

Newry & Mourne LPG
Minutes of Meeting - Wednesday 14th February 2024 at 10am
Via Zoom Video Conference Call

Attendees		Apologies
Darren Curtis (CYPSP - Acting Chair)	Seán Maguire (CCG)	Jacinta Linden (Bolster Comm.)
Maria Hamill (Newry & Mourne ALC)	Caroline Potter (Bolster Community)	Joanne Patterson (CYPSP)
Mary O’Hanlon (SHSCT, Comm. Access)	Bevín O’Hare (Home-Start N&M)	Annie Clarke (SHSCT)
Tracy MacFarlane (SHSCT, Comm. Access)	Kerrie Cartmill (Angel Eyes NI)	Ryan Duffy (PSNI)
Aaron Spiers (PIPS Hope and Support)	Catriona Egan (The Prince’s Trust)	Clara O’Callaghan (Volunteer Now)
Katie Wilson (Early Years Toybox)	Rosie Carey (EA Youth Service)	Norah Hughes (Find Help NI)
Maria Keenan (Clanrye Group)	Heather Darling (Angel Eyes NI)	
Karen Sands (Newry Surestart)		

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action - By Whom
Welcome, Apols., Prev. Mins. (06/12)	Darren welcomed all to the meeting, as Acting Chair. Brief Intros. given. Apologies noted, per above. Previous Minutes agreed. Karen from Home-Start Newry & Mourne has been elected as the new LPG Vice-Chair.	JP to upload to CYPSP website
Feedback on Standards Exercise	Darren provided the following feedback: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard 1: Good mix of statutory & voluntary organisations. Some feel there could be better joint working. Cross-over with South Armagh was also flagged. Standard 2: Further clarification needed on OBA, which will follow at next meeting. Standard 3: There have been good examples of co-production with children, young people & families carried out within the LPG. Standard 4: The group does well with strengthening networks, but this needs to be an ongoing process. Definition of Community Asset Mapping requested. 	Darren will deliver a short presentation at the next meeting

Feedback on Standards Exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard 5: More clarity needed on what is measured & how - Darren advised of the CYPSP Scorecards. • Standard 6: There is a standing item on the meeting agenda for the FSH to update the LPG on unmet/emerging needs. • Standard 7: Greater awareness of OBA would be beneficial. More promotion around successes/wins was also suggested. • Standard 8: A great example of promoting social promotion is the ‘Our Journey Through Disability’ initiative which stemmed from the N&M LPG. More work could be done to engage with the ethnic minority community. 	
FSH Update	<p>Caroline (Bolster Community / FSH): The theme with referrals this month is mainly emotional & behavioural support for adolescents. Also coming across poor housing, poverty, marital breakdown and the use of social media.</p>	<p>See Parentline resources HERE</p>
Action Plan 2021-24	<p>Online Launch of ‘Take a Healthy Selfie’ Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing Resource took place last week. FREE resource co-designed with young people for their peers, parents/caregivers and school staff to enhance young people’s mental health & emotional wellbeing. Target group is Year 8-10 but resource is open to all.</p> <p>Sextortion Linktree created to provide links to information, advice, resources & videos relating to sextortion and staying safe online. Sextortion Working Group set up and meeting with the SBNI next week, to avoid any duplication.</p> <p>Next cycle of Action Planning (2024-27) to take place later this year.</p>	<p>Download HERE + E-mail CYPSP for print copies Access HERE</p>
Member Agency Updates	<p>Maria (N&M ALC): ALC Pastoral Leaders met last Thursday with Jessica from EWTS on their incoming school programme. New expression of interest form will be released shortly through the DoE. The need for an Occupational Therapist coming into support them in schools has been raised at previous Learning Support Coordinator meetings.</p> <p>Bevin (Home-Start N&M): Currently operating waiting lists for all programmes. Recruiting for a Family Support Worker. More children presenting with undiagnosed issues and awaiting assessment. Recently had some UU OT placement students for five weeks who did interventions in groups and also some 1-to-1’s in the home.</p>	<p>TMcF to connect with MH on supports & resources</p> <p>BOH to confirm UU Tutor contact details with MH</p>

<p>Member Agency Updates</p>	<p>Mary & Tracy (SHSCT, Community Access): Recently finished the successful 6-week Drake music project with 8 young people. Currently doing a 6-week programme within Sticky Fingers, the Nurturing Programme, for young people who have limited access to local programmes. Summer Schemes planning to begin imminently.</p> <p>Seán (Newry CCG): Continuing to work with local community organisations applying for Council’s funding call-can be complex. Lot of today’s issues raised are being seen in local groups. Volunteer recruitment & retention continue to be a challenge and groups are struggling to resource activities & programmes due to funding restrictions.</p> <p>Caroline (Bolster Community): Tots & Tea Parents Groups continues on alternate weeks in Newry & Markethill on Wed mornings: for parents of toddlers waiting on or with an assessment. Spaces currently available in Markethill group. Autism Connect Group for young people 18+ continues with high demand. Peer support proving invaluable to parents of children with additional needs. Friends programmes ongoing.</p> <p>Kerrie (Angel Eyes NI): Heather recently commenced employment in Western area and attending today’s meeting. Lot of financial strain with parent carers and move to UC is causing increased anxiety. Supporting parents: recently distributed £50 Tesco vouchers and working with groups like Cash4Kids. Disabled families are being left behind in the current cost-of living crisis. Event this week in Tiddly Town for CYP with visual impairments, delivered in partnership with RNIB. Recently started a specialised project for CYP with visual impairments and additional needs aged 0-25 across NI.</p> <p>Maria (Clanrye Group): Cost-of-living crisis continues to have a massive impact on mental health. Financial struggles and accessing affordable & available childcare a major challenge to families, particularly lone parents. Social Supermarket continues for those struggling to meet the cost of living, but funding has been cut. Counsellor operating a 6-week waiting list, as mental health, childhood trauma and cost-of-living issues are all prevalent. Recently been applying to the Bryson Fund for electric vouchers to offer some sort of financial support.</p> <p>Catriona (The Prince’s Trust): Recently in post, keen to learn about the area & young peoples’ needs. Hope to deliver local personal development & work ready programmes.</p>	<p>JP to circulate all links flagged by members after meeting + Any relevant flyers to be included in ‘FYI’</p> <p>Find out more about the Bryson Fund HERE</p>
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Member Agency Updates	<p>Aaron (PIPS Hope & Support): Collaboration with SRC and local schools continues. Working hard to re-establish their Children’s Counselling Service due to recognised need. Struggling to find LGBTQ groups in Newry to connect in with.</p> <p>Rosie (EA Youth Service): Massive presenting needs since Christmas are emotional health & wellbeing, cost of living crisis & related impact and rural transport limiting access to programmes. T-BUC applications recently submitted for summer provision. NManDD Youth Council YAFTA Awards recently launched, closing date 5/3/24.</p> <p>Karen (Newry Surestart): Feb-March newsletter available. New Book Club and Walking Club for parents commenced. Mothers Wellbeing Programmes starting in Feb, creche available for participants. Wonder Babies (under 1’s) and Bumps & Babies (pregnant Mums) sessions delivered weekly. Rhyme Time and Henry Programmes ongoing. Ethnic Minority/Roma Group ongoing weekly. Paediatric First Aid running. Breastfeeding Group very busy. Linking with young mums locally. Speech Therapist returning soon from maternity leave - lot of speech delay and lengthy waiting list. Cost-of-living issues include the working poor. Linking with Bryson, hoping to open a Toy & Book Library. Providing transport for those difficult to engage with. In It Together and All About Me programmes run weekly for children with special/additional needs.</p> <p>Katie (Early Years Toybox): Keen to learn about the Translation Device Robbie McCague from SHSCT is looking into. Two trips for Roma Families since December in partnership with Sure Start South Armagh, and noting an increase in related referrals. Encouraging attendance at school amongst the Roma community.</p>	<p>Contact AS for local training/workshops</p> <p>AS to contact Crisis Café, Magnet Centre & EA D’patrick Group on LGBTQ</p> <p>Share YAFTAs Cover Letter & Application Form</p>
AOB	<p>Visit the INEQE website HERE to access resources on youth vaping & online safety.</p> <p>Money Works (My Bnk) promoting a new programme supporting young people/adults aged 16-25 moving into independent living. Short video about My Bnk HERE.</p>	
Next Meeting	<p>Wednesday 10th April 2024, 10am, at Newry Youth Resource Centre.</p> <p>Many thanks for your participation!</p>	<p>Please accept Outlook Invite</p>