

**South Armagh LPG**  
**Minutes of Meeting - Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 10am**  
**Via Zoom Video Conference Call**

<b>Attendees</b>		<b>Apologies</b>
Darren Curtis (CYPSP)	Maria Keenan (Clanrye Group)	Annie Clarke (SHSCT)
Joanne Patterson (CYPSP - Minutes)	Lizzy Smyth (SOPYC)	Philip Batt (PAPYRUS)
Maureen O’Gorman (EA Youth Service)	Aaron Spiers (PIPS)	
Caroline Potter (Bolster Community)	Claire Loughran (NM&DD Council)	
Jessica Wylie (SHSCT, EH&W in Schools)	Liz Reed (SHSCT, EH&W in Schools)	
Katie Burns (SHSCT, EH&W in Schools)	Katie Wilson (Early Years Toybox)	
Raquel Rodrigues Keenan (Volunteer Now)		

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action - By Whom</b>
<b>Welcome, Apols., Prev. Mins. (03/10)</b>	Darren welcomed all to the meeting, as Acting Chair. Brief introductions given, as new members present. Apologies noted, per above. Previous Minutes agreed. Education Welfare update pending - TBC at next meeting.	JP to upload Minutes to CYPSP website
<b>LPG Standards Exercise</b>	Feedback from exercise carried out at last meeting presented by Darren. Several actions agreed to be taken forward, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard 1: Action Planning 2024-27 will provide an opportunity for shared actions.</li> <li>• Standards 2, 5 &amp; 7: Presentation at next meeting on LPG function, structure &amp; OBA.</li> <li>• Standard 3: LPG does not work directly with children, young people and families, but members do, so it's important for us to tap into existing structures to garner relevant inputs/feedback.</li> <li>• Standard 4: Review of membership to take place in the new year. It would be useful to strengthen more formal networks via member connections.</li> </ul>	DC to progress  Click <a href="#">HERE</a> to provide individual feedback

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standard 8: Group is mindful of the sizable population of ethnic minority communities in South Armagh, so ongoing engagement needed with these communities to support them better.</li> </ul>	
<b>FSH Update</b>	Caroline ( <b>Bolster Community / FSH</b> ): Rise in referrals since children & young people returned to school. One of the main referral themes is adolescent communication & behaviour, with a huge services gap. Rise in domestic violence related referrals and signposting to Women's Aid and offering financial support (through funding).	
<b>Discussion on Unmet &amp; Emerging Needs</b>	<p>Needs raised during meeting, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suitable venues for delivery of youth programmes is a challenge in local area. (MO'G)</li> <li>Young people facing challenges post lockdown such as managing emotions, articulating feelings and core communication skills. Young people are also seeking to be taught basic life skills. (LS, MK, MO'G)</li> </ul>	
<b>Action Plan 2021-24</b>	<p><b>'Take A Healthy Selfie' Mental Health &amp; Emotional Wellbeing Resource</b> is printed - Student flyer &amp; card and Parents, Caregiver &amp; School Staff Booklet will be available both in print &amp; digitally, post-launch early in 2024.</p> <p>Sharing of images and blackmail online across all age groups has recently been raised. A small inter-agency group has been set up to address the issue of <b>Sextortion</b> and they are currently working on producing some video resources, in consultation with young people. The group includes the CYPSP, SHSCT, PSNI and EA Youth Service.</p>	<p>E-mail to request a hard copy sample</p> <p>DC to provide update at next meeting</p>
<b>Member Agency Updates</b>	Lizzy ( <b>St. Oliver Plunkett Youth Club</b> ): Mainly working with core provision of young people aged 9-18. IFA Onside programme, delivered in partnership with the PCSP, finished last night and reported positive impact on social, physical and mental wellbeing.. Up to 60 P6-Year 9 age group attending Thursday night Youth Club, which presents challenges in terms of capacity and delivering thematic programmes such as life skills, resilience, cooking and road safety, seen as current needs by parents & YP. Great to see children & young people accessing youth provision from neighbouring rural areas.	<p>JP to circulate all links flagged by members after meeting +</p> <p>Any relevant flyers to be included in next issue of 'FYI'</p>

<b>Member Agency Updates</b>	<p>Aaron (<b>PIPS Hope &amp; Support</b>): New into post in the Newry, South Armagh &amp; South Down Area. High demand for mental health first aid and other support services such as bereavement. Currently operating at capacity but still invite referrals.</p> <p>Raquel (<b>Volunteer Now</b>): Work ongoing to connect people and families to local volunteer opportunities. Working on a pilot in the NMandDD area supporting newcomer families, particularly asylum seekers, matching organisations seeking volunteers with these families. Unique needs of these families to provide immediate support, such as language assistance and reimbursement for expenses.</p> <p>Maria (<b>Clanrye Group</b>): Social Supermarket running to support those struggling financially by providing groceries in exchange for a weekly contribution, with various confidence building and budgeting workshops available. Employ Me Programme ongoing, assisting individuals to return to work: both young and older people participating. Working with Women's Aid to offer confidence building workshops in advance of returning to work, but the cost and lack of childcare is a major challenge.</p> <p>Jessica (<b>SHSCT, Emotional Health &amp; Wellbeing in Schools Team</b>): 3-year initiative aiming to address mental health issues among post primary students and to support teaching staff in upskilling their knowledge to address early mental health issues. School staff are feeling overwhelmed and poorly equipped to manage the current mental health &amp; emotional wellbeing issues which young people are presenting. Team is working in 10 schools across the SHSCT Area, extended to 17 in Year 2 and 19 in Year 3. School selection process based on student need and individual circumstances through expression of interest forms sent to all local schools earlier in the year. Potential for future training and resources for school staff as key to the continuity of support offered by Team.</p> <p>Maureen (<b>EA Youth Service</b>): 2 dedicated youth workers delivering programmes &amp; activities to address emerging needs and promoting social inclusion in the locality. A lot of their work is focused on personal &amp; social development, capacity building, creative</p>	
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<b>Member Agency Updates</b>	<p>arts, leadership, impact of COVID, managing feelings &amp; emotions and challenging behaviours. Major piece of work with St. Paul's &amp; Newtownhamilton High targeted towards Key Stage 3. Youth workers Jennifer and Ruth are part of a Critical Incident Team in EA and have recently responded to incidences in the area. Friday night youth work football project running in Killeavy, in partnership with the PSNI and NMandDD Council: over 100 young men participating from across 14 different local communities, programme focusing on masculinity and mental health. Co-designing programmes with the communities they serve are key and carrying out a mapping/audit of youth services in the N&amp;M Area in consultation with young people and parents.</p> <p>Katie (<b>Early Years Toybox</b>): Working to reduce social and educational inequalities with local marginalised groups. Recently celebrated 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Primarily home outreach, but now host a weekly hub for Roma families in Newtownhamilton Community Centre offering play sessions for parents &amp; their children. Regularly get queries about settled status and finding work so link in with SHSCT Ethnic Support Worker to signpost families to relevant services. If any members are working with relevant families with a child under 4, where early intervention might be needed, contact Katie.</p>	Feedback to be shared at future meetings to inform Action Planning for 2027. DC to share emerging needs in the SA Area, as recorded during LPG meetings this year
<b>AOB</b>	<p>Darren shared the <b>Children In Need Big Sky Programme Grants</b> presentation, sent from Barbara in CiN. Applications by invite only.</p> <p><b>CYPSP Venue Locator</b> <a href="#">HERE</a> for info. on spaces/rooms available across SHSCT Area. Visit the <b>HSCNI Bereaved NI Website</b> <a href="#">HERE</a> - The site is currently live for pilot testing and so any feedback would be appreciated (until 1<sup>st</sup> December), via link on homepage.</p>	JP to circulate various CYPSP links & reports to members
<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	<p>Dates for next year's South Armagh LPG Meetings proposed by CYPSP. Format of 2024 meetings briefly discussed. Short Survey Monkey to follow requesting member feedback.</p> <p>Many thanks for your participation!</p>	