

Craigavon LPG
Minutes of Meeting - Tuesday 9th September 2025 at 10am
Via Zoom Video Conference Call

Attendees		Apologies
Deborah Millar (Home-Start Craigavon) - Chair	Lisa Grant (NIACRO / FSH)	Frances Haughey (ABC Council)
Darren Curtis (CYPSP)	Ainé Campbell (PSNI)	David Alderdice (SHSCT)
Joanne Patterson (CYPSP) - Minutes	Alex Clifford (ABC Council)	Tim Strain (Youth Justice Agency)
Emma Metcalfe (Hand Of Hope)	Helen Donnelly (DfE, RAISE)	Kevin Quigley (EA Youth Service)
Majd Almasalkhi (The King's Trust)	Jessica Wylie (SHSCT, EWTS)	Adrian Hutchinson (EA YS)
Tracy McCartney (Bolster Community)	Sarah Wilson (Aspire)	Anastazja Wisniewska (SSYCC)
Johnny Dolan (DfE, Careers Service)	Julie Liggett (Links Counselling)	Naj Basketfield (PIPS Hope and Support)
Maria Killen (SHSCT, Parenting Partnership)	Sinead Travers (Advocacy VSV)	
Nichola Lockhart (Early Years Toybox)	Thom Denton (Cedar Foundation)	
Michael Hart (SHSCT, Community Development)		

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action - By Whom
Welcome, Apols., Mins. 27/05/25	Deborah welcomed all to the meeting. Brief introductions given. Apologies noted, per above. Previous Minutes agreed. DC has received the ABC Council "Beyond Crisis" presentation and will share via e-mail.	JP to upload Minutes to CYPSP website
FSH Update	Lisa (NIACRO / FSH): Summer referrals for the FSH have been steady, coming via GPs, Health Visitors, CAMHS, Gateway and Children With Disability Team. Fewer requests this year for info. on summer programmes. Referrals continue for children on waiting list for ADHD/ASD assessment. Another referral theme has been the return to school and associated anxiety on children & parents. Received several referrals for families requesting support for 16 year olds without the teen's consent - Outreach worker has tried to offer support /encourage engagement where possible and has offered support to family as a whole, if teen not consenting. Parenting Focus is unfortunately closing. Home-based supports (EISS and CAPS) have helped bridge the gap when they couldn't take	

FSH Update	on new referrals during the summer. Continues to link families with PGA summer programme. Referrals starting to increase again, as schools re-open.	
Member Agency Updates	<p>Jessica (SHSCT, EWTS): Visit the Emotional Wellbeing Teams In Schools Section of the Youth Wellness Web HERE for resources for students, parents/carers & school staff.</p> <p>Sinead (Advocacy VSV): Continuing supporting male & female victims of sexual violence aged 16+, able to support victims in own home. Lip-Sync Fundraising Event on 7th Nov in Canal Court.</p> <p>Tracy (Bolster Community): As part of imminent Parenting Focus closure, will be lifting the family support work in ABC Area. Currently running Autism Connect (1-to-1 or group setting) & Layered Lives (for young neurodivergent women) programmes in ABC Area.</p> <p>Helen (DE, RAISE Programme): Education Minister officially launched the first call for proposals for Locality Led Projects last week. Organisations invited to submit project proposals to address key objectives identified by localities in Strategic Area Plans. Helen talked the group through the top priorities, as ranked by the Locality Reference Group covering the Lurgan, Brownlow and Portadown, flagging that collaboration was/is key.</p> <p>Deborah (Home-Start Craigavon): Actively recruiting (Grand)Parents. Tiny Steps Programme upcoming.</p> <p>Maria (SHSCT, Parenting Partnership): Range of parenting programmes are now available across the SHSCT Area.</p> <p>Julie (Links Counselling): Range of services are currently available across the SHSCT Area. Resilience and grief-focused group work recently being requested by schools.</p> <p>Johnny (DfE, Careers Service): Provide an all-age service, working across the area in post-primary schools. Offer careers advice and guidance to Year 12. Attend transition planning meetings for Year 10 SEND students and follow through to final GCSE year.</p>	<p>JP to circulate all links after meeting + Relevant flyers to be included in next 'FYI'</p> <p>Apply HERE</p> <p>See flyers in 'FYI'</p> <p>See flyers in 'FYI'</p> <p>Visit website HERE</p> <p>Visit website HERE</p>

Member Agency Updates	<p>Attend annual reviews for Year 12. Working to connect with organisations to support young people who are experiencing challenges to progress into positive destinations.</p> <p>Alex (ABC Council): MUGA and Youth Leadership & Employment Programmes upcoming. Can assist with local sports festivals e.g. football tournaments.</p> <p>Ainé (PSNI): Vaping & spice still on radar for Neighbourhood Teams. Sextortion continues to be reported daily. Reaching out to local secondary schools for 2-day work experience programme. Scramblers on Garvaghy Rd and Craigavon recently raised.</p> <p>Thom (Cedar Foundation): Open for referrals. Personal development programme in Craigavon Area focusing on gross motor skills and offering social activities to the group. Also have a group focused on communication & problem solving, using Dungeons & Dragons. Inclusive youth programmes upcoming.</p> <p>Emma (Hand Of Hope): Working with young people 14+ battling addictions, such as alcohol, drugs & gambling, and some self-harming. Lack of facilities to afford young people the opportunity to detox. Ketamine, crack, meth and cocaine easily accessed.</p> <p>Michael (SHSCT, Community Access): Demand from ethnic minorities and refugees for support is high in the Lurgan, Portadown & Craigavon Areas.</p> <p>Majd (The King's Trust): Programmes running for 16-30 yrs across NI. Get Started employability programme focuses on a specific work area, delivered across one week by industry professionals. Get Started focuses more on getting into the work field. Both are free of charge and transport is reimbursed. Enterprise programmes also running for those young people seeking to start their own business, with a business mentor involved.</p>	
Action Planning 2025-28	<p>Darren presented the Southern Area LPG Action Plan 2025-28 to the group.</p> <p>CYPSP Northern Ireland Children and Young People's Plan 2025-2028 HERE.</p>	Presentation to be circulated by JP

Action Planning 2025-28	<p>Self-Care Programme 2025 Scorecard HERE.</p> <p>Youth Workers Conference / Event (February 2026) currently in early planning stages.</p> <p>Understanding Self-Harm Workshop, delivered by Inspire on Wed 5th Nov, from 10am to 12pm in Tower Hill.</p>	JP to share flyer
AOB	Visit Safe Hands Thinking Minds HERE .	
Next Meeting	<p>Tuesday 11th November 2025, 10am, Brownlow Community Hub. (2026 Meeting Dates to be discussed.)</p> <p>Many thanks for your participation!</p>	Please accept Outlook Invite