna Weir (EA Youth Service)	Sheila Morris (Youth Action NI)
Pauline McDonald (Newry Food Initiative)	Jacqueline Masterson (SHSCT)	Clara O'Callaghan (Volunteer Now)
Shannon Creaney (PCSP / NMandDD Council)	Kirsti Lundy (Barnardo's NI)	Blanaid Bruce (Radius Housing)
Kerri Morrow (NMandDD Council)		

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action - By Whom</b>
<b>Welcome, Apols., Prev. Mins. (30/11/22)</b>	Darren welcomed all to the meeting, as Acting Chair. Apologies noted, per above. Previous Minutes agreed - Darren reminded everyone to click on the hyperlinks included in Meeting Minutes, to be taken direct to relevant websites and online resources. Jim McDonnell to provide update on transport issue at next meeting.	JP to upload Minutes to CYPSP website
<b>Update from FSH</b>	Allison ( <b>Bolster Community/FSH</b> ): Referrals still high, 41 received last month, 31 to date. Similar issues: referrals mainly from schools & parents - support for children and parents pre & post autism diagnosis, challenging behaviour, high anxiety levels, school refusal. 3 referrals last month for children who had lost a parent. Currently capacity challenges to Hub partners: PIPS & Early Years unable to take referrals, Family Group Conferencing stepped down. Gap in the area for 1-to-1 mentoring support for 13-16 year olds. FSH has contributed to the Independent Review of Children's Social Care Services.	

<b>Discussion on Unmet &amp; Emerging Needs</b>	<p>Needs raised during meeting, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current freeze in EA recruitment: vacant post for a FLARE worker for the N&amp;M area cannot be filled. (PH) Their ABC Area worker will be picking up on some of the N&amp;M workload.</li> <li>• Rising electricity costs as an issue by some recent foodbank users, also risk of homelessness. (PMcD). Bolster can provide electricity top-ups, food, essential clothing, assistance with home relocation, for those at risk of homelessness, through some available NIHE funding. (AS) Dept of Community's funding had covered similar items during COVID and little money left over at present. (SM)</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships reporting people are financially struggling, including volunteers who are the lifeblood of groups. Lack of funds putting real pressure on community groups for general running costs &amp; programmes. (SM)</li> <li>• No local service/programme provision for 16-18 yrs with disabilities. Extremely difficult to find groups for 18+ age with physical disabilities. Need somewhere safe to go and be accepted. (KL). Several local &amp; regional groups suggested by members, but all avenues have already been exhausted. JM suggested Black Box in Belfast who can travel.</li> </ul>	
<b>Action Plan 2021-24</b>	<p>Darren reminded the group about the 3 Priority Areas for the LPG Action Plan.</p> <p>Potential to link with schools with an emotional wellbeing/mental health message was put forward. Timing, format, accessibility of information were discussed. Jacqueline suggested using established links with School Nurses to disseminate info. Patrick recommended the C2K network to share info. Gimme 5 Train The Trainer groups may provide an option to reach a captive audience. Allison suggested Pastoral Care Teams as a key contact within the local schools. Anyone interested in meeting to look at options for actions, please contact Darren.</p>	<p>KM to contact Area Learning Group, to request a rep. attends next meeting</p>
<b>Member Agency Updates</b>	<p>Jacqueline (<b>SHSCT</b>): Members of Southern Area CYPSP Locality and Outcomes Groups and the MDT have identified difficulties in accessing services for young people 13+. The CYPSP Task Group, Emotional Health and Wellbeing Network, is conducting a multi-agency scoping exercise on Emotional Health and Wellbeing services available to support. Scoping exercise to focus on the pilot area of Newry, Banbridge and South Armagh. E-mail with preliminary meeting date and short scoping exercise to be circulated next week. Help requested from relevant organisations to complete and return the document and identify a key person within their organisation to sit on the group.</p>	<p>JP to circulate all links flagged by members after meeting + Any relevant flyers to be</p>

<b>Member Agency Updates</b>	<p>Kirsti (<b>Barnardo's NI</b>): Recently had PIPS in doing some mental health training, which has been really well received.</p> <p>Kerri (<b>NMandDD Council</b>): Work continuing on social inclusion, linking in with schools, EA and Neighbourhood Renewal.</p> <p>Micheál (<b>Youth Justice Agency</b>): Cost of living crisis hasn't cut across their agency to date. Keen to see how YJA can link into the MH&amp;EW Forum, through local workers feeding relevant info. through to the YJA's SAOG representative. The aim of the YJA is to get young people in &amp; out of their system ASAP, so signposting resources and networking opportunities such as 'FYI' &amp; LPG meetings are key.</p> <p>Ryan (<b>PSNI</b>): Most engagement is through Neighbourhood Renewal Teams, no change due to budget cuts however, frontline policing will be affected in the future. BeSafe Event was in Newry mid-January. Operation Encompass roll-out continues. Witnessing an increase in online blackmail, usually linked to compromising photos. PSNI, response to increase related messaging, but this is a concerning trend. Safeguarding &amp; signposting activities ongoing. Youth Diversionary work continues with YJA to support young people. Positive feedback offered on recently produced CYPSP Safer Internet Day Resource, which has been forward shared to colleagues across the district.</p> <p>Shannon (<b>PCSP / NMandDD Council</b>): Community Health &amp; Wellbeing Event on 9/3/23 in Newry Leisure Centre: contact Shannon to host info stand. Morning session 10am-12pm, open to public. Local schools attending afternoon session 12-2pm). If anyone aware of schools who need 'No Parking' signs for outside their gates, contact Shannon. The PCSP Small Grants Programme will be opening on 13<sup>th</sup> March - Further info. TBC.</p> <p>Patrick (<b>EA Youth Service</b>): FLARE process has recently changed and now embedded within local services. Their sister REACH programme is available to young people, but referrals have to come directly through schools. New programmes going live in March which might provide a potential pathway through Area Youth Workers. Focus on linking up with other EA provision to offer continuity to C&amp;YP. Currently planning an International Women's Day Event on 8<sup>th</sup> March in Newry - further details to follow, but focus will be on internet safety and healthy relationships.</p>	<p>included in next issue of 'FYI'</p>
------------------------------	--	--

<b>Member Agency Updates</b>	<p>Donna (<b>EA Youth Service</b>): All members invited to sit on Local Advisory Group - contact Donna to further discuss. Please complete the NM&amp;D LAG Survey <a href="#">HERE</a> to provide feedback on upcoming planned stakeholder engagement events. Rosie is currently working with Youth Voice group on an event 24<sup>th</sup> March - further details to follow. Recent referrals raising the issue of healthy relationships and how young women are spoken to.</p> <p>Seán (<b>Newry CCG</b>): Whilst the CCG has no direct remit for C&amp;YP, they work directly with local community groups on the ground on funding &amp; programme support. Getting relevant info. to volunteers on the ground is vital in reaching those in need. Sean thanked CYPSP for last year's Summer Activities Directory: at least 10 children directly benefited by attending schemes. 'FYI' a key source of info. for the CCG.</p> <p>Annie (<b>SHSCT</b>): Autism Bus returning in February but fully booked out. Relevant local services invited to attend the info. sessions or send across flyers to Annie for inclusion in the corresponding info. pack. Men's Mental Health Week forthcoming with various resources available in due course. New Speech &amp; Language Advice Line and Play &amp; Say Parent Programme recently launched - See flyers to access related videos.</p> <p>Allison / Kirsty (<b>Bolster Community</b>): In the middle many programmes but resuming in April: 2 GoGirl (partnership with WOMEN'STEC), 6 Friends. Tots &amp; Tea Peer Support Group running for parents of children awaiting Autism diagnosis/recently diagnosed. Afterschool Clubs for children with autism &amp; families currently full, waiting lists operating. ParentsPlus Special Needs, Adolescents &amp; ADHD programmes currently full with waiting lists. Autism Connect social group running-attending conference on 4/5/23. Social Kitchen runs 3 days weekly-Mon &amp; Wed for adults only and Thur for parents &amp; children, 10am-1pm: See flyer in 'FYI'.</p> <p>Nicola (<b>The Prince's Trust</b>): Currently working with 16-30 year olds to access education, employment and/or volunteering. Distributed hard copies of February &amp; March programme (online &amp; in-person) schedule to members. Flyer in next 'FYI'.</p> <p>Pauline (<b>Newry Food Initiative</b>): Group of local churches (Presbyterian &amp; Church of Ireland) recently opened new foodbank in Hill St, responding to cost of living crisis. Currently building capacity and seeking referrals from agencies: referral form currently being prepared, circulated in due course. Provided parcels to approx. 40 families &amp; individuals over past 7-8 weeks. Visit</p>	
------------------------------	---	--

	<p>the organisation's Facebook page <a href="#">HERE</a> for further info. and see flyer in 'FYI'. Group is also currently looking into possible practical holiday hunger responses over the summer months.</p> <p>Eleanor (<b>PIPS Hope &amp; Support</b>): Children's Crisis Services currently closed to referrals. Bereavement related support still available. Community Development &amp; Training is currently focusing on work in schools on mental health. Suicide Prevention Training is available in a range of formats: ASIST (2-Day), SafeTALK (3 Hrs.), Shoulder-To-Shoulder (aged 16+, good for youth groups). Service covers all of the SHSCT Area.</p>	
<b>AOB</b>	<p>Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb in Newry Gateway to progress the <b>'Our Journey' Support Resource</b>. Parents have been involved in the process and will be sharing their inputs.</p> <p>Click <a href="#">HERE</a> to access the recently released <b>Safer Internet Day Interactive Resource</b> to provide useful links for parents/carers and those working with children &amp; young people</p> <p>Visit the CYPSP <b>Youth Wellness Web</b> <a href="#">HERE</a> - Info. is housed in age-specific sections and there are also dedicated Parent &amp; Teacher and Training zones</p> <p>The CYPSP continues to update the <b>Cost of Living Guide to Locality Planning Based Resources and Practical Support for Families and Children</b> - Download <a href="#">HERE</a></p> <p><b>LPG Members Survey 2022</b> results (Regional &amp; Southern Trust focused) have been made available in infographic form</p> <p><b>CYPSP's Northern Ireland Outcome Monitoring Report 2021/22</b>, available <a href="#">HERE</a> - This is a great resource for assessing need, integrated planning and evidence for anyone applying for new funding opportunities - Please share widely!</p> <p>Download the <b>CYPSP Annual Report 2022</b> <a href="#">HERE</a></p> <p>See most recent issue of <b>'FYI' Newsletter</b> <a href="#">HERE</a>, focusing on Children's Mental Health Week - Thanks to those who submitted relevant information &amp; please share widely!</p> <p><b>'Worth The Risk' Men's Health Seminar</b>, scheduled to take place on 10<sup>th</sup> March at Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, Craigavon - See flyer for further info.</p>	<p>JP to circulate various CYPSP links &amp; reports to members</p>
<b>Next Meeting</b>	<p><b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023, at 10am, via Zoom.</b></p> <p>Many thanks for your participation!</p>	