

**South Armagh LPG**  
**Minutes of Meeting - Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 10am**  
**Sure Start South Armagh, Camlough**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Annie Clarke (SHSCT) - Chair Darren Curtis (CYPSP) Joanne Patterson (CYPSP) - Minutes Charlene O'Hara (DfE, RAISE) Raquel Rodrigues-Keenan (Volunteer Now) Aoife Doyle (SHSCT, EWTS) Niamh Quinn (Advocacy VSV) Lizzy Smyth (SOPYC) Caroline Wilson (Sure Start SA) Karen Donnelly (Education Welfare)	Dan Greenaway (Cedar Foundation) Stephanie Armstrong (Home-Start N&M) Maria Hamill (N&M ALC) Alison Daly (SHSCT, CST) Aoife McComiskey (NM&DD Council) Caroline Potter (Bolster Community) Clara O'Callaghan (Volunteer Now) Jayne Cully (CBITUK) Jessica Wylie (SHSCT, EWTS) Ryan Duffy (PSNI)

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>Welcome, Apols., Prev. Mins.12/11/24</b>	Annie welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies noted, per above. Previous Minutes agreed. Darren confirmed the Inspire Take 5 Booklet would be resent.	JP to upload Minutes to CYPSP website
<b>Action Planning</b>	<b>'School Avoidance: Moving On Together'</b> Event hosted by the Parent Participation Service took place yesterday. <b>'School Anxiety and Distress - A Best Practice Guide for Schools'</b> was launched by CiNI. ( <b>Parentline NI's 'Managing Anxiety Based School Avoidance' Podcast Episode <a href="#">HERE</a>.</b> )	
<b>FSH Update Provided via e-mail</b>	Caroline ( <b>Bolster Community / FSH</b> ): Recent number of referrals for Bereavement Support. Poor maternal mental health is a recurring factor in referrals. Families struggling with physical/risk taking behaviours, sleep, PICA, school avoidance for children with or awaiting a diagnosis for Autism/ADHD. Support for families with adolescents, conflict, breakdown in communication, arguments over screen time, lack of interest in school and future. Number of families already receiving support from Women's Aid.	

<b>Member Agency Updates</b>	<p>Aoife (<b>SHSCT, EWTS</b>): Emerging Needs: bereavement, lack of interest in school/future, EVAWG, lack of awareness of parents of social media terminology &amp; trends, which change so rapidly. Need for self-care &amp; resilience programmes in schools.</p> <p>Annie (<b>SHSCT</b>): Attended yesterday's EVAWG Conference in Newry. NMandDD Council aiming to take the lead. Sexualised language used by boys/young men in youth centres has been raised. Aoife McComiskey is the new DEA Co-ordinator for South Armagh and will attend the next LPG meeting. Verve Healthy Living Network &amp; 1-to-1 Health Trainer information available <a href="#">HERE</a> - Members requested to share hard copies of flyers &amp; newsletter. Community Development currently looking at key priorities including mental health, particularly teens, and looked after children transitioning out of care</p> <p>Raquel (<b>Volunteer Now</b>): Live youth volunteering opportunities (#iwill Ambassador, mobile volunteering, family volunteering) available to view <a href="#">HERE</a>. Training Calendar available <a href="#">HERE</a>. St. Paul's High School representatives attended the Volunteer Now Youth Impact Awards in Belfast last night. St. Joseph's Crossmaglen Chat &amp; Connect Over 50s Event taking place this morning, with young volunteers helping.</p> <p>Charlene (<b>Department of Education, RAISE</b>): Recent consultations with children &amp; young people highlighted need for system changes in school culture: format of start of the school day, discipline policies, careers advice &amp; guidance (incl. cross-border opportunities). Other themes include exam stress, cost of tuition, literacy &amp; numeracy support in community settings, embedding mental health programmes into the curriculum. Newry Strategic Area Plan Workshop on 10<sup>th</sup> April - Register <a href="#">HERE</a>. A separate Parent Survey Link will follow. Parenting Focus Consultation taking place</p> <p>Karen (<b>Education Welfare Service</b>): Safety in their community is a big concern for teenage girls. Fostering Network NI have some very useful resources available.</p>	JP to circulate all links after meeting + Relevant flyers to be included in next 'FYI'
------------------------------	--	--

<b>Discussion on Loneliness</b>	SHSCT and NMDDC landing page on Council website through TILT initiative pending, to provide information on support & advice on Loneliness and Social Isolation. Any relevant content to send to Annie for upload. If you cannot find what you're looking for an onward referral form will be available on the site which Council/Trust will follow up on. Loneliness In The Workplace Workshop took place at the start of March, looking at the impact of employee loneliness in terms of productivity and steps which can be taken to alleviate loneliness/build & strengthen connections in the workplace. Currently looking at Carers & the SRC as another means of local engagement, with billboard campaigns also being discussed.	Further details to follow from AC and to be included in 'FYI', when available
<b>AOB</b>	Visit <a href="#">HERE</a> to find out more about the recently launched <b>PSNI Power To Change Initiative</b> which focuses on EVAWG – Also click <a href="#">HERE</a> to download the corresponding <b>Power To Change Advocacy Toolkit</b> .  Click <a href="#">HERE</a> to find out more about the <b>Nexus Bystander Intervention Training</b> (and other workshops), linked to EVAWG.	JP to circulate all links & reports to members
<b>AOB</b>	Update recently received from the SBNI on <b>Financially Motivated Sexual Extortion (Sextortion): Advice for Parents</b> and Carers, which will be included in today's follow-up e-mail and next edition of 'FYI'. Click <a href="#">HERE</a> to visit the <b>SBNI Online Safety Hub</b> .	
<b>Next Meeting</b>	<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025, 10am, Newry Youth Resource Centre.</b> (Joint N&M and South Armagh LPG Meeting. Possibility of short self-care/networking activity at start.)  Many thanks for your participation!	Please accept Outlook Invite