

**Armagh LPG**  
**Minutes of Meeting - Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 10am**  
**Boardroom at Tower Hill, Armagh**

| Attendees   | Apologies  |
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| Michael McKenna (Youth Action NI) - Chair<br>Joanne Patterson (CYPSP) - Minutes<br>Ann-Marie Baxter (Barnardo's NI / FSH)<br>Mia Murray (ArKe Sure Start)<br>Teresa Miles (BCM)<br>Karen Mulholland (City of Armagh H.S.)<br>Nicola McCauley (SHSCT, CAMHS EWTS)<br>Karen Ross (PSNI) | <div>Darren Curtis (CYPSP)</div> <div>Bernadette Lally (SHSCT / MACE)</div> <div>Catherine McCormack (SHSCT)</div> <div>Nichola Lockhart (Early Years, Toybox)</div> <div>Stephen Harland (Ark Housing)</div> <div>Mary O'Hanlon (SHSCT, Community Access)</div> <div>Rhiannon Gallagher (Clanrye Group)</div> <div>Matthew Matchett (Cedar Foundation)</div> <div>Lyndsey Hasson (SHSCT Sexual Health Team)</div> <div>Andrea McClenaghan (SHSCT, Community Access)</div> <div>Padraig McBrien (REACT)</div> <div>Caroline Dawson (YJA)</div> <div>Rachel McCammon (WAAD)</div> <div>Bernie Bell (SHSCT)</div> <div>Niamh Quinn (Advocacy VSV)</div> <div>Adrian Hutchinson (EA Y.S.)</div> <div>Lynette Cooke (ABC PCSP)</div> |

| Agenda Item                               | Discussion  | Action - By Whom                                  |
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| <b>Welcome, Apols., Prev. Mins. 07/09</b> | Michael welcomed all to the meeting.<br>Apologies noted, per above.<br>Previous Minutes agreed. (LPG Standards Exercise postponed until 2024.)  | JP to upload Minutes to CYPSP website             |
| <b>FSH Update</b>                         | Ann-Marie ( <b>Barnardo's NI / FSH</b> ): FSH remains busy. Telephone enquires remain constant, advice and guidance given as appropriate. Slightly lower number of referrals in August and September due to school holidays. Small number of re-referrals, possibly due to families needing more specific support which may not be available. Once again, some referrals being received are more complex and involve children waiting on assessment/diagnosis and, as a result, families need a great deal of assistance. Children aged 5-10 are the biggest group looking support. Most frequent requests made for parenting programmes and support, along with support for Emotional and Behavioural Support (gap for this support in this area.) REACT only work with children aged 10 | Access the FSH Referral Form <a href="#">HERE</a> |

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| <b>FSH Update</b>                               | upwards. FSH is not an emergency service and does not have access to funds. Very lucky for the support of BCM and STEP, who have been able to help families including financially when needed.   |  |
| <b>Discussion on Unmet &amp; Emerging Needs</b> | <p>Needs raised during meeting, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Therapeutic Play still a service gap. (AMB)</li> <li>• Post-lockdown parenting issues: offline/online conflict reassessing boundaries, cost of living crisis / working poor transitioning back to “normality”. (All)</li> <li>• Seeing a lack of support for families with a child with / waiting on a diagnosis. (MM)</li> <li>• 67 referrals last year, 128 this year since April, showing a dramatic increase in need. Increase in referrals relating to mental health &amp; anxiety post-lockdown. Currently 20 young people on their waiting list. Multiple needs presented. Lack of available housing and the rising cost of private housing are presenting major challenges for young people and they are seeing more hidden homelessness, e.g. some young people currently sleeping rough in cars.(TM)</li> <li>• Eating disorders have been flagged as an issue in some local schools. (NMCC)</li> </ul> | JP to record needs / DC to report to SOG                 |
| <b>Action Plan 2021-24</b>                      | <p>Click on the following links to view the evaluations for the <b>Feel Good Armagh Events</b> in June: <a href="#">Feel Good Armagh Community Networking Day (9th June)</a> &amp; <a href="#">Feel Good Armagh Youth Event (10th June)</a>. Recently met with Stephen from Ark Housing who are keen along with Triangle Housing, to look at following on from this year’s events in 2024. Planning Meeting to be held pre-Christmas.</p> <p><b>‘Take A Healthy Selfie’ Mental Health &amp; Emotional Wellbeing Resource</b> in final draft stage - Student flyer &amp; wallet-sized card, as well as Parents, Caregiver &amp; School Staff Booklet will be made available both in print &amp; digitally for circulation by LPG members.</p> <p>Click <a href="#">HERE</a> to view the Evaluation/Scorecard on the <b>Vaping Awareness Sessions</b> which the CYPSP had organised to be delivered by ASCERT in June.</p>   | Contact DC to confirm your interest in attending meeting |

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| <b>Action Plan 2021-24</b>   | EA Youth Service, PSNI and SHSCT Sexual Health Team have met to discuss an online campaign to raise awareness on the issue of <b>Sextortion</b> . Young people will be involved in content planning and duplication of other existing campaigns will be avoided.  |   |
| <b>Member Agency Updates</b> | <p>Michael (<b>Youth Action NI</b>): Click <a href="#">HERE</a> to access the 3 Boys &amp; Young Men's Animations shown at meeting: animations created to raise awareness of child sexual exploitation (CSE) as experienced by boys and young men. Members asked to disseminate the links via their networks as widely as possible. 1-to-1 Mentoring funding has finished but still trying to offer support. Will be offering an OCN Level 1 in Youth Work locally after Easter, funded by Triangle Housing. Currently carrying out IEF Research engaging with local focus groups. Still recruiting for their Job Start Project, for 16+, via Debbie. Continuing to work with member organisations, e.g. SPRING, REACT, Keady Youth Club.</p> <p>Teresa (<b>BCM</b>): Bryson Grant has halted but recently supported service users with oil, heat and electric. Determining need is a high priority for the organisation at present. Homelessness Awareness Week upcoming, further details to follow. Christmas Hampers initiative will be running again this year. Need to better coordinate distribution with other local organisations to avoid duplication. Christmas Toy Appeal upcoming.</p> <p>Mia (<b>ArKe Sure Start</b>): Challenging times for staffing. Currently planning for Christmas. Working with Support 2gether locally. See the Fill Ur Cuppa Podcast <a href="#">HERE</a>. BFI accreditation recently secured.</p> <p>Karen (<b>City of Armagh High School</b>): Attending to hear about what supports are available locally. Really value the networking opportunities which the LPG presents.</p> <p>Karen (<b>PSNI</b>): Armagh is well-resourced in terms of their Community Team. Firework season presented the usual issues. ASB in &amp; around Keady has raised its head, so engaging with children &amp; young people in the area. Not seeing any issues with</p> | <p>KM to share with Chair of Armagh ALC + MMcK to confirm availability of videos in other languages</p> <p>JP to circulate all links after meeting + Relevant flyers to be included in next 'FYI'</p> |

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| <b>Member Agency Updates</b> | <p>homelessness in Armagh currently. Increased referrals being made to SVP. Mark Doran has provided warm packs which have offered emergency provision where needed. SHSCT Forensic Learning Disability Team are preparing a training package on engaging with neurodivergent children which they will be delivering to the PSNI in 2024.</p> <p>Nicola (<b>SHSCT, CAMHS EWTS</b>): Team will be working with selected secondary schools across SHSCT for one academic year, providing resources and supports to students, teachers and parents. Not in a position to offer 1-to-1 mentoring. Acting as a fast-track service to CAMHS aiming to provide early intervention. Another aim will be to give teachers a better understanding of the CAMHS referral process. Attending today's meeting to learn of supports available locally.</p> |  |
| <b>AOB</b>                   | <p>A recording of the recent <b>CYPSP Translation Hub &amp; Youth Wellness Web Online Training Sessions</b> (approx. 30 minutes in length) will be made available in due course.</p> <p>The Department of Education recently issued the an <b>Emotional Health and Wellbeing in Education Flyer</b>, along with <a href="#">THIS LINK</a>, to remind children and young people, parents/carers and schools staff of the supports that are currently available to them - Please share with your contacts/networks accordingly.</p>   | <p>JP to circulate links &amp; reports to members</p> <p>DC to provide further updates at next LPG mtg</p> |
| <b>Next Meeting</b>          | <p>Dates for next year's Armagh LPG Meetings proposed by CYPSP. Format of 2024 meetings discussed, with a preference for face-to-face or alternate in-person/Zoom expressed by the majority of attendees.</p> <p>Many thanks for your participation!</p>  | Dates to be circulated by JP post-meeting  |