



# Armagh

## Neighbourhood Renewal Area

Annual Report  
2019/20



Northern Ireland  
Statistics and Research Agency

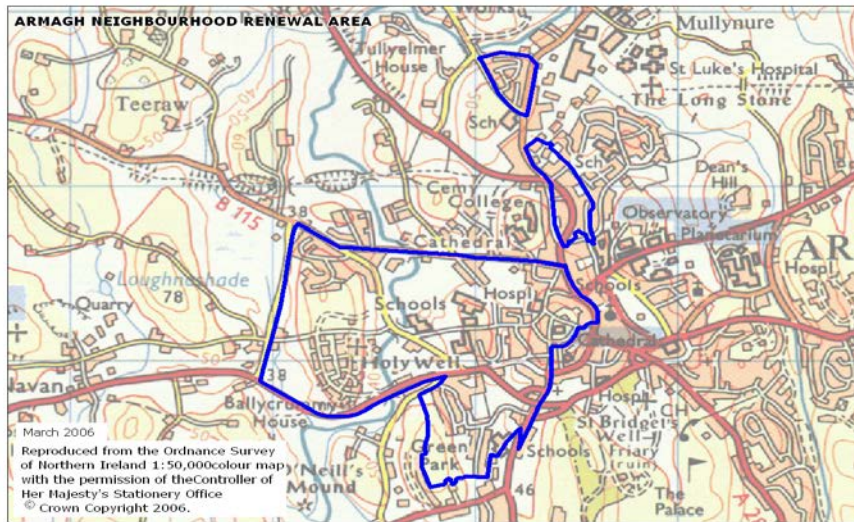


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# Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report 2019/20

# Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

## Annual Report 2019/20

### About Neighbourhood Renewal



The Neighbourhood Renewal Programme aims to reduce the social and economic inequalities which characterise the most deprived areas. The Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy 'People and Place' was published in June 2003 to close the gap between the quality of life for people in the most deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of society. It does so by making a long term commitment to communities to work in partnership with them to identify and prioritise needs and co-ordinate interventions designed to address the underlying causes of poverty. The Strategy has four interlinking strategic objectives:

- Community Renewal – to develop confident communities able and committed to improving the quality of life in their areas.
- Economic Renewal – to develop economic activity in the most deprived neighbourhoods and connect them to the wider urban economy.
- Social Renewal – to improve social conditions for the people who live in the most deprived neighbourhoods through better co-ordinated public services and the creation of safer environments.
- Physical Renewal – to help create attractive, safe and sustainable environments in the most deprived neighbourhoods.

## About Armagh Partnership

The Neighbourhood Renewal Area covers much of West Armagh and includes the housing estates of Callanbridge, Mullacreevie, Drumarg, St Patrick's Park, Callan Street, Railway Street and Drumbreda and comprises a total population of 5,463.



To take forward the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme, Armagh Partnership was set up in 2006 to oversee the development and delivery of the local Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan. The Partnership currently comprises 20 members which include representatives from local communities, voluntary organisations, elected representatives, private sector and local statutory organisations. It currently meets on a bi-monthly basis and its administration services are provided through a Coordinator and administrator with Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council.

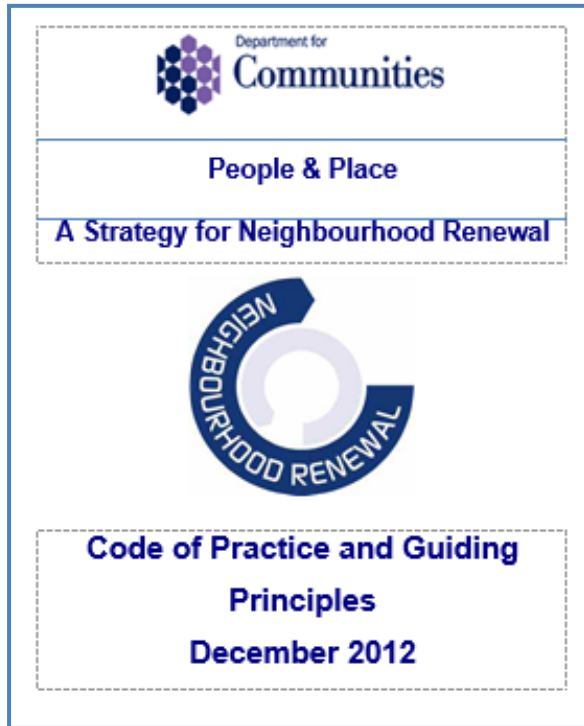
It is defined as a non-constituted entity acting in an advisory role to the Department for Neighbourhood Renewal issues in the designated Neighbourhood Renewal area. It has established 3 sub groups to assist it in the identification, development and, where appropriate, delivery of projects.

## Armagh NR Partnership Members

Name	Organisation
Dee Dee Connolly	Drumbreda Community Association
Annamarie Cartmill	Drumbreda Community Association
Marianna McGinley	Drumarg Community Association
Stephen Fields	Drumarg Community Association
Mary McClland	Drumarg Community Association
Nora Quigley	Mullacreevie Community Association
Caroline Reneghan	Callanbridge Community Group
Meghan Kerr	Callanbridge Community Group
Fiona Kelly	St. Patrick's Park Residents Group
Cathy Rafferty - Chairperson	Community Rep
Sylvia McRoberts	Community Rep
Declan McGerrigan	Callan St. Community Association
Neil Gillan	Southern Health & Social Care Trust
John McAleavey	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Lesley Hamilton	Southern Regional College
John Donnelly	Education Authority
Brendan Osborne	Department for Communities
Anita Waite	Department for Communities
Alison Clenaghan	Community Services Manager (ACB&CBC)
Kelly Mallon	Growing Communities Project Manager (ACB&CBC)

**The Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership is made of:**

- Drumbreda Community Association
- Drumarg Community Association
- Mullacreevie Community Association
- Callanbridge Community Group
- St Patrick's Park Resident Group
- Community Representatives
- Callen Street Community Association
- Southern Health and Social Care Trust
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- Southern Regional College
- Department for Communities
- Education Authority
- Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council



It should be noted that **Armagh Partnership and Subgroups** have all signed up to and abide by the Neighbourhood Renewal Code of Practice and Guiding Principles and subsequent Subgroup Terms of Reference.

## The Partnership's Vision for Armagh

By the year 2020 Armagh will be a place where *“All of the people living here have the quality of life to which they aspire; this will include”*:

- Living in affordable good quality housing;
- Having access to suitable education, training and employment opportunities;
- Having access to high standards of health care;
- Enjoying a range of cultural, social, leisure and recreational pursuits;
- Having access to a variety of appropriate community facilities;
- Enjoying the full range of civil liberties.



- There is a peaceful society, at peace with itself and with its neighbours and where crime is minimal.



- Those who are vulnerable or weak are cared for and where the values of shared responsibility, mutual support and self-help are practised.
- There is a safe, clean and welcoming environment with everyone accepting their share of responsibility for that environment.
- There is accessibility for all local facilities and services.
- Diversity is recognised and valued through accepting that everyone has a unique contribution to make to the life of the community.
- There is strong community spirit and pride.

## Armagh Partnership Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund is currently supporting **7** revenue projects in the Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area as follows:

- Armagh Growing Communities Programme – administered through ACB&CBC
- Armagh Technical Assistance – administered through ACB&CBC
- Armagh – STEPs ‘Supporting Training and Employment Programme’ 2 – administered through Southern Regional College
- Southern Region – Oceans (Offshore Career Employment and New Skills) – administered through Southern Regional College
- Southern Region – The Grow Project – administered through Southern Regional College
- Armagh – Social Renewal Education Programme – administered through the Education Authority
- Armagh – Count, Read, Succeed – administered through the Education Authority



## Community Renewal

1. **Armagh Growing Communities Programme** – has been designed by the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council (ACB&CBC) in consultation with community associations to provide a direct capacity building and support resource to work within the community. The project focuses on Social Renewal, Community Renewal and Economic Renewal and ACB&CBC oversee the delivery of targeted programmes through working in partnership in the Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA). The overall aim is to improve the quality of life for people living in the NRA through engagement, building longer-term sustainability and capacity, and creating linkages to enable groups to develop and lead to vibrant, sustainable communities.

The work is carried out over four key strands:

- Strand 1 – Neighbourhood Renewal & Growth (including Community Planning)
- Strand 2 – Coaching Sports and Opportunities for Youth
- Strand 3 - Health & Wellbeing
- Strand 4 – Cultural Awareness

The programme contributes to the NR objective to develop confident communities that are committed to improving the quality of life in their areas.

The programme also complements the Council's Community Support Plan in allowing the NR community associations to concentrate and focus on the delivery of programmes and training opportunities that will lead to better equipped, fit for purpose and self-sustaining community associations.



Kids enjoying an Easter programme in one of the Community Houses





Family fun day in Mullacreevie





Arts and crafts proved popular with the kids



Pumpkin making at Halloween



Young participants exercising as part of a boxing programme



## Key Performance Measurement – Armagh Growing Communities Project

*How much did we do?*

### Overview

- 26 programmes/events
- 11 community groups/organisations
- 4 community houses
- Approx. 1,280 beneficiaries

### Breakdown

- 7 physical activity and coaching programmes, 3 health and well-being programmes, 6 educational and training programmes, 4 social economy programmes, 1 Covid-19 support initiatives and 5 events
- Callanbridge and Legarhill Residents Association, Callan Street Community Association, Mullacreevie Development Association, Drumarg Community Associations, Drumbreda and St Bridgets Hill Residents Association, West Armagh Consortium, SPRING, Armagh Harps, Healthy Kidz, Study Seed and SEACHT
- Drumarg, Mullacreevie, Callan Street and Callanbridge Community houses
- 395 programme participants, 230 event participants, 445 participants availed of the community houses and 230 households availed of COVID19 support initiative.

*How well did we do it?*

### What we did well?

- Engaged well with community groups to agree on a suitable delivery method which resulted in community groups bringing forward programme proposals, for partnership approval
- A greater sense of transparency was achieved across the NRPB and NRA as a whole
- Advertising methods improved awareness which attracted attention from newly formed and well established organisations resulting in various social economy programmes being delivered across the Armagh NRA
- The NRPB identified and updated the priorities on the action plan

- Multi Departmental approach to programme/event delivery to avoid duplication. This includes partnership working with various statutory bodies and community organisations
- Suitable timeframes (programme length, day of delivery, time of day) were agreed with the community groups and the programme facilitator which was paramount for effective and efficient delivery, this approach also provided a platform for consistent attendance and the best possible outcome
- Post programme feedback forms highlighted participants, enjoyed the programme, learned something new and would recommend the facilitator. This reinforces that good levels of satisfaction were achieved
- The Growing Communities Programme costs were calculated and on average were good value for money
- Governance standards for the Growing Communities Programme were internally audited, the audit has been deemed satisfactory. Fully completed progress reports and associated claims for each quarter were furnished to the Department for Communities no later than mid-August, mid-November, mid-February and mid-May

#### How we can improve?

- The time of year proved critical in attendance levels in some instances which offers an opportunity to learn and adjust going forward
- Improve communication with wider NRA, through various formats
- Formation of new groups and encourage groups to update their committees
- Encourage current committees to avail of upskilling opportunities to create self-sufficiency

#### *Is anyone better off?*

Programmes and events were very well attended and received some very positive feedback. Please see below comments from some participants throughout the year:

- Gained a lot of experience in health improvement methods
- The programme was very informative and professional, I learned something new in every session
- I loved meeting new people, getting out and learned how to use gadgets for elderly
- The facilitator was very friendly and didn't put us under pressure
- I enjoyed learning about mental health in a relaxed environment, over a cup of tea

- I liked making visual art and loved learning how to make different sounds on the drums
- It feels good to now know how to do CPR and treat someone who is in need

The social economy programme is supporting Y11 students, who will be sitting their exams. We hope this really helps them and are delighted to have financial support.

The comments below is from a community representative who oversees the running of the community house:

- Our neighbourhood would be lost without the support provided by Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and Department for Communities, in particular the financial support for the running of the community house as it is used by more than 110 people per year. The community house acts as a meeting point for many with various programmes designed to target all age groups. We have some really exciting ideas for future programmes.

**2. ACB&CBC - Technical Assistance** project has provided a secretariat and coordination service which is key to the development of an effective Neighbourhood Renewal partnership, and development and delivery of the Armagh Action Plan.



The funding provided the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council with the means to provide technical assistance and support to the four Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships Boards in the Armagh, Brownlow, Lurgan and North West Portadown Neighbourhood Renewal Areas (NRAs).

This was for the continued employment of Neighbourhood Renewal coordinators and associated administrative support and overheads. The coordinators are responsible for overseeing delivery and coordinating the implementation of Neighbourhood Renewal in the four NRA's and they have liaised with applicants, programme delivery agents and stakeholders to ensure projects are developed and delivered in accordance with the objectives of each of the NR action plans. The coordinators also report progress on the implementation of same.

## **Economic Renewal**

### **1. Armagh – SRC STEPs ‘Supporting Training and Employment Programme’**

STEPs has been developed in consultation with members of the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and the Southern Regional College to provide additional support in education and training for neighbourhood renewal residents. The programme provides mentoring support to those school pupils currently involved in the Schools Partnership Programme, additional mentoring to young people who progress from school to apprenticeship and other programmes; STEPs also includes additional enhanced Vocational training and a Driving programme. This will improve and enhance the employability and educational chances by providing practical life skills.

The Support Training and Employment Programme (STEPs) during 2019 experienced another year of success with 77 NR residents receiving job specific training, 27 attained professional qualifications and licenses in:

- Text Processing
- Emergency First Aid
- Cat C Licence
- Cat C+E licence
- Forklift Licence
- Textiles
- Autism
- CSR Construction
- Nail Technologies

2 residents gained employment, both full time jobs, 1 in the haulage industry and the other in the construction industry.

The STEPs programme was created to offer training across the Armagh community equipping residents with recognised training qualifications, confidence and practical life skills all of which are crucial in enabling local people to find employment or to facilitate everyday life at work or in education.

Below is an article which was written about the dressmaking group in Mullacreevie in Armagh and how they put the skills gained through the training to contributing towards the local Covid19 Community response effort:

In response to demand from residents of the Mullacreevie area, Southern Regional College set up the CCEA Level 1 Award in Creative Craft in Textiles which commenced in October 2019 under the talented guidance of tutor, Briege Shaw. The initial aim of the course was that participants would use their newly acquired skills to contribute towards making the costumes needed for Armagh's St. Patricks Day parade the following March.

When the outbreak of Covid19 resulted in lockdown and the cancellation of the St Patricks Day Parade, the Mullacreevie women were quick to put their newly acquired skills to use in other ways. They began to make scrubs, masks and laundry bags which were in huge demand and in short supply.

Caroline, a participant on the course contacted the Covid response team who sent her to collect fabric from the business centre. She had already started making the masks and selling half for £3 each, whilst donating the other half to care workers, nurses and key workers. She said

*"I can't wait for our classes to continue. I have learned so much, Briege is a magnificent teacher, with the patience of a saint. I've been making masks, scrubs and bags. It's great to be using the skills we learnt in our class otherwise I wouldn't have a clue. I've learned to measure, cut, seam allowance and sew so my end products are fantastic. I look forward to many more courses." She went on to say "The generosity of people and praise is like nothing I've ever had, this has completely raised my self-confidence as I'm a person with little, and suffer depression and anxiety. Doing this has cheered me up no end and I'll thank Briege every day of my life for teaching me these skills."*

Geraldine also attended the course. She stated

*"Briege has been a great mentor for me and I thoroughly enjoyed the course. Under her guidance I have learned different techniques for sewing and it has done wonders for me. I can't praise Briege enough. I got started on making scrubs and laundry bags at the request of the West Armagh Consortium after they put out a call for people who could sew. I found the scrubs tricky as I don't have an over locker yet but laundry bags and masks were easy to do. Briege just sent over a template and instructions. All outlying sewing groups did the same - as you know yourself demand was outstripping supply. So once again it is thanks to the course and Briege's*

*encouragement that I started making the masks and am still doing so as they are for the community volunteers who are helping the most vulnerable in the community.*

AnnaMarie was making 150 masks each week. She was taking orders for these on a Monday and within an hour each week, her quota of orders were filled. For every mask a member of the public bought, Annamarie donated one to key workers.

*“The creative textiles course with Briege has been a great experience. I have been sewing for over 30 years and I learned so many new techniques and ways to manipulate fabrics and textiles. Briege is a fantastic tutor and is worth her weight in gold. She is patient, and loves sharing her wealth of knowledge with every student. She encourages everyone to experiment with so many types of fabrics, that you really learn so much as it's all hands on. I'd recommend this course for every level of sewing, right from beginner to experienced as you'll definitely learn something new.”*



**2. Southern Region – SRC OCEANs (Offshore Career Employment and New Skills)** - this has been developed in consultation with members of the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships and the Southern Regional College the project aims to improve community well-being, skills and environment through targeting residents interested in working in UK and Irish coastal waters. The project provides accredited training in essential skills and a gateway to employability particularly in the maritime / offshore industry. The project gives basic safety induction and emergency and safety training as well as essential life skills.

It entails the completion of an essential skills qualification, a 5 day residential of STCW 95 training:

51hrs flexible learning plan in one of the following subjects; Information Technology, English or Numeracy. Mentors were available to assist participants on an one to one basis and in class with tutors;

STCW Personal Survival Techniques – 1 day;

STCW Fire Fighting – 2.5 days;

STCW Personal Safety & Social Responsibilities – ½ day;

STCW Elementary First Aid – 1 day;

Employability sessions



Oceans students, including 3 from Armagh, in the ‘Sea Survival’ class.

The residents were equipped/trained with specific specialised skills through participation in a project leading to industry recognised qualifications to help them access suitable employment opportunities.



3. **Southern Region – SRC The Grow Project** – provides training in horticulture skills and horticulture management. Participants in the project are skilled up to grow and care for plants in their own gardens and then later act as horticulture advisors to the local community. It is hoped that in the long term local communities will establish social enterprises with allotments and outlets where locally produced fruit and vegetables are available for sale.

The Grow project was completed by 6 residents from the Armagh NRA and they all achieved a Level 2 qualification in Horticultural Management.

Throughout the duration of the GROW project residents have promoted the benefits of the programme within their own local communities. They have shared excess produce with neighbours and discussed the processes involved, helping others to begin in growing their own produce. This has further helped promote a healthier lifestyle in their own communities.



Two students from the GROW project in Armagh

## Social Renewal

1. **Armagh – Education Authority Social Renewal Education Programme 2** – this programme is modelled on the previous Social Renewal Education programme 1. It includes additional enhanced out of school hours learning opportunities (after school clubs including activities to support parental engagement and summer activities) and school focused youth engagement for increased access to education, employment, youth services and pre-employment training.



St Catherine's College Homework Club

The activities in the St Catherine's College homework club were carried out until 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020, just before the onset of Covid-19 :

- Focused revision classes, coursework clinics for year 11 and 12 students.
- Primary focus of the club is the core subjects of English, Maths and Science.
- Academic board meetings to review progress of exam year students. Students are highlighted 'at risk', in need of 'support' or to continue to 'push'
- Class teachers identify those students that need support to pass or to push on. Evidence can be gathered from MidYis scores, tracker tests, coursework results and the student's requirements (pupil voice).
- Targeting pupils in neighbourhood renewal postcodes along with free school meal students.
- Identification of these students and targeting them in class, at assemblies with further support from their classroom teachers.
- Targeting students' parents at Parent Teacher Meeting – highlighting the benefits of the club.

- Notification of all Homework Club classes available and posted to all year 11 and 12 parents through the school app.
- Focus on boys' attendance at the club promoting it through the school and local community.

Programme Outputs for 2019/20	Number of young people	Detail of how these outputs were achieved
<p>1. Number of pupils benefitting from targeted support.</p> <p><i>*Please note that the year 11 attendance is much lower than previous years as March and April are key times (pre modules) Unfortunately the club was unable to run due to the pandemic*</i></p>	<p>Year 11 – 54 pupils*</p> <p>Year 12 – 130 pupils</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targeting individual pupils</li> <li>• Sending letters home for parental support</li> <li>• Review of tracking results</li> <li>• Pupils’ personal desire to lift their grades</li> <li>• Highlighting previous years’ successes</li> <li>• Offering of one to one and small group sessions to support examinations in the core subjects</li> <li>• Classes with focus on extensive use of past paper questions</li> <li>• Classes focused on timing of responses and making adequate use of the exam time to ensure exam is completed</li> <li>• Class focusing on deconstruction of the question and planning of their responses – ensuring that students know the requirements of the question and can therefore access top mark bands.</li> <li>• Subject teachers promoting the club</li> <li>• Promotion of club through student voice and community.</li> </ul>
	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Homework Club offers one to one sessions and small group sessions involving students with poor attendance which has encouraged students to attend school.</li> </ul>

<p>2. Number of pupils whose attendance is measurably enhanced/improved</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pastoral team support and guidance to attend the Homework Club.</li> <li>• Support from parents through phone calls home and texts reminding parents of the unique provision on offer to support their child through their GCSEs.</li> </ul> <p>Student 1 (PR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 80.95% attendance in September currently her attendance is 91.95%</li> </ul> <p>Student 2 (ER)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 83.33% attendance in September currently her attendance is 91.10%</li> </ul> <p>Student 3 (OK)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 78.57% attendance in September currently her attendance is 89.41%.</li> </ul> <p>Student 4 (LG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 84.44% attendance in November currently her attendance is 89.83%.</li> </ul>
<p>3. Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved</p>	<p>190</p>	<p>Those that worked on coursework during the club all lifted their scores. As the objective of this is to increase the marks awarded – unfortunately due to the pandemic no coursework was submitted to CCEA.</p> <p>Our targeted students also lifted their grades. Evidence of this is in their recent module results:</p> <p><b><u>Maths</u></b></p> <p>Student 1 (ET)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lifted his Maths grade from D to C in January module – awaiting results in August</li> </ul> <p>Student 2 (OK)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lifted her Maths from E to C – in January module – awaiting results in August</li> </ul>

	<p>Student (MG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lifted her Maths grade from D to C – in January module – awaiting results in August</li> </ul> <p><b><u>English</u></b></p> <p>Student 1 (SB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lifted her Maths grade from B to A – in January module – awaiting results in August</li> </ul> <p>Student 2 (SD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lifted her Maths grade from E to C – in January module – awaiting results in August.</li> </ul> <p>Student 3 (GD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lifted her Maths grade from E to C – in January module – awaiting results in August</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Science</u></b></p> <p>Student 1 (AF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lifted her Science grade from D to C* – in January module – awaiting results in August</li> </ul> <p>Student 2 (EH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lifted her Science grade from D to C* – in January module – awaiting results in August</li> </ul> <p>Student 3 (EO)</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lifted her Science grade from D to C* - in January module – awaiting results in August</li> </ul>
4. Number of pupils whose behaviour is measurably enhanced/improved	N/A	It is important to note that attendance at the club is not deemed a punishment. The students are keen to attend. Participation in the Homework Club is voluntary therefore at present there have been no incidents of poor behaviour as pupils are coming to the club because they want to.
5. Number of people engaged in parenting skills development programmes	20	<p>Parental communication occurred through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letters home</li> <li>Texts home</li> <li>Parent teacher meetings</li> <li>Individual meetings with parents</li> <li>Telephone calls</li> <li>Messages through the student app</li> </ul>

## Youth Action NI

Youth Action NI provided details of a Youth Engagement project they undertook during 2019/20. OCNNI Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice training started to be delivered in November 2019 & as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic, has continued to be delivered into April 2020. The training was pushed into April due to the suspension of face to face practice with young people. Training with the group has continued through the medium of Zoom during March & into April.

To date, all the training has been completed excluding units 8; 9 & 10. These units are specifically about the young people planning a programme that they have to deliver to another group of young people. As a result of the COVID 19 Pandemic, this hasn't been achieved. Unit 8 is around Planning an Activity Based Programme & the next number of training sessions with the young people will be helping with supporting them to prepare & plan out the programme to be delivered. Unit 9 is Facilitating Activity Based Youth Work programmes & Unit 10 is Evaluation Activity Based Youth Work programmes.

Youth Action has been in contact with OCNNI & they have advised that no practice units are to be completed during this time, as the learners can't run their programmes (Units 9 & 10 in our case). Youth Action are going to work the learners through the programme, assisting them to plan their programmes, but they can't complete the practice element, so they will have to wait until face-to face youth work can be delivered in order to complete those elements of the programme.





### **Targeting Information**

Young people who had completed the OCNNI Level 1 Award in Youth Work Practice had approached Youth Action about completing the Level 2 certificate. These young people were approached directly about taking part in the programme.

Youth Action approached their member groups in the NRA to determine if the young people they were engaging with would be interested in taking part in the OCN Level 1 Award in Youth Work Practice programme. Youth Action then followed up directly with these young people to discuss the programme & register them.

14 young people registered to take part in the project, with 9 coming from the Armagh NRA. Of the 9, 5 have regularly attended the training programme. 2 have continued to express an interest in participating but have yet to attend training. Unfortunately on a number of evenings after having informed the workers that they were coming they did not show up. When contacted they cited having to work; having to work late & other things on. Youth Action plan to continue to work with the 2 people to get them to complete the training in the future & are going to use the current situation to get them caught up with the rest of the group through ZOOM. 1 young person from the NRA, who was recruited through a local community association, failed to turn up with no reason why.

### **Baseline and Measurement of Progress**

Young people completed the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well Being Scale (WEMWEBS) at the start of the project. As a result of COVID 19, it wasn't possible to complete the final end project scale recording. This will be completed when the participants have delivered their programme to groups of young people as part of a final project evaluation.

Young people have completed their OCNNI booklets & these can be used to measure outcomes, including soft outcomes as young people have completed the seven different units.

As the session delivery moved from face to face contact to ZOOM, Youth Action used the comments section available on ZOOM to capture what young people said about the session; what they learned & how things could be approved in future sessions.

### **Comments**

Youth Action felt that it was important to share how the impact on moving from face to face training sessions to the virtual world to Zoom training actually went. Although it was new to them, the young people fully engaged positively in the process & a sample said the following:

- "I am on the autism spectrum & found the session really enjoyable as I could do it from the comfort of my own home without feeling vulnerable to noise or smells"(young man).

- “I liked the way we used the chats and the conversations gave everyone the chance to say something” (young woman).
- “It really engaged everyone in the group” (young man).
- “This is my first time using ZOOM so it’s all learning at the minute” (young woman).

### **Case Study**

Youth Action recruited a group of 9 young people aged 18 – 22yrs from the NRA in Armagh City to participate on the OCNNI Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice

#### **How and why was the individual group recruited for the programme?**

The young people were recruited through a number of different methods:

- Speaking directly with young people who had expressed an interest in completing the OCNNI Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice;
- Contact with Youth Action member groups in the NRA;
- Phone calls to local community associations, informing them about the programme

#### **What programme did the individual/group participate in?**

- The young people participated in the OCNNI Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice programme.

#### **What were the positive outcomes for the individual/group?**

- Young people have a better understanding of effective communication skills in a Youth Work setting
- Young people have a greater awareness of group development within Youth Work programmes
- Young people have a greater understanding of managing challenging behaviour in Youth Work Settings
- Young people have a better understanding of the principles & values of Youth Work in practice
- Young people have improved understanding of safeguarding young people within a Youth Work context
- Young people have a better understanding of the developmental needs of young people within Youth Work
- Young people have a greater understanding of the role of the Youth Worker

**2. Education Authority – Count, Read, Succeed Plus** – is a tailored programme designed to meet the needs of parents and children in the Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal area and will complement the schools’ central role by providing additional support through working with communities and parents and linking their children’s work back into the classroom. This programme will focus on parental engagement (especially parents of underachieving pupils) to help raise educational standards through (a) school and community-based out of school hours’ learning, (b) in-school and out of school hours’ parental engagement and (c) ‘Twilight’ sessions to empower and capacity-build the teaching and classroom assistant workforce.



As a result of the programmes staff have commented that pupils have improved self-esteem, confidence and enjoyment of Numeracy and Literacy. Teachers and classroom assistants also observed significant improvement specifically working with others, asking for help, self-management, target setting and students are more willing to participate in group activities in class and take greater pride in their work. Feedback indicated that pupils enjoyed the activities that they undertook and it gave them a real sense of achievement.



Reading Buddies



St Catherine's Peer Mentoring and

## **Key Performance Measurement – Education Authority Count Read Succeed**

### *How much did we do?*

- The EA facilitated 10 Family Learning programmes throughout the Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area
- The EA supported 6 schools to deliver after school Literacy and Numeracy programmes for Neighbourhood Renewal pupils who were underachieving
- The EA facilitated a Peer Paired Reading Programme for 6 schools which saw 74 pupils volunteering as peer mentors

### *How well did we do it?*

Unfortunately due to Covid-19 restrictions schools and the EA were unable to complete final testing to determine the level of improvement of each student, however teachers have informed that they have observed better engagement, greater understanding and an increase in student confidence.

### *Is anyone better off?*

As a result of the Armagh Count Read Succeed, 6 schools have been able to deliver additional support programmes to 245 pupils. Whilst 95 parents have benefitted from additional support

## Armagh Partnership 19/20 year Expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund. It also details the 2019/20 individual spend for each project, the total amount of expenditure by strategic objective and the overall 2019/20 total expenditure in the Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project Allocation)	2019/20 Spend
Community Renewal			
Armagh Growing Communities	01/04/19 to 31/03/20	£75,282.99	£73,180.46
Armagh Technical Assistance	01/04/19 to 31/03/20	£14,039.70	£12,655.59
<b>Total Community Renewal Expenditure</b>		<b>£89,322.69</b>	<b>£85,836.05</b>
<b>Economic Renewal</b>			
Armagh STEPs Supporting Training and Employment Programme 2	01/04/19 to 31/03/20	£47,677.28	£47,256.98
Southern Region OCEANS Programme	01/04/19 to 31/03/20	£6,941.53	£6,935.28
Armagh & Craigavon Grow Projects	01/04/19 to 31/03/20	£4,838.40	£4,832.86
<b>Total Economic Renewal Expenditure</b>		<b>£59,457.21</b>	<b>£59,025.12</b>
<b>Social Renewal Education</b>			
Armagh Social Renewal Education Programme	01/04/19 to 31/03/20	£75,780.60	£75,780.60
Armagh Count Read Succeed Plus	01/04/19 to 31/03/20	£60,870.12	£60,326.19
<b>Total Social Renewal Education Expenditure</b>		<b>£136,650.72</b>	<b>£136,106.79</b>
<b>Overall Grand Total</b>		<b>£285,430.62</b>	<b>£280,967.96</b>

## Achievements Of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding In 2019/20 Year

### Community/Other Output Measures

Project	CR1 – No of people participating in community relations projects	CR2 – Number of people participating in community bonding projects	CR10- No of people using existing community facilities
Armagh - Growing Communities Programme	577		445
Armagh - Technical Assistance Programme		20	

### Economic Output Measures

Project	ER2 – no of residents going into employment	ER3 – Number of people accessing careers advice	ER4 – no of people receiving job specific training	ER6 – Number of people receiving non job specific training e.g. First Aid	ER11 – No of social economy enterprises created / supported	ER14 – Number of people attaining a formal qualification from participation in Adult Education	ER15 – No of FTE jobs safeguarded
Armagh - STEPs 'Supporting Training and Employment Programme'	2		77			N/K due to Covid19	
Southern Region – OCEANS Programme		3	3				
Armagh - Growing Communities Programme				14	4		1
Southern Region - The Grow Project			6			6	

## Social (Education) Output Measures

<b>Project</b>	<b>SR(Ed)3 (Tackling barriers to learning)– Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved</b>	<b>SR(Ed)5 (Tackling barriers to learning)– Number of people engaged in parenting skills/development programmes</b>	<b>SR(Ed)6 (Literacy &amp; Numeracy)– Number of pupils directly benefitting from the project</b>	<b>SR(Ed)8 No of pupils directly benefitting from the project</b>	<b>SR(Ed)10 No of pupils directly benefitting from the project</b>	<b>SR(Ed) 14 (Youth Services) – Number of young people directly benefitting from the project.</b>
Armagh - SELB - Social Renewal Education Programme				<b>389</b>		<b>92</b>
Armagh - SELB - Count Read Succeed Plus		<b>95</b>	<b>245</b>			
Armagh - Growing Communities Programme					<b>64</b>	
Armagh - STEPs 'Supporting Training and Employment Programme'	<b>31</b>					



## Social (Health) Output Measures

Project	SR(H)1 No of people benefiting from Healthy Lifestyle Projects	SR(H)2 No of people attending Health education / Awareness Initiatives	SR(H)8 No of people benefiting from new sports facilities
Armagh - Growing Communities Programme	289	65	
Southern Region – Grow Project	6		

## **Armagh Partnership Conclusion**

In the 2019/20 financial year, Armagh Partnership total overall spend was **£280,967.96**. This can be further broken down into Strategic Objective spend as follows:-

**Community Renewal      £ 85,836.05**

**Social Renewal            £ 136,106.79**

**Economic Renewal        £ 59,025.12**

### **Breakdown of main achievements for total expenditure**

The main achievements in the Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal area in 2019/20, as a result of Neighbourhood Renewal funded projects, are:

- 577 participating in community relations projects;
- 86 people received job specific training;
- 2 people went into employment;
- 634 pupils benefited from Education Programmes;
- 95 people engaged in parenting skills/development programmes;
- 295 people benefitting from Healthy Lifestyle programmes

Partnership members are content that the projects funded in this year are addressing key priorities identified in the Armagh area action plan.



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