

Armagh LPG
Minutes of Meeting - Thursday 8th May 2025 at 10am
Epicentre, Armagh

Attendees		Apologies
Darren Curtis (CYPSP) - Acting Chair	Jennifer Hamill (NOW Group)	Michael McKenna (Youth Action NI)
Joanne Patterson (CYPSP) - Minutes	Donna Gibney (SHSCT)	Naj Basketfield (PIPS Hope & Support)
Ann-Marie Baxter (Barnardo's NI / FSH)	Karen Ross (PSNI)	Bronagh Trainor (DfE, Careers Service)
Andrea McClenaghan (SHSCT)	Padraig McBrien (REACT)	Niamh Quinn (Advocacy VSV)
Stephen Harland (Ark Housing)	Edel Ferson (ABC Council)	Ellie McKenna (NICMA)
Glenda McMullen (Armagh Foodbank)	Catherine McCormack (SHSCT)	Abbie Hayes (WAAD)
Caroline Dawson (Youth Justice Agency)	Mark Doran (ABC Council)	Gwen Bartley (ABC PCSP)
Sophie Lester (ABC Council)	Jamie Greer (Volunteer Now)	Raquel Rodrigues-Keenan (Volunteer Now)
Eimer Trainor (Early Years Toybox)	Rebecca Simpson (BCM)	
Adrian Hutchinson (EA Youth Service)	Majd Almasalkhi (The King's Trust)	
Siobhan Brennan (PIPS Hope & Support)		

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action - By Whom
Welcome, Apols., Mins. 06/03/25	Darren welcomed all to the meeting. Brief introductions made. Apologies noted. Previous Minutes agreed. Return data for the Clear-funded Self-Care Sessions has been sent to PHA. Scorecard being prepared. Inspire Take 5 Booklet available via e-mail.	JP to upload Minutes to CYPSP website
Action Planning 2024-27	Feel Good Armagh Community Networking Event on Saturday 7 th June, 11am - 2pm on The Mall. Service Directory currently being updated - A template will be forwarded later this afternoon - Please complete & return ASAP. Draft NI Children and Young People's Plan 2025-2028 Consultation now closed.	Register HERE for Info. Stand Draft to be resent by JP
FSH Update	Ann-Marie (Barnardo's NI / FSH): Now based at Grange Building Tower Hill. Gillian McKeown is new Hub Coordinator. Referrals to FSH increased over last few months, Gateway the biggest referrer followed by schools (usually a downturn in summer).	FSH Referral Form HERE

FSH Update	Referrals often complicated and require a lot of support. Largest group referred are 11-15 years. REACT is the only service available specifically for teenagers, but young people frequently need more support. Recent rise in children with Autism needing support, as well as parents whose children are on the waiting list for assessment.	FSH Promo. Video HERE E-mail Ann-Marie HERE
Member Agency Updates	Catherine (SHSCT): Verve Health Trainers available for 1-to-1's, group sessions and community events. Take 5 Clear Funding available through PHA, closing date 16th May. Karen (PSNI): Alternatives and Aspire Programme supports young men (16-30) involved in risk-taking behaviour or the justice system and available in the ABC Area. Jamie (Volunteer Now): Pre-Volunteers Week (1st week in June) Event in Ranfurly House, Dungannon. More about Volunteers Week HERE. Volunteers Week Conference in Belfast Castle on 6th June, HERE. View the Live Training Schedule HERE. Padraig (REACT): VSS programme still going strong as well as intergenerational allotment. Mentoring programme ongoing. Offer parenting support. Open 4 nights per week: Creative Writing, Drop-In, Young Women and Dungeons & Dragons groups. Celebrating 25 years in Sept: event impending. Continue to accept referrals via the Hub. Adrian (EA Youth Service): Priority is that doors remain open to young people. Centre provision offered 4 nights per week. Further details to follow on Horizons (leadership) programme. CADi Innovation Room available in Epicentre for digital arts. More young people presenting with challenging behaviour e.g. inappropriate language - staff seeking to understand where this is coming from and trying to engage with parents and/or significant other adults to offer relevant support. Sophie (ABC Council): ABC Area Take500+ Participatory Budgeting Fund now open for applications HERE. Makaton Programme for community groups ongoing. EVAWG Funding closed on 31st May. Financial Call III pending.	JP to circulate all links after meeting + Relevant flyers to be included in next 'FYI' Visit the Epicentre Facebook page

Member Agency Updates	Edel (ABC Council): Get Active ABC See Sports Challenge Initiative information HERE, designed with RNIB to bring blind and partially sighted people together for locally-based activities. Various programmes available through Inclusive Sports & Leisure Initiative, partnership between Disability Sport NI and ABC Council to develop a programme of disability sports and physical recreation opportunities across ABC Area. Siobhan (PIPS Hope & Support): Counselling for children & young people bereaved by suicide available trust-wide and a free service. Aiming to get counselling in crisis service running again soon. Accept both self and third-party referrals. Pieta Darkness Into Light Walk taking place in various locations this Saturday morning, PIPS as charity partners. Mark (ABC Council): Market Stall Funding Events forthcoming and will run across the Borough. Mark has some slow cookers, sanitary products and kitchen items available to local individuals and/or families who might be in need. Currently supporting 70 statutory organisations to distribute these. Work continues with local foodbank providers. Jennifer (NOW Group): Welcoming referrals for 16+ not in education or employment and preferably work-ready but will work with all. Referrals accepted: self, parent or third-party. New Retail Academies in planning stage. Can distribute JAM Cards in the local area. Rebecca (BCM): Currently operating a waiting list. New worker starting soon. Glenda (Armagh Foodbank): Foodbank open 10 years in July. Pantry Social Supermarket is self-referral and offers dignity to users through a membership structure. Recently ran a Food Values course through the Community Food Hub, involving a CookIt programme and free slow cookers to participants. Trussell are lobbying govt in June on cost-of-living, budget cuts and wages. Working poor using the foodbank and positively, starting to see users coming out the other side. Easter CYPSP C&YP Resource provided great support to some of the families who use their foodbank.	More info. HERE Find out more HERE Find out more HERE
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Member Agency Updates	Eimer (Early Years Toybox): Extending work to include Roma families in the area. Andrea & Donna (SHSCT): Continuing to work with 12-17 year old young people with disabilities. They really value the networking opportunities which the LPG offers. Karen (PSNI): Usual increase in ASB for this time of the year, water safety messaging a key priority: young people drinking around quarries. Emerging Issue: cross-border car cruises linked with some dangerous driving. Substantial increase in the misuse of prescription medication bought online. More complex needs with young people they come into contact with - keen to have more local mentors available. Sharing of images online has become a lot more normalised, as well as risk-taking behaviour. Alternatives and the Aspire Programme is available locally to support young men (aged 16-30) involved in risk-taking behaviour or the justice system. Caroline (Youth Justice Agency): Misuse of mobile phones: sexting and general behaviour online becoming increasingly normalised. Offer workshops in schools and community settings on ASB. Their fund for those at risk of offending is still available for any members working with relevant young people. Majd (The King's Trust): Working with 16-30 age group, offering employability & enterprise programmes. A bespoke Beauty programme recently ran in Armagh on the request of a local group. Achieve programmes delivered by/in local schools. Stephen (Ark Housing): Currently supporting the Take500+ PB Fund and FGA Community Event. Triangle Housing are no longer in the area. Ann-Marie (Barnardo's NI): Job post being advertised soon for Disability Support Worker. ParentingPlus courses upcoming. Still running PosAbility, alongside the Hub, and accepting self-referrals. Seeing families dealing with more than one service at a time feeling very overwhelmed.	
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AOB	Click HERE to find out more about the ‘School Avoidance: Moving On Together’ Event, hosted by the Parent Participation Service on the 25th March. Also click HERE to gain access to the ‘School Anxiety and Distress - A Best Practice Guide for Schools’ which was launched by CiNI at the same event. Visit the CYPSP Parent Support page HERE. Upcoming issue of ‘FYI’ Newsletter going out next Thursday (15th May) - Deadline for submissions: Tuesday at 4pm. End May & June issues of ‘FYI’ will include a dedicated ‘Summer Is Coming’ section to advertise activities taking place over July & August.	
Next Meeting	Thursday 4th September 2025, 10am, via Zoom. Many thanks for your participation!	Please accept Outlook Invite