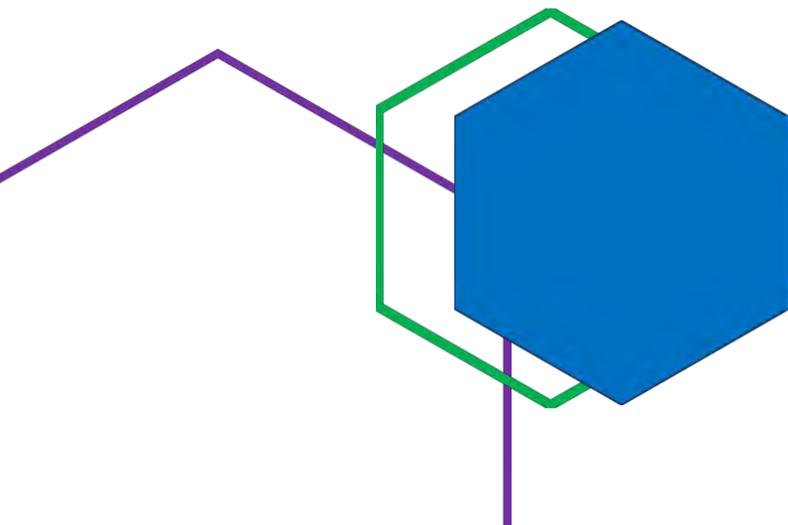


Youth Service

Local Assessment of Need Antrim & Newtownabbey

2023



November 2022



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Executive Summary

The Antrim & Newtownabbey Local Assessment of Need is the first phase of the process informing the direction of Youth services within Antrim & Newtownabbey. The purpose of the assessment of need is to identify the big picture in terms of the needs and inequalities facing children and young people and vulnerable groups whose needs are not currently being met and who experience poor educational, health or social outcomes. This needs assessment identifies unmet need and informs service planning and resource allocation ensuring improved outcomes for children and young people and a reduction in inequalities.

Quantifying the needs of young people in Antrim & Newtownabbey is a complex and difficult task. There is a clear variation and level of needs across the area, between urban and rural areas with some DEAs facing greater challenges than others. Antrim & Newtownabbey is a large geographical area with broad ranging and diverse needs and issues.

A range of quantitative and qualitative research methods have been used to inform this Assessment of Need. The most up to date data and statistics from a range of government and statutory sources along with recent, relevant reports have been analysed and examined. An extensive consultation with young people and key stakeholders was also undertaken.

A total of 520 children and young people in Antrim & Newtownabbey responded to a survey issued regionally on their needs. In addition to the survey, stakeholder consultations by statutory and funded voluntary organisations along with local consultations during July 2022 included a further 464 young people.

Priority Outputs for 2023

Antrim & Newtownabbey has a population of 46,366 aged 0 -25 years with 28.7% living in deprived areas and 18.2% living in rural areas. Children and young people living in areas of the highest deprivation are more likely to underachieve at school due to the other competing needs in their lives not being met. They will come up against greater obstacles to live a life of fulfilled potential.

The Assessment of need clearly establishes the following Key Areas for Action for the delivery of Youth Services in Antrim & Newtownabbey.

Learning and Achieving

Addressing barriers to learning remains a significant need. This need is further deepened by the pandemic, increased newcomers, high levels of SEN and children looked after. Based on population data there is a significant number of young people in the 14-18 age range who will be taking examinations and considering employment/career pathways or routes into further and higher education. There will be an opportunity and need to provide new and additional leadership and volunteer opportunities along with vocational training, taking into account the bespoke needs at that time.

Health and Wellbeing

It has been clearly highlighted by the Voice of Children and Young People that health and wellbeing remain a core need for our children and young people. The DE Emotional health and wellbeing framework has highlighted and evidenced that a focus needs to be placed on Wellbeing for All and Early Support programmes for children and young people to positively address this need long term impacts. The Local Assessment of need has highlighted that this can be address through youth work by;

- Emotional Health and Wellbeing to be a feature of all youth provision
- Early support group work programmes with a focus on emotional health and wellbeing
- The use of sports and physical activity
- Establishing a positive peer culture within youth settings to nurture discussion with children and young people regarding health and wellbeing
- Support for Drug and Alcohol use and the rising use of Vaping/e-cigarettes.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equality of Opportunity, and Good relations

Taking into consideration the key facts and findings within this area of enquiry there is a significant need for youth service delivery to be proactively inclusive.

Thematic Youth Work to support children and young people with Special Educational Need, disability, Newcomer young people, LGBTQIA+ young people, members of the Travelling Community, rural young people, and socially isolated young people. Youth provisions should be welcoming and accepting to all these groups.

As Antrim & Newtownabbey has become a more culturally diverse place the number of racist hate crimes have exceeded sectarian hate crimes. At a recent engagement event young people supported the view that Youth Services should provide safe spaces for children and young people and promote inclusion and embrace and celebrate difference. This can be addressed through Good Relations, cultural awareness and diversity programmes and T: BUC residential or camps.

Antrim & Newtownabbey still experiences segregation between the two main communities, and this can lead to inter-community tensions, involving children and young people especially at contentious times of the year and particularly at interface areas. This can also lead to children and young people coming under the influence of paramilitaries. Youth provision can address this through focused youth work during periods of heightened tension including Bonfire season (July – August). Key geographical areas include Macedon and Glengormley Urban.

Living in Safety and Stability

Children and young people including those with additional needs require programmes and activities that focus on emotional health and resilience to counter the challenges facing young people in their communities. There is a need for Inclusive Youth Service provision to be delivered. Core Youth Work Provision will support,

- children and young people from ethnic minorities and newcomers
- young people engaged in risk-taking behaviours
- young people experiencing or taking part in anti-social behaviour
- young people experiencing or living with domestic abuse/coercive control
- young people affected by paramilitarism
- young people living through family breakdowns
- young people with adverse childhood experiences
- young people experiencing sectarianism

Youth Services have a key role in providing these safe and supportive environments to enable young people to build the skills needed to cope with and mitigate the effect of adverse experiences.

Key Area for Action: Participation

Participation will continue to be a key priority for the Youth Service with support to ensure that Youth Voice is developed and sustained with a continued focus on broadening the membership to include young people from Section 75 groups in order to ensure a broad representation.

Local Advisory Group (LAG) will be facilitated by Youth Services in the Antrim & Newtownabbey area to offer advice on the development and implementation of the local area plan. Youth Voice members have spaces reserved on the LAG.

Youth Services will provide Local and Global awareness programmes people to raise aspirations and enhance employment in the future.

The need for Core Youth Provision will also be a key area of delivery with a focus on 9-13 and 14-18 year olds.

The findings from the survey and consultations show that young people continue to value a safe space where they can feel accepted and be themselves. Barriers to participation include proximity to services, age appropriate activities, perceptions around acceptance due to race, sexuality, gender disability, and accessibility.

Opening times and days need to be focused on young people's availability. Young people need to have a voice in their provision and to be consulted on programmes they feel will enhance their life skills.

Young people need spaces to develop new and enhance existing friendships, particularly with those from other backgrounds.

Youth Services are ideally placed to provide children and young people with a platform to have their voices heard and responded to through Local Voice and other civic events and fora.

Environment and Climate

Environmental and climate change are key areas of concern for young people as the effects of climate change are being better understood and young people are becoming more active in highlighting this and acting on the matter.

Youth provision needs to set priorities around Green Standards and educational programmes for young people. Youth Services should provide opportunities for making youth settings more environmentally friendly inside and out and to move towards green energy sources and materials. Youth groups can be proactive in keeping their area litter free, reducing plastic use, increasing recycling, and creating an environmentally friendly outdoor space. Youth Services actions to also include delivering environmental and climate programmes, programmes to include redesigning outdoor environments e.g. with trees, wildlife gardens and bird/bug/hedgehog boxes.



Introduction & Methodology

Introduction

Structured formal planning takes place throughout Youth Services to effectively allocate staff and resources in response to policy priorities, DE targets and an objective assessment of need. Local Planning, therefore, is part of a coherent planning framework established within the Education Authority Youth Service.

An assessment of need is the first phase of the planning process. The purpose of this Assessment of Need is to identify the bespoke needs of Children and Young People including vulnerable groups within the geographical area of Antrim & Newtownabbey.

This needs assessment will be foundational in the planning and resource allocation to improve outcomes for children and young people.

Methodology

A range of quantitative and qualitative research methods have been used to inform this Assessment of Need. The most up to date data and statistics from a range of government and statutory sources along with recent, relevant reports have been analysed and examined. A full outline of statistics used, is provided in the separate Local Government District area profile for Antrim & Newtownabbey. Statistical profiles by DEA, are also included later in the document. An extensive consultation with young people and key stakeholders was also undertaken.

The information gleaned from the research has been collated and analysed and the evidence gathered has been used to compile this report, highlighting the levels of need affecting young people in Antrim & Newtownabbey.

All the information used was publicly available and is objective and unambiguous. The datasets are also related to outcomes and had a clear focus on educational underachievement and disadvantage.

It remains a policy imperative that young people are included in the design and development of youth services. Many young people engaging in youth services express their interest in actively participating in decision making.

A Local Advisory Group (LAG) is facilitated by Youth Services in the Antrim & Newtownabbey area and they have been engaged in the development of the local assessment of need and the local youth development plan. The Local Advisory Group involves representation from the statutory and voluntary sector as well other key stakeholders.

Surveys

A survey focussing on key areas of enquiry was designed for young people and administered using Survey Monkey (appendix 1)

A total of 520 children and young people from Antrim & Newtownabbey responded to the survey. Children and young people from a range of statutory, local and voluntary youth groups involved in DE funded youth work participated. Children and young people not currently involved in Youth Services were also canvassed.

Stakeholder Engagement Events

Over the three year funding cycle there have been a series of Stakeholder Engagement Events completed on behalf of the Regional Advisory Group. They focused on the following topics:

- The Emerging Needs of Children & Young People
- Needs of Rural Young People
- Supporting Young People's Learning
- The Emerging Needs of Children and Young People
- Young People and Inclusion
- The Health & Wellbeing Needs of Children and Young People
- Research and Innovation in Youth Work
- Needs of Children and young people after lockdown
- Impact of Environmental and Climate Change
- The needs of Children and Young People affected by the Digital divide
- The impact of drugs and alcohol on children and young people
- The needs of Newcomer children and young people
- The inclusion of young parents
- Volunteering
- Violence against young women

These events were co-designed and co-delivered by young people. Along with young people, key stakeholders from a range of statutory, voluntary and community organisations attended and participated in these events. The findings from these stakeholder events have also been used to inform this Assessment of Need. [\(link to access to be added in here\)](#)

Consultations

In addition to this EA Youth Service in Antrim & Newtownabbey organised a series of focus group events examining identified themes. Three events took place in July 2022.

Each EA Youth Centre an Area Project consults with their membership through their Local Voice structure. Feedback from these 15 sources helped inform this assessment of needs.

EA funded groups from Monkstown and Rathenraw completed and shared their needs assessments along with a wider council area consultation submitted by Bytes.

The Local Advisory Group were also consulted on the needs in each DEA.

A summary of these findings can be found in appendix 2 and in the DEA summaries (appendix 4).

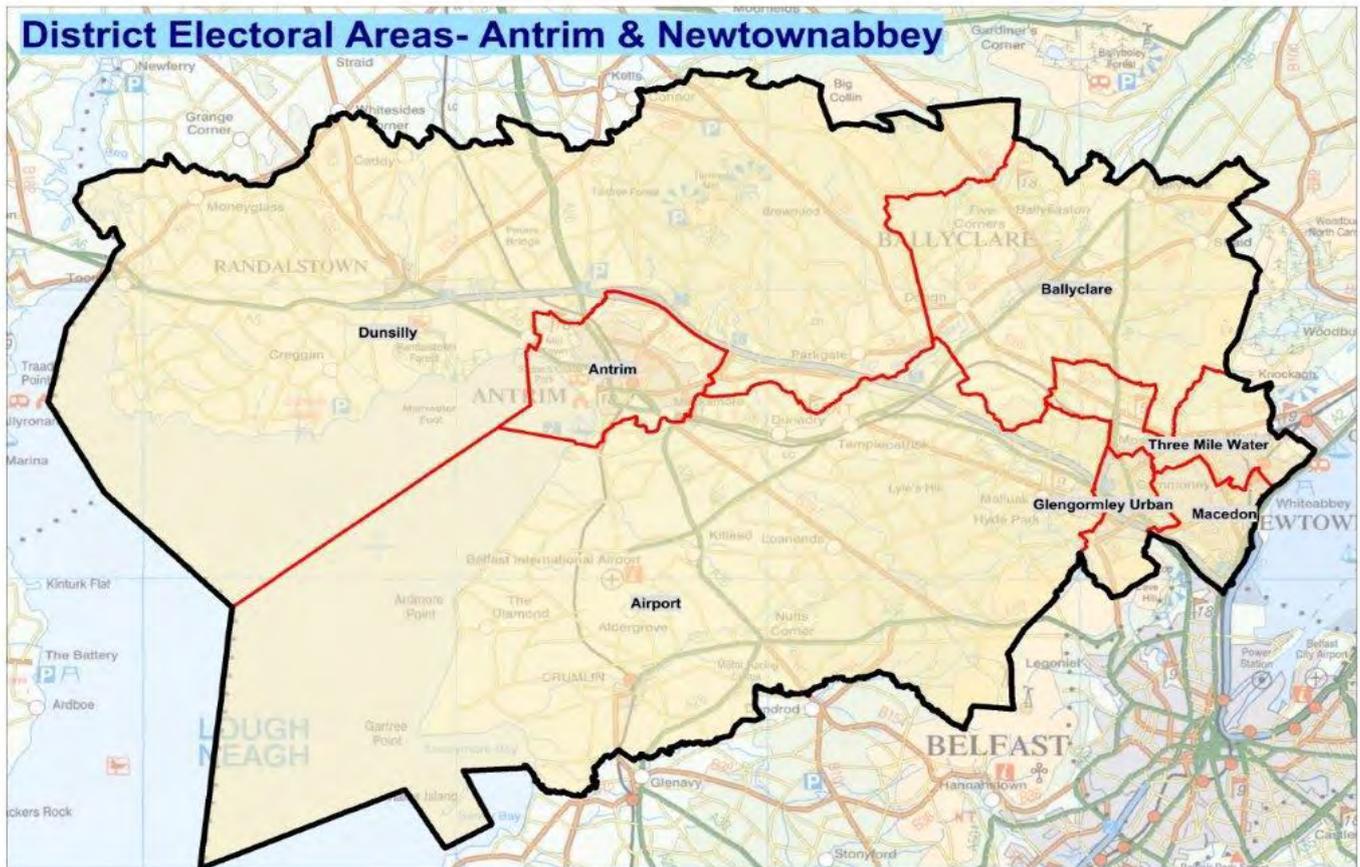


Area Profile

Overview of Area

Antrim and Newtownabbey is a local government district in Northern Ireland. It was created in April 2015 following the merger of the Borough of Antrim and the Borough of Newtownabbey. It is divided into 7 DEAs namely, Airport, Antrim, Ballyclare, Dunsilly, Glengormley Urban, Macedon and Threemilewater.

The Borough of Antrim and Newtownabbey covers 274sq miles from the shores of Lough Neagh in the west to the shores of Belfast Lough in the east. Its northern boundary with Ballymena leads to the Glens of Antrim and the port of Larne, while to the south it borders Belfast and Lisburn.



Demographics

The estimated population of Antrim and Newtownabbey local government district in 2021 is 144,485 people, of which 70,546 (48.8%) are male and 73,939 (51.2%) are female. The population aged 25 years and under is 46,366 people which equates to 32% of the total population which is similar to the Northern Ireland average of 32.6%. The breakdown of the figures shows that 23,787 (51.3%) of the young people aged 25 and under were male and 22,579 (49.7%) of the young people were female.

The demographics of the area indicate that 18.22% of young people live in areas that are essentially rural in character. The deployment of the Youth Work team ensures that attention is given to the needs of young people in rural and urban settings through centre-based, area youth workers, outreach workers and voluntary sector organisations, supported by grants from Education Authority. Moving forward these datasets will be reviewed in line with the published outcomes of the 2021 NI Census.

Antrim & Newtownabbey in Numbers

The estimated population of Antrim & Newtownabbey in 2021 is 144,585

46,366 children and young people aged 0-25 years old live in Antrim & Newtownabbey

- 22,579 Female and 23,787 Male
- 6,573 aged 0 – 3 years
- 9,240 aged 4 – 8 years
- 10,177 aged 9 – 13 years
- 9,015 aged 14 – 18 years
- 11,361 aged 19 – 25 years
- The youth population for the key Youth Service age Bands of 9-13 and 14-18 I projected to be around 19,000 through to the end of the decade.
- 11,421 children and young people aged 4 -25 years (28.7%) live in deprivation (NI average 25.2%) (2022)
- 7,243 children and young people (18.2%) live in a rural community. (2022)
- 3,737 food bank parcels were handed out by the Trussell Trust to young people in Antrim & Newtownabbey; this is the third highest number across NI council.

Antrim & Newtownabbey Multiple Deprivation Measures (NIMDM)

According to figures released by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) in 2018, 28% of children and young people (aged 4-25) from Antrim & Newtownabbey are living in Deprived Areas. This equates to 11,421 young people living in areas of and experiencing high levels of multiple deprivation.

Antrim & Newtownabbey consists of 72 Super Output Areas.

- 9 Super Output Areas are ranked in the top 25% most deprived in terms of multiple deprivation. These are:
 - Dunanney
 - Coole
 - Monkstown 1
 - Whitehouse
 - Carnmoney 1
 - Farranshane
 - Valley 2
 - Mossley 2
 - Glengormley 2

4 Super Output Areas are ranked in the top 25% most deprived in terms Income Deprivation Affecting Children. These are:

- Whitehouse
- Carnmoney 1
- Coole
- Greystone

Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRAs)

Neighbourhood Renewal Areas (NRAs) are defined as areas in the most top 10% deprived areas of Northern Ireland based upon the Multiple Deprivation Measures as identified by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). Neighbourhood Renewal Areas (NRAs) are neighbourhoods identified as experiencing the most severe multiple deprivation and have been chosen to receive support under the Department for Communities People and Place strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal. In total 36 neighbourhoods have been identified to receive support. There are two in Antrim & Newtownabbey

- Ballyclare
- Rathcoole

Young people living in NRAs tend to have lower educational outcomes than their peers who do not live in renewal areas. Antrim & Newtownabbey Youth Service requires the delivery of youth provision in these areas in order to raise education standards and contribute to closing the performance gap.

Rural

7,243 young people aged 4-25 (18.2% of the total youth population) live in rural areas. Mainly in Airport, Dunsilly and Ballyclare DEAs. These young people experience difficulties in accessing youth services and other mainstream services. Transport in rural areas is poor, especially in evenings. Rural young people tend to have limited access to social media due to reduced internet speeds and mobile coverage; this can exacerbate feelings of social isolation.

KEY FACTORS: LEARN & ACHIEVE

There are a total of 73 nursery, primary, post-primary, and special schools in Antrim & Newtownabbey

- 7 nursery schools
- 51 primary schools
- 10 post-primary schools
- 5 special schools
- Of these, 20 primary schools are located in a rural setting
- Of the 21,750 children and young people attending primary and post-primary schools in the area, 5,478 (25.18%) are eligible for free school meals. The NI average is 28%.
 - 1,807 (35.36%) of post-primary pupils attending non-grammar schools are eligible for free school meals
 - 3,107 (24%) primary pupils are eligible for free school meals
 - 321 (47%) of special school pupils are eligible for free school meals
- 1,065 children and young people from a BAEM background attend schools in the area
- 28 children and young people from a Traveller background attend schools in the area
- 1,043 Newcomer children and young people attend schools in the area.
- 82.3% of young people attending schools in Antrim & Newtownabbey achieved 5+ GCSE A*-C. (NI average is 92.1%.)
- 64.7% of young people attending schools in Antrim & Newtownabbey achieved 5+ GCSE A*-C including English and Maths. (NI average is 77.77%)

Special Education Need Data

- 1,513 (19.35%) of post-primary pupils have a Special Educational Need. (NI average is 18%)
 - 1,152 (14.7%) are at Stage 1-4 on the Special Educational Needs register, pupils with special educational needs but not a statement. NI average is 12%.
 - 361 (4.6%) have a Statement. NI average is 6%.

Discussion & Key Trends

Statistics from DE indicate that young people in receipt of Free School Meals are more than twice as likely to leave school without any substantive qualifications. There is also a significant attainment gap between children and young people with a Special Educational Need or a disability and their peers. Other children and young people from Section 75 groups such as young carers, children and young people Looked After, newcomers, young people from Traveller and Roma communities or other minority ethnic groups experience similar educational disadvantage.

In order to address the gap between the highest and lowest achieving young people there is a clear need to tackle the root causes of educational disadvantage and barriers to learning through opportunities in both the formal education sector and in the non-formal Youth Service settings.

Youth Services in Antrim & Newtownabbey therefore are ideally placed to contribute to the reduction in barriers to learning through personal and social development programmes, focusing on outcomes such as enhanced personal capabilities, improved health and well-being, the development of thinking skills, life skills and work skills, improved relationships with others, increased participative action and active citizenship.

This, alongside the availability of accredited and non-accredited programmes in the youth setting can potentially increase educational attainment among the most vulnerable young people and minority groups.

Children and Young people from Antrim & Newtownabbey have requested Youth Services to provide training opportunities that support with career and job prospects and qualifications that are accessible, meaningful and would meet their career and life opportunities.

It is interesting to report that children and young people from all age groups from within Antrim & Newtownabbey stated that sport and fitness and life skills programmes were the top two most important in terms of them successfully transitioning into adulthood.

There is also a need to develop and deliver pathways to training, volunteering and leadership opportunities for young people in youth centres and youth programmes to help them to overcome barriers to learning by providing further opportunities to gain qualifications, to volunteer and to develop a range of life skills and attributes that will improve their life outcomes as individuals and as contributors to their local community and the wider economy.

In Antrim & Newtownabbey underachievement remains prevalent among children and young people living in deprived areas, having a Special Educational Need or disability, being a child or young person Looked After, being a newcomer, being a young carer, coming from the Travelling Community or another minority group and being from a Section 75 group. This list is not exhaustive; however, failure to address the gap in educational attainment from these groups will ensure that vulnerable young people will continue to face a future with limited opportunities and greater social and economic challenges.

Most of children and young people achieve and succeed at school. However, there are many children and young people who are at risk of failing to fulfil their potential either as a result of their social context, an educational need or their experiences and attitudes towards the formal education system.

Education is a positive factor in ensuring that young people thrive, learn, and achieve allowing them to enjoy a prosperous and rewarding life. It is also a means of breaking the cycle of poverty and deprivation and a powerful way of stopping young people engaging in risk taking activities, crime, or anti-social behaviour. As a society, we aspire for every child and young person to learn and achieve and reach their potential to become an active citizen. Acquiring a worthwhile education can make this a reality.

Therefore, we consider youth work within the community to be a vehicle to address this issue through creative youth work programmes.

KEY FACTORS: HEALTH & WELLBEING

- 1 in 5 young people have a mental health need.
- The standardised self-harm Admission Rate in Antrim & Newtownabbey is 177 per 100,000 population (NI rate is 117).
- The Crude suicide death rate in Antrim & Newtownabbey is 15 per 100,000 population (Northern Ireland is 16). In the Macedon DEA, it is 27 per 100,000 population.
- The rate for drug related deaths in Antrim & Newtownabbey is 7.9 per 1000,000 population 4th highest rate across NI Councils
- The standardised alcohol Admission Rate in Antrim & Newtownabbey is 707 per 100,000 population, 3rd highest rate across NI Councils (NI rate is 659).
- The teenage birth rate for Antrim & Newtownabbey is 8.3 per 1,000 population (Northern Ireland is 8.3).
- In 2019, the teenage birth rate for mothers aged under 17 years in Antrim & Newtownabbey was 1.8 per 1,000 females. The comparative figure for Northern Ireland was 1.4.
- Childhood obesity rates per 10,000 in Antrim & Newtownabbey is 5.2 (NI average is 5)
- 25% of Primary 1 pupils are obese or overweight (NI average 23%)

Discussion & Key Trends

Health inequalities are directly linked to one's social status and this may explain some of the growing inequalities that many children and young people in Antrim & Newtownabbey face in terms of their general health outcomes and their emotional health and wellbeing

Children and young people living in low income households and in the most deprived communities in Antrim & Newtownabbey are more likely to be obese, have lower life expectancies and are more likely to have worse physical, emotional and sexual health outcomes.

Young people living in disadvantaged areas are more likely to endure health deprivation and suffer emotional health issues. 28% of the children and young people live in deprived areas. This means they are 5.5 times more likely to go hungry than their peers. This can lead to poor health and education outcomes as well as exposing children and young people to bullying which can negatively impact on their emotional health and wellbeing. These young people are more likely to be absent from school which will negatively impact on their educational attainment.

Vulnerable and marginalised groups of children and young people, including Children and Young People Looked After, those with Special Educational Needs or a disability, those from ethnic minorities, young carers, young people identifying as LGBTQIA+ or those who have experienced adverse childhood experiences are also more likely to have poorer health outcomes than their peers. Poor health outcomes are also linked to poor educational outcomes.

In response to the Assessment of Need, children and young people in Antrim & Newtownabbey require a focus on programmes and activities developing resilience and wellbeing for all. Risk taking behaviour is also a particular concern noted by local statutory agencies.

The Antrim & Newtownabbey Youth Service require educational programmes and activities that target specific areas of risk-taking behaviour, to provide opportunities for young people to participate in engaging activities that develop their personal, social and emotional skills to promote and enhance personal resilience, healthy decision-making and wellbeing and lead to a positive impact on the educational outcomes for children and young people.

KEY FACTORS: INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY AND GOOD RELATIONS

- 7,243 young people live in rural areas of Antrim & Newtownabbey
- 1,043 newcomer children and young people attend schools in Antrim & Newtownabbey.
- 1,513 pupils (19.35%) in Antrim & Newtownabbey have a Special Educational Need (NI average 18%). (DE school census data 21/22)
- In 2020 hate crime incidents and crimes in Antrim & Newtownabbey were:
 - 74 Racist incidents and 55 crimes recorded
 - 12 Homophobic incidences and 8 crimes recorded
 - 34 Sectarian incidences and 32 crimes recorded
- 1,065 children and young people from a BAEM background attend schools in the area
- 28 children and young people from a Traveller background attend schools in the area
- According to the Office of National Statistics, 8% of young people in the UK aged 16-24 identify as lesbian, gay or bisexual. In Antrim & Newtownabbey this equates to approximately 1,260 young people. (ONS 2020)

Discussion & Key Trends

Antrim & Newtownabbey has made improvements towards maintaining a peaceful society. There are still a number of factors which ensure that community tensions, polarisation and segregation remain. Politics in Northern Ireland are polarised and many people in the area experience some forms of residential, educational, environmental, and social segregation.

Interface area is the name given in Northern Ireland to areas where segregated nationalist and unionist residential areas meet. Antrim & Newtownabbey has interface areas where inter-community tensions exist. These areas often have weak community infrastructure and children and young people growing up in these areas are more likely to have lower educational attainment, poor career opportunities and engage in anti-social behaviour. The interface areas at Carnmoney Road, Valley Park and Whitewell have had incidences of anti-social behaviour and violence.

Despite the Good Relations policy, some communities in Antrim & Newtownabbey remain divided. The education system is segregated with the majority of children and young people attend schools based on their religion. This has changed significantly with the increase of integrated post-primary schools.

Public and social housing in Antrim & Newtownabbey is overwhelmingly segregated between the two communities and this can lead to inter-community tensions, involving children and young people especially at contentious times of the year and particularly at interface areas. This can also lead to children and young people coming under the influence of paramilitaries.

Antrim & Newtownabbey has become a more culturally diverse place in recent years. Unfortunately, one outcome has been that racist hate crimes have exceeded sectarian hate crimes. At a stakeholder engagement event young people supported the view that Youth Services should provide safe spaces for children and young people and promote inclusion and embrace and celebrate difference. This could be addressed through Inclusion, diversity and equality of opportunity programmes, good relation opportunities; and T: BUC residential or camps.

Other marginal groups also experience intolerance and prejudice. For example, the LGBTQIA+ community reported that they have been subjected to political and social intolerance, where their rights have been denied and not respected. For many within this community, discrimination and prejudice begins in school and many young people noted ongoing bullying and harassment.

Consultations indicated that young people from deprived communities and rural areas did not believe they had the same opportunities to participate and achieve in education and participate in Youth Services. Participants at a stakeholder engagement event noted that in rural areas there was a lack of facilities and access to services for young people to come together and promote inclusion, especially with young people from Section 75 groups.

In consultations Antrim & Newtownabbey most young people noted that they had the same opportunities in life as others and were treated the same. However, some vulnerable groups believe they do not feel included or have the same opportunities as others, particularly amongst LGBTQIA+ young people.

For other young people who believed they were not treated the same as others the reasons given were because of where they lived or their social and community backgrounds. This appears to indicate that many feel discriminated against because of where they live and the disadvantages they face in their daily lives and within their communities. Young people in rural areas feel particularly isolated.

It's important that youth workers develop programmes that help redress this imbalance and develop partnerships that can provide opportunities for those that wouldn't otherwise have them. All children and young people have the right to be heard and negative attitudes, behaviours, and stereotypes towards them should be addressed. Specific individuals and groups may encounter systematic, attitudinal, and physical barriers to equality because of their personal circumstances or characteristics. This exclusion ensures that these vulnerable groups of children and young people may feel isolated and marginalised. Discrimination and prejudiced based bullying and social isolation can impact a young person's educational outcomes and also affect their overall health and wellbeing, loss of self-esteem, lack of motivation and depression and anxiety, leading them to withdraw from mainstream society.

Young people reported that in order to address some of their concerns around Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity that they would most like to engage in Outdoor Learning activities, Cultural Awareness and Diversity programmes and Residentials or Camps. Youth Workers stated that Inclusion programmes, Cultural Awareness and Diversity programmes and Residentials and Camps were the best services to provide so that young people felt included.

Both young people and Youth Workers noted that it was important to work with young people in the design of programmes to meet their needs in this area. It was also noted that young people felt safe to explore these issues in a Youth Work setting.

KEY FACTORS: LIVING IN SAFETY & STABILITY

- There are 3 interface areas in Antrim & Newtownabbey
- There was a total of 1,284 crimes with a domestic abuse motivation recorded in 2020/21
- In 2020 hate crime incidents and crimes in Antrim & Newtownabbey were:
 - 74 Racist incidents and 55 crimes recorded
 - 12 Homophobic incidences and 8 crimes recorded
 - 34 Sectarian incidences and 32 crimes recorded
- 11,421 children and young people aged 4 -25 years (28.7%) live in deprivation (NI average 25.2%) (2022)
- 3,737 food bank parcels were handed out by the Trussell Trust to young people in Antrim & Newtownabbey; this is the third highest number across NI council.

Discussion and Key Trends

Adverse childhood experiences can have a detrimental effect on a child or young person's personal and social development. As well as having negative consequences for the individual it can also impact on other children and young people in local communities. A recent study noted that a negative home environment can lead to a series of problems, including among others, poor language development, deficit in school readiness, later behavioural problems, and emotional health issues.

In Antrim & Newtownabbey there are a number of risk factors such as socio-economic, demographic, environmental and cultural influences which directly impact on children and young people. These range from instability in terms of parenting, their home environment, lack of a male role model, education and employment and can include negative transitions which they may experience, such as family relationships, including divorce or remarriage, moving home and school, neglect and witnessing or being the victims of domestic abuse.

Children and young people are more inclined to have behavioural problems, poor educational attainment and limited career prospects and poorer physical and emotional health. They are also likely to have limited personal resilience and engage in risk taking activity including alcohol and drug misuse, anti-social behaviour, inappropriate use of social media is more susceptible to be influenced or threatened by paramilitaries. Children and young people from Section 75 groups are those most at risk of not living safely and securely.

Children and young people growing up in a stable, secure home and environment are more likely to achieve academically, have better health outcomes, more opportunities to participate in wider society and have better career opportunities.

A safe, secure, and loving home environment as well as a school, Youth Service and community which is consistent and nurturing, makes a big difference for children and young people in our society.

However, there are many children and young people experiencing significant adversity in their home lives and within their communities which can have a negative impact on their education, health and social outcomes.

A recent local focus event with young people reported that Youth Services have a key role in providing safe and supportive environments in helping children and young people achieve their potential and to promote the positive role that young people can contribute to their local communities.

A further important emerging issue affecting the lives of children and young people is drugs and alcohol. Young people also suggested that some of the reasons why anti-social behaviour occurred was due to easy access to alcohol and drugs. It is also important to note that children and young people reported that youth centres were places where they felt safe.

Young people also recognised the growing concerns young people had around digital resilience and supported the development of programmes to help children and young people develop virtual resilience, including good digital and social media habits and a better understanding of online pressures.

For these young people insecurity and transitions create stress which can threaten a young person's sense of belonging and security. A recent local consultation event with young people reported that Youth Services have a key role in providing safe and supportive environments in helping young people achieve their potential and to promote the positive role that young people can contribute to their local communities.

Of those young people who responded to the survey over three quarters, (77%), reported that they felt safe in their own community. There was little difference between genders and non-gender though females did report feeling slightly safer. Only 54% of Youth Workers and Volunteers noted that the young people that they worked with felt safe in their own community. These figures are comparatively low compared to the rest of Northern Ireland. Of particular concern is older young men where only two thirds reported feeling safe within their own community. This will be a focus of youth work in Antrim & Newtownabbey to determine why this is the case and help address the issue. Antrim & Newtownabbey PCSP as a result of this survey have also plans to research this further.

The principle reasons given by young people for not feeling safe were anti-social behaviour, high levels of crime bullying, online bullying and not feeling accepted in their community. Youth Workers and Volunteers also noted that these were the most common reasons given for young people not feeling safe in their own community. Young people who experience bullying are more likely to miss school or attend a youth centre, feel safe, happy or achieve, be healthy and are less likely to make a positive contribution to their community. Young women were more likely to identify gang violence as a reason for feeling unsafe.

Consultations with young people have suggested that some of the reasons why anti-social behaviour and crime occurred was due to easy access to alcohol and drugs, lack of a police presence, poor lighting, and limited CCTV. Young people raised concerns that they had with paramilitary activity in their communities. Paramilitarism is a reality for many in Northern Ireland and also a growing threat to children and young people, particularly those from the most deprived communities where paramilitaries exert the greatest control. A recent report noted that without a functioning Executive and the uncertainty regarding Brexit ending Paramilitarism is now more difficult. Young people supported the idea of community partnerships, based on trust and respect, involving all key stakeholders to provide children and young people with alternative, positive opportunities. Youth Centres were identified as a place of safety and more access to Youth Centres for older young people was seen as a positive way of addressing safety issues. The development locally of Senior Rooms within Youth Centres which provide a more mature, calm space for young people to relax in may help address this.

Research has shown that as children and young people are spending more time on social media, they are more vulnerable to being victims of child sexual exploitation. Engaging in sexting or the sharing of inappropriate sexual images between adults or their peers can lead to bullying or blackmail and can have a detrimental effect on a young person's emotional health and resilience. Young people at an engagement event recognised the growing concerns young people had around child sexual exploitation and supported the development of new digital resources and programmes to help young people develop virtual resilience, including good digital and social media habits and a better understanding of their online presence.

Organised fights using social media along sectarian or territorial lines are more prevalent at key times of the year, specifically during the summer period. Certain areas of Antrim & Newtownabbey e.g. Crumlin Glen, Rathcoole and Monkstown have attracted large numbers of young people from outside the area who have congregated in large groups.

KEY FACTORS: ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE

Environmental and climate change are key areas of concern for young people as the effects of climate change are being better understood and young people are becoming more active in highlighting this and acting on the matter. Young people and adults at the stakeholder event agreed that environmental issues needed addressed urgently and came up with practical improvements that could be made at youth group level right through to RAG. Stakeholders highlighted the need for RAG to set priorities around Green Standards and education for Youth Workers and young people. It was also recommended that Local Youth Services act on making youth settings more environmentally friendly inside and out and to move towards green energy sources and materials. Youth groups can be proactive in keeping their area litter free, reducing plastic use, increasing recycling, and creating an environmentally friendly outdoor space

KEY FACTORS: PARTICIPATION

Article 12 of the United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child stipulates that: Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. Children and young people's participation in decision making on issues that affect them has increasingly been recognised and valued as a right. It has also been reported that successfully engaging children and young people in the institutions, communities and contexts in which they live and building their capacity as active citizens can be a critical factor in their positive development as individuals, enhance their career prospects and life chances and support their positive contribution to these same contexts and institutions.

Most children and young people in Antrim & Newtownabbey have access to some form of social, cultural or sporting outlet. Participation in school, Youth Services and wider society helps children and young people become more confident and independent. It can also provide opportunities to socialise and make friends with people from different backgrounds.

Many young people engaging in youth services express their interest in actively participating in decision making. All statutory and EA Funded Voluntary Organisations operate an appropriate participation structure which enables the voice of young people to influence the organisations delivery.

The Youth Voice structure operating in Antrim & Newtownabbey in partnership with the Borough Council are extremely active, participating in many consultations with Council, Youth Service, Local Advisory Group and other Statutory Partners.

Participation will continue to be a key priority for the Antrim & Newtownabbey Service to ensure that Youth Voice is developed and sustained with a continued focus on broadening the membership to include young people from Section 75 groups in order to ensure a broad representation.



Survey Headlines

Survey Headlines – Regional

The survey was responded to by 520 young people across Antrim & Newtownabbey of which 45 % were 14 – 18 years; 45 % were 9 – 13 years and the remaining 10% were 19-25. 54% of respondents identified as female, 42% as male, 1% as other, with 3 % preferring not to say. Rural young people were overrepresented in the survey with 39% of respondents compared to the 18% of young people in the general population who live in rural areas. 95% of respondents identified as white which is similar to the general population of Antrim & Newtownabbey. 17% considered themselves as disabled, almost 40% of whom cited a learning disability.

Based on the responses from children and young people it highlighted that what is important to them is the fact that youth services provide safe, inclusive spaces where they are welcomed, have fun and meet friends whilst supporting their emotional health and wellbeing needs as they express their views in trusted relationships. This reinforces the importance of youth services providing core youth work at this time. Young people look to the youth service to help them make positive choices around risk-taking behaviours, provide a wide range of activities and opportunities, support their physical, emotional and sexual health and give them a say on decisions that affect them. Young people also want to meet people from other backgrounds and achieve in education and training.

When asked what programmes the youth service could provide to support these needs young people highlighted that the following were important to them:

- Sports and fitness
- Life skills
- Emotional health and wellbeing programmes
- Arts and Crafts
- Gaming and coding
- Gender based programmes
- Music
- Volunteering and leadership development
- Outdoor learning and activities
- Help with employment and interviewing

Local Stakeholder including Young people Consultations

EA Youth Service in Antrim & Newtownabbey organised a series of focus group events examining identified themes. Three events took place in July 2022.

Each EA Youth Centre an Area Project consults with their membership through their Local Voice structure. Feedback from these 15 sources helped inform this assessment of needs.

EA funded groups from Monkstown and Rathenraw completed and shared their needs assessments along with a wider council area consultation submitted by Bytes.

The Local Advisory Group were also consulted.

In total a further 464 young people were directly consulted, alongside 20 stakeholders representing youth providers in the area.

The findings from these consultations were similar to the regional survey.

Headline findings were:

- Physical activities including outdoor activities
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing support
- Access to services for rural young people
- Social isolation especially young people engaged in online activities

- Use of Vapes, Alcohol, drugs and smoking
- Informal learning opportunities, accredited and non-accredited
- Youth Leadership opportunities
- Influence of paramilitarism
- Support for young parents
- Vocational skills e.g. Barbering, Hairdressing, Beauty, Barista
- Lifeskills around cooking/meal preparation, budgeting
- Programmes that connect with other cultures and backgrounds including religious belief, political opinion, race, disability and LGBTQIA+
- Opportunities to be part of participative structures within youth provision and beyond
- Environmental issues around individual responsibility

Establishing Key Priorities of Work for 2023

Based on the analysis of the Statistical data and the voice of stakeholders, children and young people, considering also the current uncertainty regarding the future of budgets, increasing cost of living and long lasting impacts on the lives of children and young people as a result of COVID-19, there needs to be a clear focus on the priority to protect core services for children and young people. The Assessment of need clearly establishes the following Key Areas for Action for the delivery of Youth Services in the Antrim & Newtownabbey area

- Health and Wellbeing
- Learning and Achieving
- Participation
- Living in Safety and Stability
- Inclusion Diversity Equality of Opportunity and Good Relations
- Environment and Climate

Priority Outputs for 2023

Key Area for Action: Learning and Achieving

Addressing barriers to learning remains a significant need. This need is further deepened by the pandemic, increased newcomers, high levels of SEN and children looked after. Based on population data there is a significant number of young people in the 14-18 age range who will be taking examinations and considering employment/career pathways or routes into further and higher education. There will be an opportunity and need to provide new and additional leadership and volunteer opportunities along with vocational training, taking into account the bespoke needs at that time.

Key Area for Action: Health and Wellbeing

It has been clearly highlighted by the Voice of Children and Young People that health and wellbeing remain a core need for our children and young people. The DE Emotional health and wellbeing framework has highlighted and evidenced that a focus needs to be placed on Wellbeing for All and Early Support programmes for children and young people to positively address this need long term impacts. The Local Assessment of need has highlighted that this can be address through youth work by;

- Emotional Health and Wellbeing to be a feature of all youth provision
- Early support group work programmes with a focus on emotional health and wellbeing
- The use of sports and physical activity
- Establishing a positive peer culture within youth settings to nurture discussion with children and young people regarding health and wellbeing

- Support for Drug and Alcohol use and the rising use of Vaping/e-cigarettes.

Key Area for Action: Inclusion, Diversity, Equality of Opportunity, and Good relations

Taking into consideration the key facts and findings within this area of enquiry there is a significant need for youth service delivery to be proactively inclusive.

Thematic Youth Work to support children and young people with Special Educational Need, disability, Newcomer young people, LGBTQIA+ young people, members of the Travelling Community, rural young people, and socially isolated young people. Youth provisions should be welcoming and accepting to all these groups.

As Antrim & Newtownabbey has become a more culturally diverse place the number of racist hate crimes have exceeded sectarian hate crimes. At a recent engagement event young people supported the view that Youth Services should provide safe spaces for children and young people and promote inclusion and embrace and celebrate difference. This can be addressed through Good Relations, cultural awareness and diversity programmes and T: BUC residential or camps.

Antrim & Newtownabbey still experiences segregation between the two main communities, and this can lead to inter-community tensions, involving children and young people especially at contentious times of the year and particularly at interface areas. This can also lead to children and young people coming under the influence of paramilitaries. Youth provision can address this through focused youth work during periods of heightened tension including Bonfire season (July – August). Key geographical areas include Macedon and Glengormley Urban.

Key Area for Action: Living in Safety and Stability

Children and young people including those with additional needs require programmes and activities that focus on emotional health and resilience to counter the challenges facing young people in their communities. There is a need for Inclusive Youth Service provision to be delivered. Core Youth Work Provision will support,

- children and young people from ethnic minorities and newcomers
- young people engaged in risk-taking behaviours
- young people experiencing or taking part in anti-social behaviour
- young people experiencing or living with domestic abuse/coercive control
- young people affected by paramilitarism
- young people living through family breakdowns
- young people with adverse childhood experiences
- young people experiencing sectarianism

Youth Services have a key role in providing these safe and supportive environments to enable young people to build the skills needed to cope with and mitigate the effect of adverse experiences.

Key Area for Action: Participation

Participation will continue to be a key priority for the Youth Service with support to ensure that Youth Voice is developed and sustained with a continued focus on broadening the membership to include young people from Section 75 groups in order to ensure a broad representation.

Local Advisory Group (LAG) will be facilitated by Youth Services in the Antrim & Newtownabbey area to offer advice on the development and implementation of the local area plan. Youth Voice members have spaces reserved on the LAG.

Youth Services will provide Local and Global awareness programmes people to raise aspirations and enhance employment in the future.

The need for Core Youth Provision will also be a key area of delivery with a focus on 9-13 and 14-18 year olds.

The findings from the survey and consultations show that young people continue to value a safe space where they can feel accepted and be themselves. Barriers to participation include proximity to services, age appropriate activities, perceptions around acceptance due to race, sexuality, gender disability, and accessibility.

Opening times and days need to be focused on young people's availability. Young people need to have a voice in their provision and to be consulted on programmes they feel will enhance their life skills.

Young people need spaces to develop new and enhance existing friendships, particularly with those from other backgrounds.

Youth Services are ideally placed to provide children and young people with a platform to have their voices heard and responded to through Local Voice and other civic events and fora.

Key Area for Action: Environment and Climate

Environmental and climate change are key areas of concern for young people as the effects of climate change are being better understood and young people are becoming more active in highlighting this and acting on the matter.

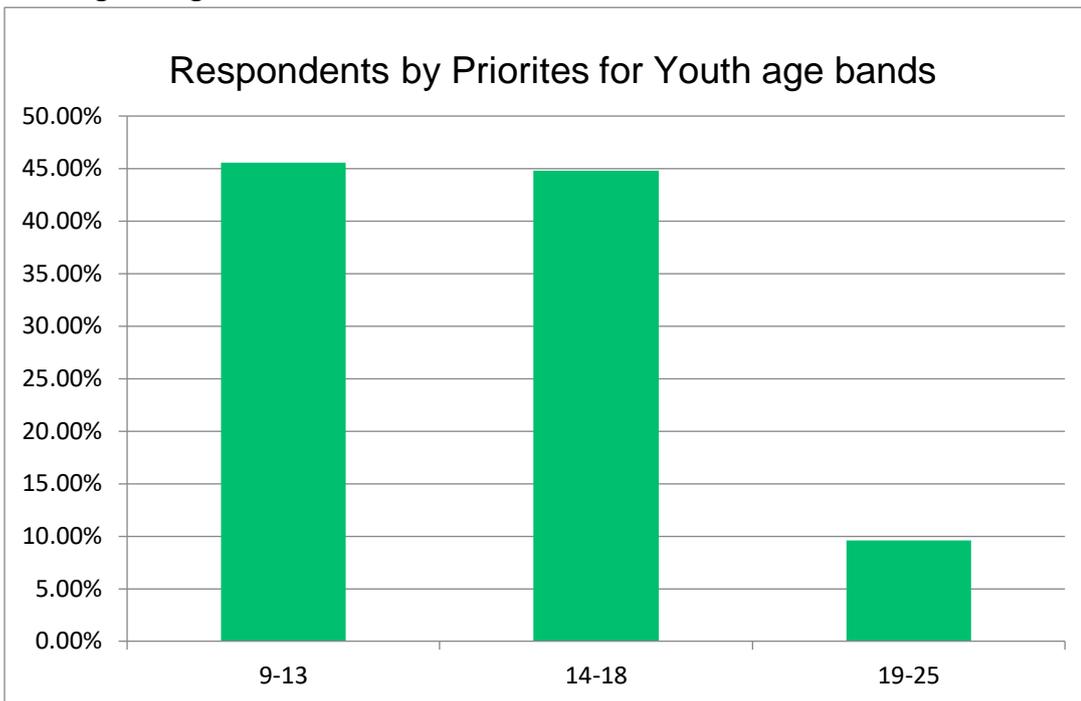
Youth provision needs to set priorities around Green Standards and educational programmes for young people. Youth Services should provide opportunities for making youth settings more environmentally friendly inside and out and to move towards green energy sources and materials. Youth groups can be proactive in keeping their area litter free, reducing plastic use, increasing recycling, and creating an environmentally friendly outdoor space. Youth Services actions to also include delivering environmental and climate programmes, programmes to include redesigning outdoor environments e.g. with trees, wildlife gardens and bird/bug/hedgehog boxes.



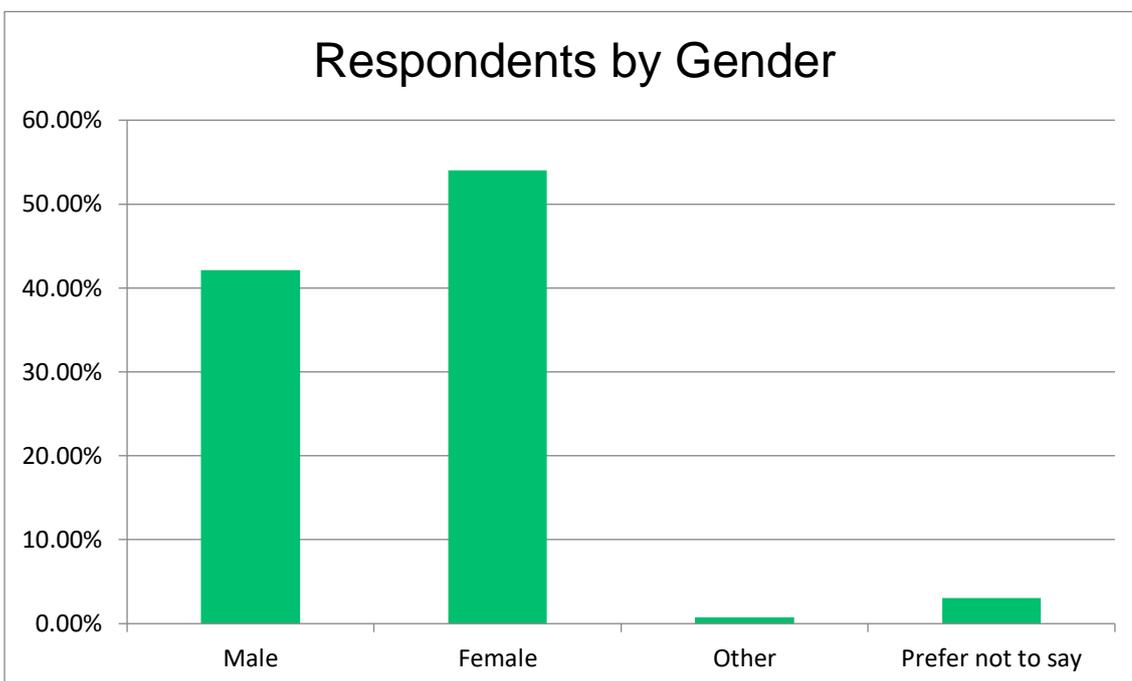
Appendix 1: Survey Results

Survey Findings

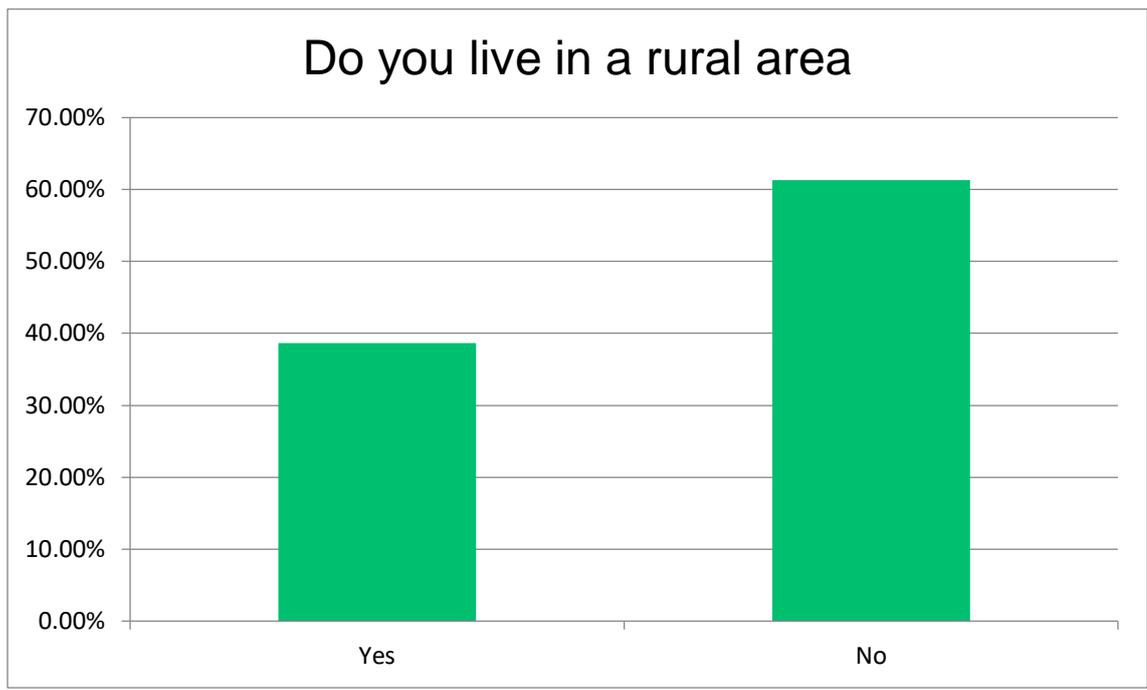
The regional survey had 520 submissions from young people in Antrim and Newtownabbey. Their age and gender breakdown is shown on the charts below



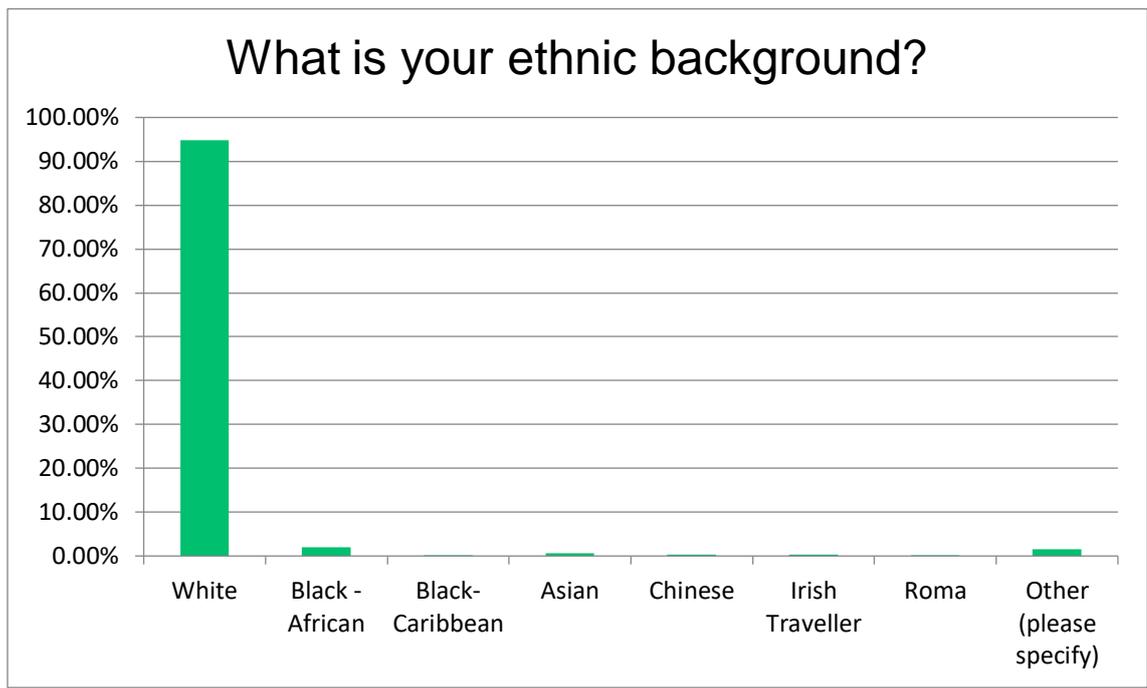
Age is broken down into key Priorities for Youth age bands



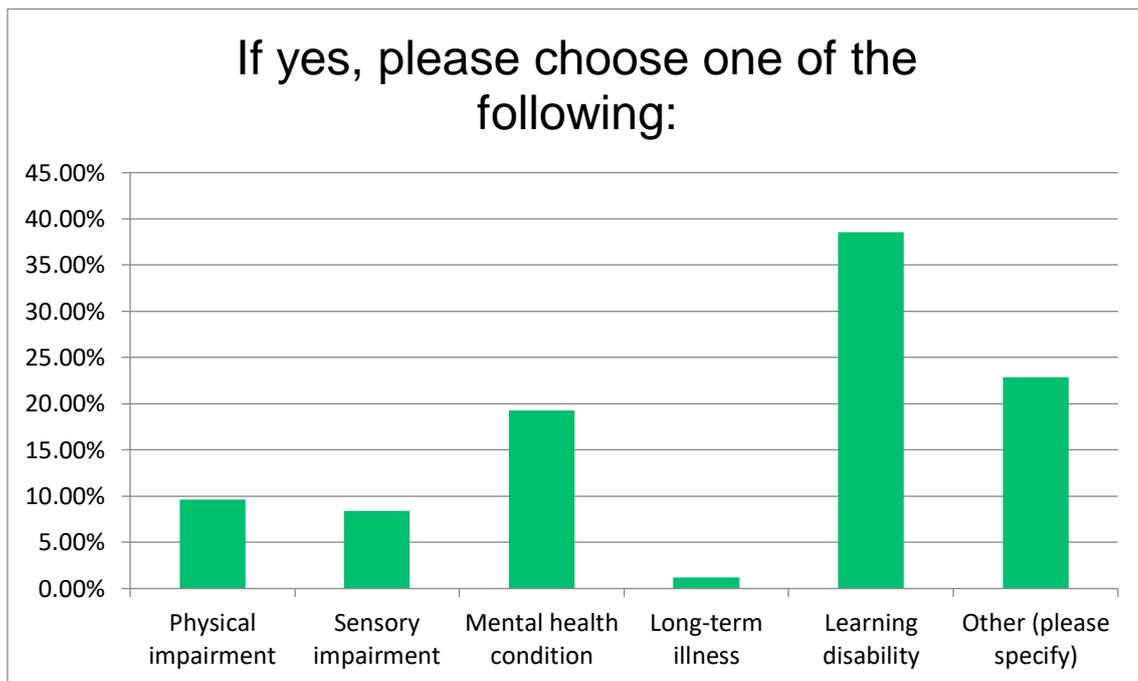
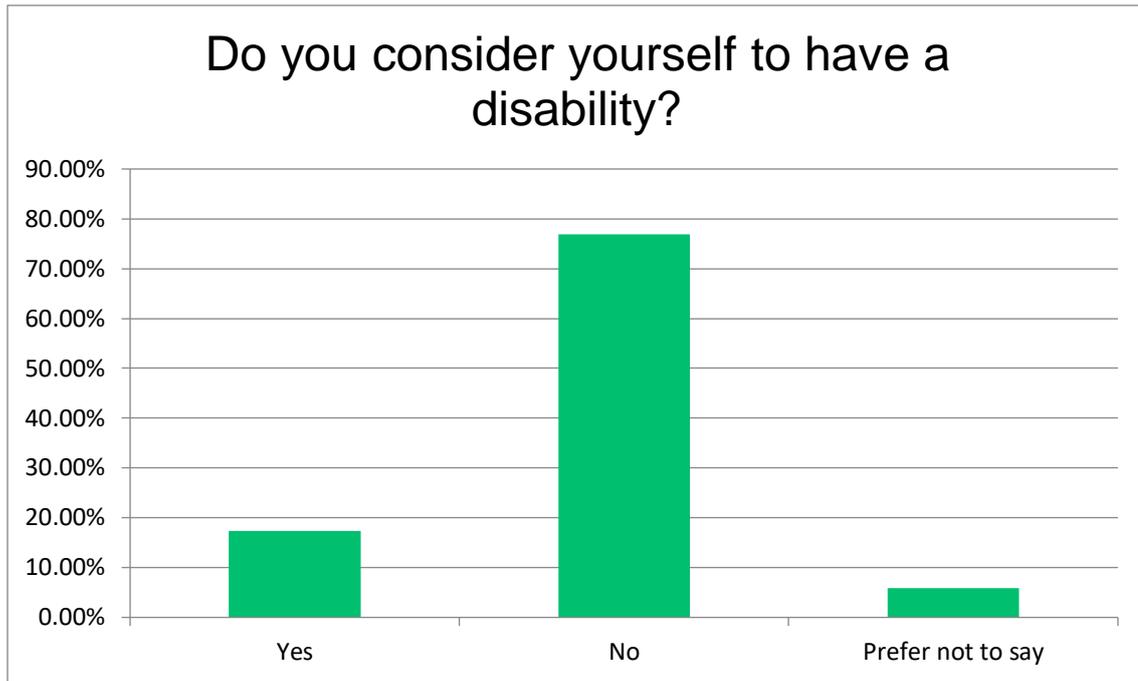
Responses were split proportionally across rural and urban areas.



Responses to the Regional survey were overwhelmingly from a white background. Those who identified as other were Polish, Ulster-Scots, Slovakian, Mixed, Irish and Fijian.

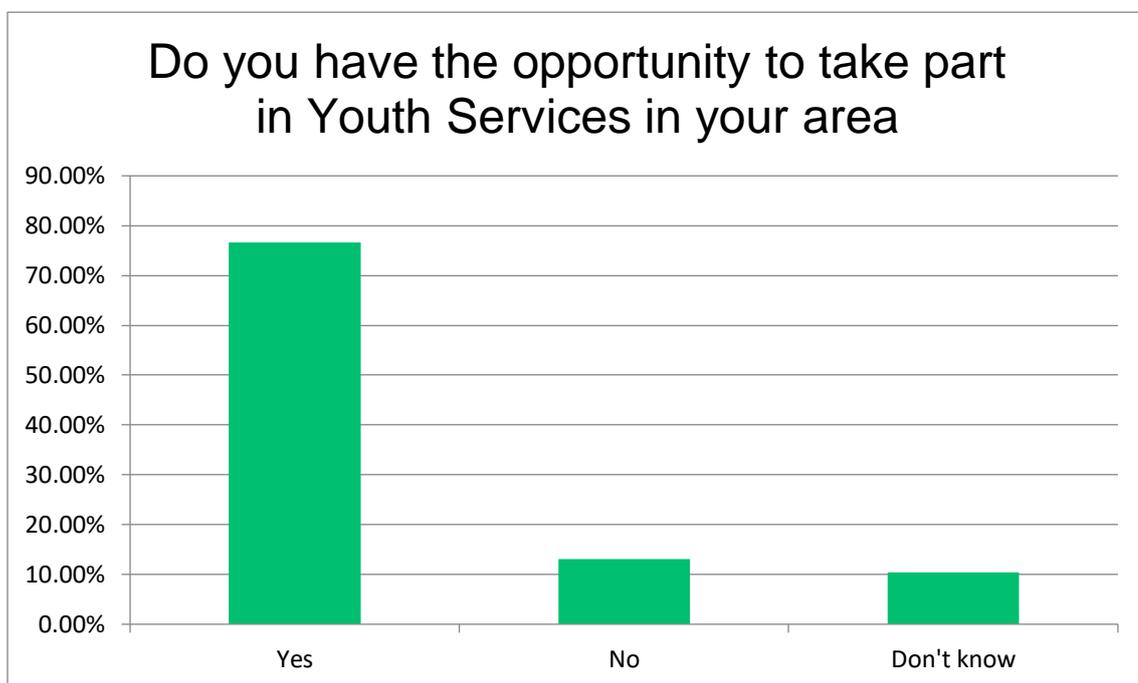
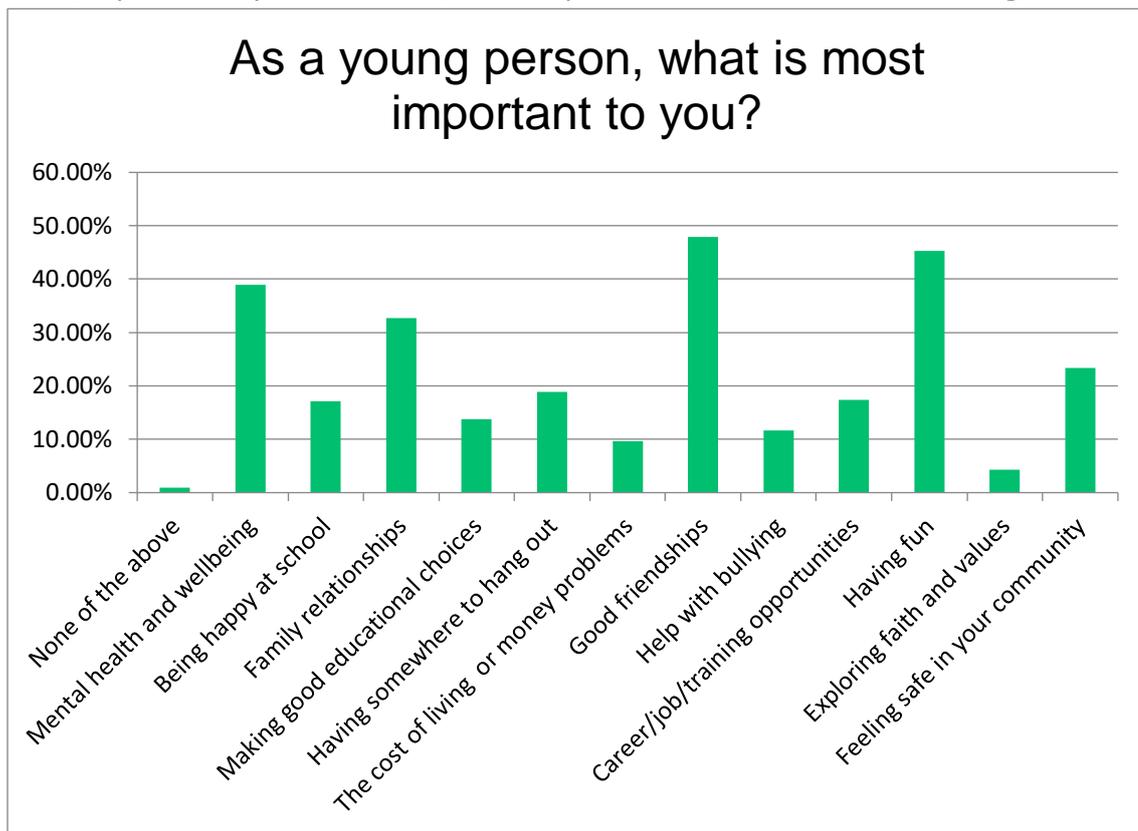


Around 17% considered themselves to have a disability.



Those who specified other gave these replies, Dyslexia, Celiac Disease, Mental Health sensory and learning, Autism, Tourette's, Hay Fever, Diabetes, Asthma, Autism, ASD, ADHD, Physical Impairment and Learning Disability.

The respondents were asked a series of questions to determine what is important to them and what they want/expect from youth services; their responses are shown on the following charts and tables



Please rate the following statements according to how important they are to you.	Weighted Average
Youth Services encourage children and young people to make positive choices preventing them from engaging in risk taking behaviours	4.16
Youth Services ensure that children and young people have access to a wide range of activities and opportunities	4.12
Youth Services provide opportunities for children and young people to support their physical, mental and sexual health	4.10
Youth Services enable children and young people to have a say on decisions on issues and services that affect them	4.09
Youth Services provides children and young people with opportunities to meet and engage with others from different backgrounds	4.08
Youth Services support children and young people to achieve and remain in education and training	4.06
Youth Services should provide children and young people with opportunities to explore environmental and climate issues	3.68

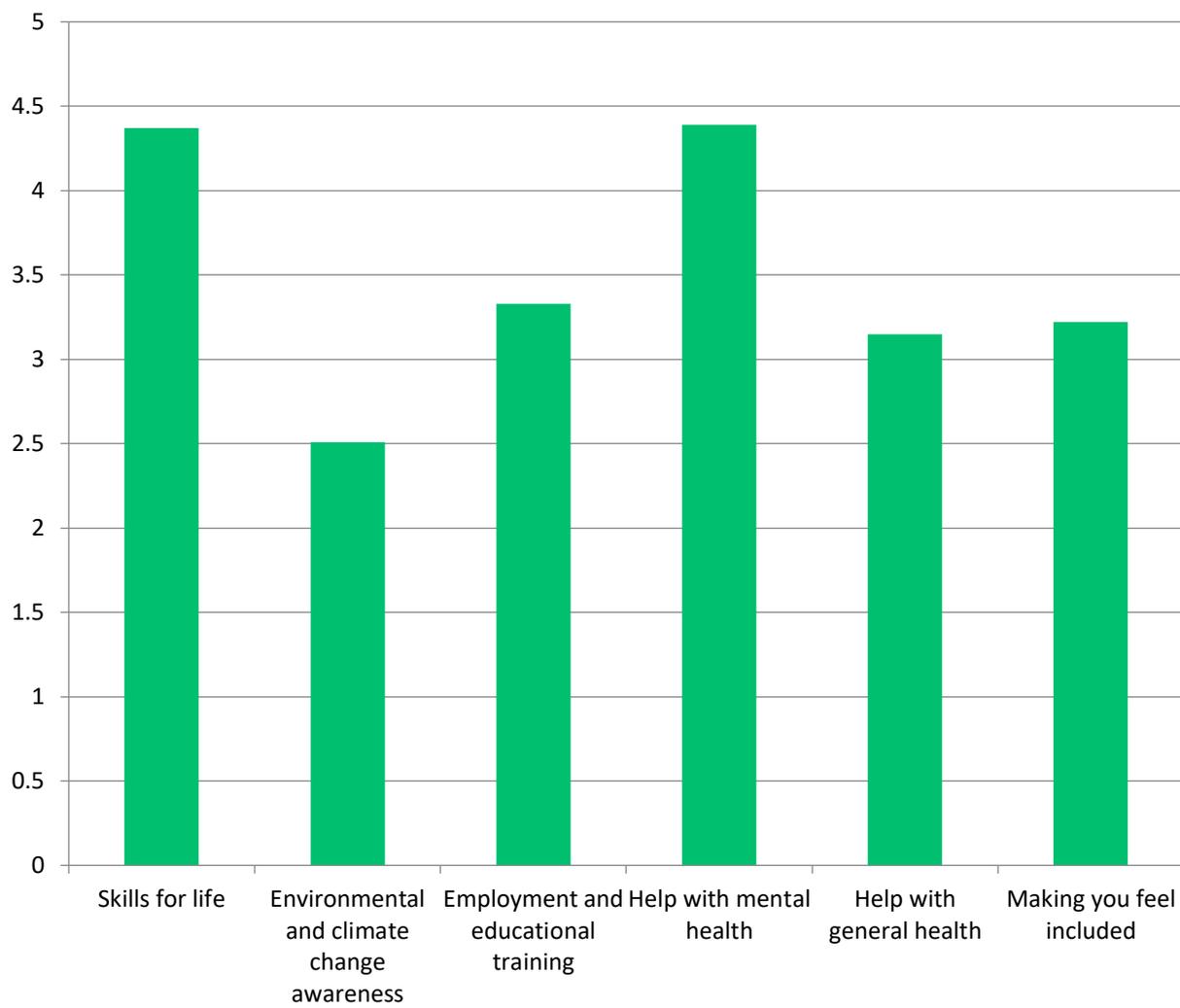
What are the most important things about taking part in Youth Services?	Responses
Making friends and meeting new people	59.23%
Opportunities to take part in fun activities	42.12%
Opportunities to discuss issues e.g. friendships, bullying, home life, relationships	36.71%
A place to meet	31.76%
Support and advice from an adult I trust	31.76%
Being able to express my views on things that matter to me in a safe space	31.31%
Regular activities/programmes to take part in	30.86%
Opportunities to participate in Irish Medium youth work	7.66%
Opportunities to engage in Faith Based youth work	7.43%
Opportunities to participate in Ulster Scots youth work	3.83%
Other (please specify)	2.70%

Those who replied with other specified, “having fun”, “A place to feel safe and have people that supports you”, “Getting career value - stuff that can go onto a CV “,”A safe place where I can use the Irish language”, “Getting advice about my education and career”.

What activities/programmes could Youth Services provide that would be most helpful to you?	Responses
Sport and fitness	38.06%
Life Skills programmes	35.59%
Mental and emotional health programmes	33.56%
Health and wellbeing programmes	30.86%
Arts and crafts	26.58%
Gaming/coding opportunities	23.42%
Young men's/young women's programmes	23.42%
Music	23.42%
Leadership	22.75%
Outdoor learning	22.52%
Outdoor activities in natural surroundings	22.52%
Employment and interview training	21.62%
Programmes that help with employment in the future	19.82%
Volunteering opportunities	18.69%
Drama	15.99%
Mentoring programmes/opportunities	11.49%
Homework clubs	10.36%
Environmental programmes	6.08%
Irish Medium youth work	5.63%
Faith Based youth work	4.05%
Other (please specify)	3.15%
Ulster Scots youth work	2.70%

Those who replied with other specified, "LGBTQ work", "A place where I am comfortable using Irish", "Relaxing", "Helping figure out your sexuality", "Football", "Cadets", "Drug Awareness", "Education is Key and all youth services should be able to provide additional support .the levels of poor literacy are on the rise and this needs to be addressed through the youth service as well as mainstream education", "An option for all of the above through the medium of Irish".

Please rank by importance the type of programmes Youth Services should provide for you.





Appendix 2: Consultation Findings

Key Area of Enquiry	Issues Faced by Young People	How can Youth Services address these issues
Health & Well Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual/Gender Identity • Food Poverty • Self-Image / Fitting In • COVID still having an impact on isolation • Drugs & Alcohol • Emotional Health and Wellbeing • Pressures to achieve in school • Vaping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmes or Services in place to deal with Mental Health Issues • Motivational workshops to challenge mindsets • Relationship Programmes • Drug & Alcohol Workshops • Support with Positive Coping Mechanisms • Self-care events and days away • Opportunities to escape the local area through trips and Residential • Emotional Health and Wellbeing to feature in all programmes
Learn & Achieve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under Achieving in School • Employment Opportunities • Accreditation & Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways to employment • Career guidance • Civic Leadership Programmes • Resilience Work • Support with School Work / Homework • Life and Employment skills training
Living in Safety and Stability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feeling unsafe in specific areas • Pressures to get involved in Drugs and Alcohol • Peer Pressure • Social Media • Paramilitarism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide safe places to relax with friends with modern amenities • Citizenship & Lawfulness Engagements • Drug & Alcohol Workshops • Online Safety Programmes • Weekend Opening
Environmental & Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fly tipping of household items • Fumes from smokers/vapers. • Litter and food waste from discarded takeaways. • Trees being cut down and the negative impact this has on air quality. • Chemical pollution from industry and farming. • Behaviour of community, littering isn't just a young person's habit. • Traffic noise especially near motorways. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness raising programmes • Community clean ups • Climate programmes • Programmes on health to cycle and walk, to reduce pollution. • Tree planting, vegetable growing. • Recycling campaign, each youth centre have a recycling bin and promote recycling to help combat littering issues. • Awareness raising programmes - John Muir's Award. • Programmes showing how things can be reused - art or furniture and the positive impact this will have on the environment.
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to youth centres • Rural Isolation • Opening times of centres • Young people in social isolation due to gaming, social media etc • Newcomers being excluded. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening times of centres to be set in consultation with young people • Outreach programmes targeting rural young people/newcomers • Outreach to socially isolated young people
Inclusion, Diversity & Equal Opportunities including Good Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities to engage with others especially newcomers, other cultures, LGBTQIA+, Disabled young people • Gender Identity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmes required to break down these barriers • Inclusion in regional programmes • Youth Club Visits / Interclub activities • Youth Centres to have gender neutral programmes and facilities • Training on LGBTQIA+ issues for staff and young people



Appendix 3: Area Profile

Demographics

Chart 1 – Total Population in Local Government District Compared to NI by Gender (Aged 0 – 25 years)

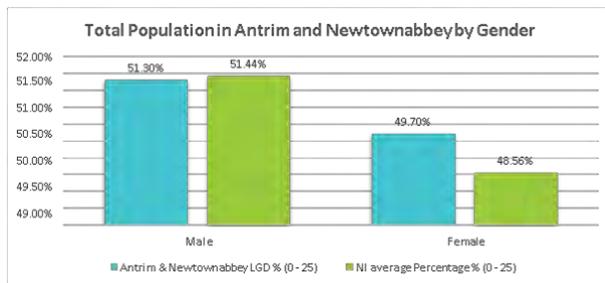
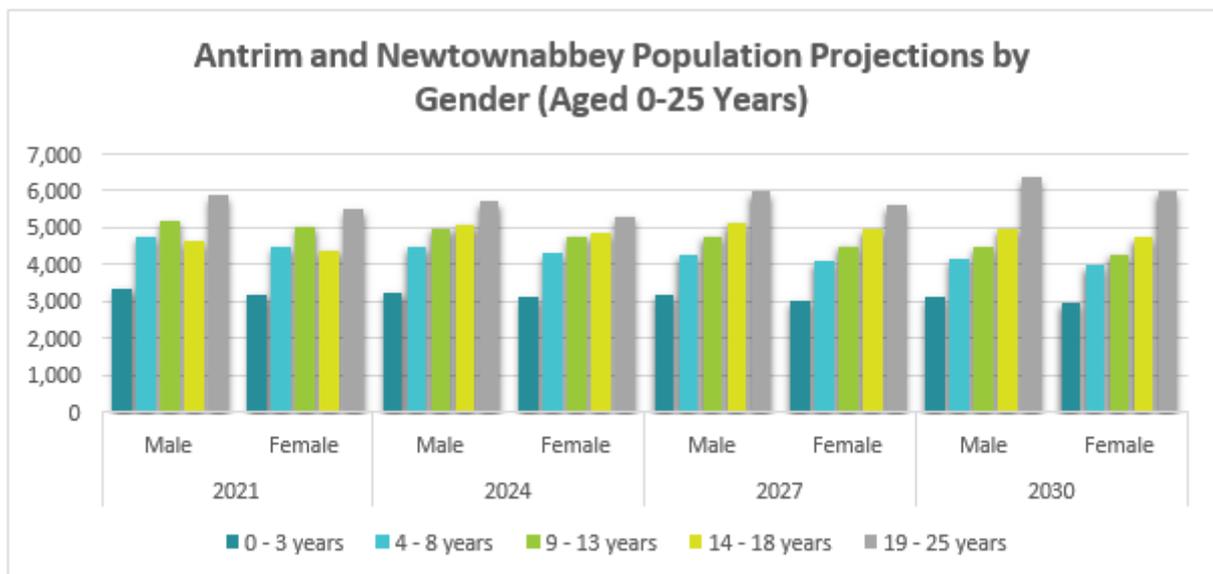
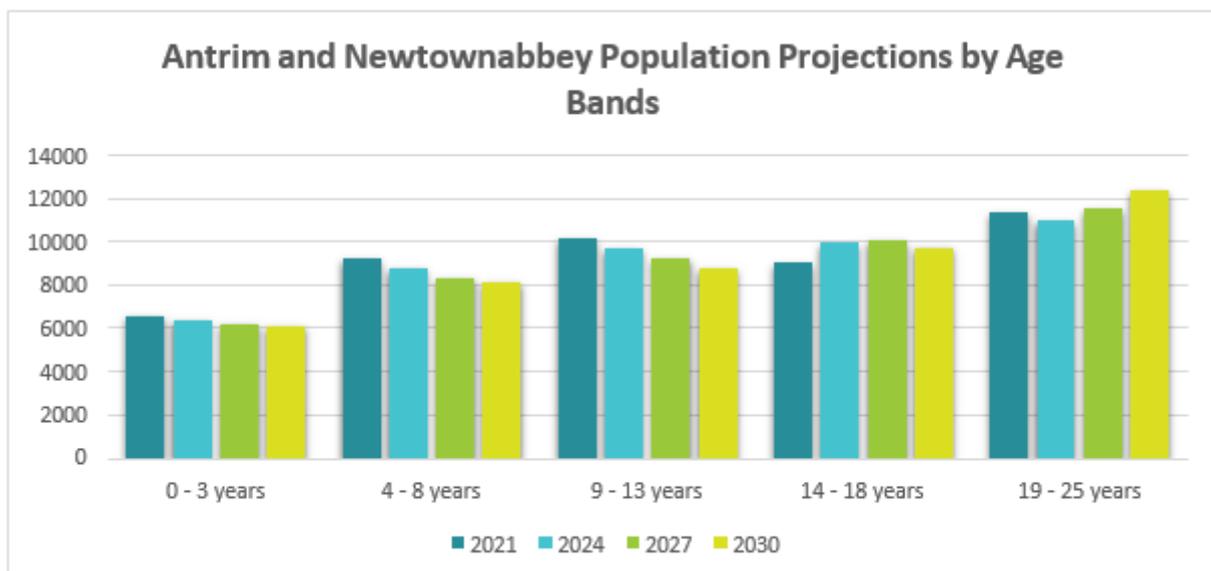


Chart 2 – Projected Population by Gender 2021 – 2030 (Aged 0 – 25 Years)



The youth population for the key Youth Service age Bands of 9-13 and 14-18 is projected to be around 19,000 through to the end of the decade.

Chart 3 – Projected Population by Age Bands 2021 – 2030 (Aged 0 – 25 Years)



Deprivation

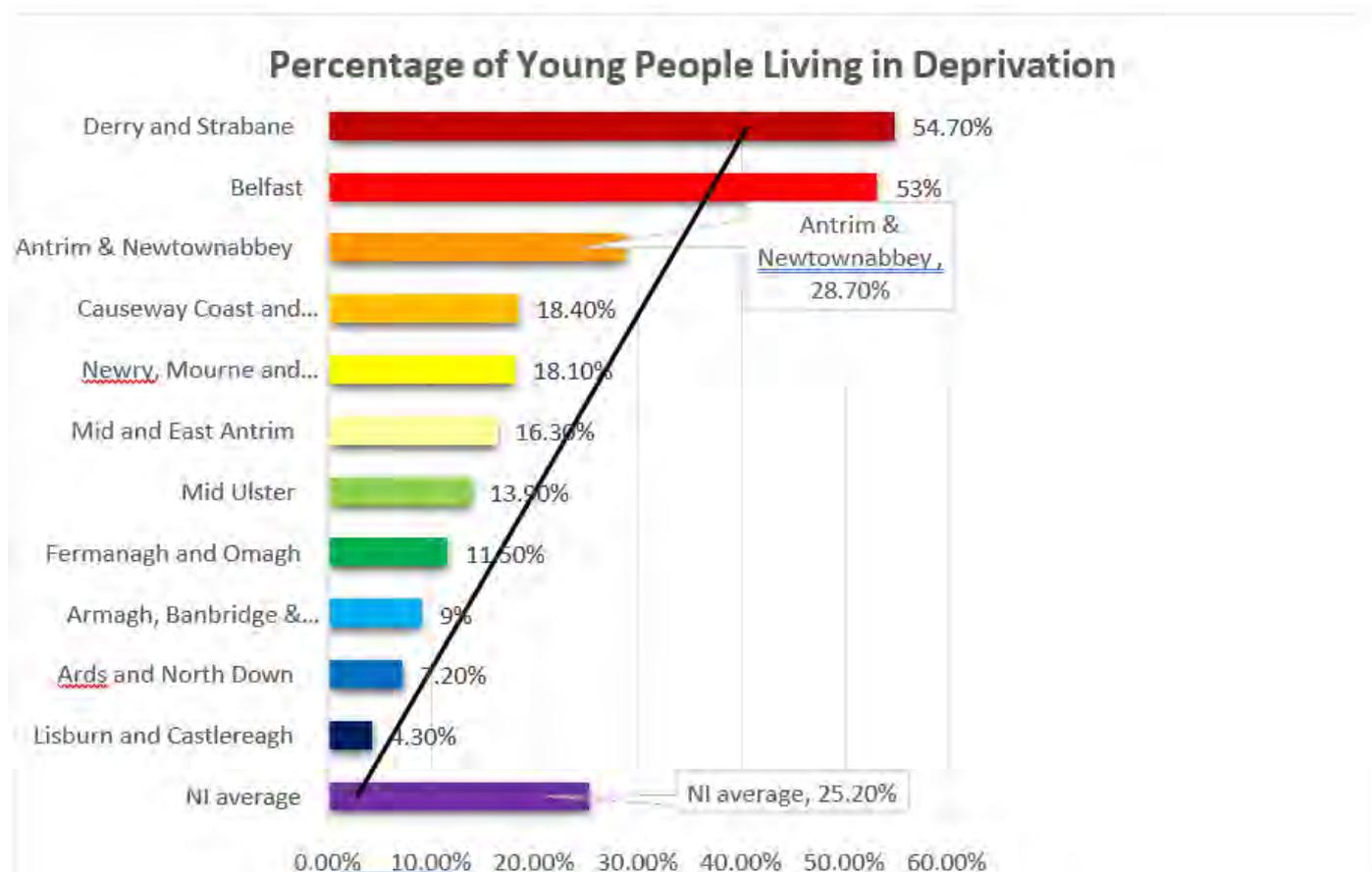
Antrim & Newtownabbey ranks 3rd in total numbers and percentage of young people living in deprivation compared to other council areas.

Table 1 – Number of Young People Living in Deprived Areas in Local Government District Compared to NI (Aged 4-25 years)

	Aged 4 - 8 years	Aged 9 - 13 years	Aged 14 - 18 years	Aged 19 - 25 years	Total % of Deprivation
Antrim & Newtownabbey YP	9,240	10,177	9,015	11,361	
Antrim & Newtownabbey YP living in Deprived Areas	2,652	2,921	2,587	3,261	
%Antrim & Newtownabbey YP living in Deprived Areas	28.70%	28.70%	28.70%	28.70%	28.70%
% Northern Ireland YP living in Deprived Areas	25.20%	25.20%	25.20%	25.20%	25.20%

Source: NISRA 2018, Source Deprivation: Regional Assessment of Needs (RAON)

Chart 4 – Percentage of Young People Living in Deprived Areas (Aged 4-25 years)



The table below highlights the top 25% most deprived Super Output Areas (SOA's) in the Antrim and Newtownabbey Local Government District. This table is sorted in descending order of Multiple Deprivation rank and is based on the 2017 Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measures. The indicator ranks from 1 to 890 (with 1 being the top rank and 890 the least top rank).

Table 2 – Super Output Areas – Domains

SOA2001_name	Multiple Deprivation Measure Rank (where 1 is most deprived)	Income Domain Rank (where 1 is most deprived)	Employment Domain Rank (where 1 is most deprived)	Health Deprivation and Disability Domain Rank (where 1 is most deprived)	Education, Skills and Training Domain Rank (where 1 is most deprived)	Access to Services Domain Rank (where 1 is most deprived)	Living Environment Domain Rank (where 1 is most deprived)	Crime and Disorder Domain Rank (where 1 is most deprived)
Dunanney	84	116	87	92	43	711	385	306
Coole	103	148	90	107	71	816	233	199
Monkstown_1	117	208	123	112	55	612	160	264
Whitehouse	135	194	102	123	111	617	487	225
Carnmoney_1	165	245	143	170	69	547	482	362
Farranshane	178	329	158	148	138	300	760	77
Valley_2	184	272	179	174	75	662	475	170
Mossley_2	193	468	182	117	38	546	774	385
Glengormley_2	195	312	181	136	86	697	652	268

Source: NISRA

Income Deprivation Affecting Children (IDAC) is derived from the proportion of the population aged 15 and under living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

The table below highlights the top 25% most deprived Super Output Areas within the Antrim and Newtownabbey Local Government District. This table is sorted in descending order of Multiple Deprivation rank and is based on the 2017 Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measures.

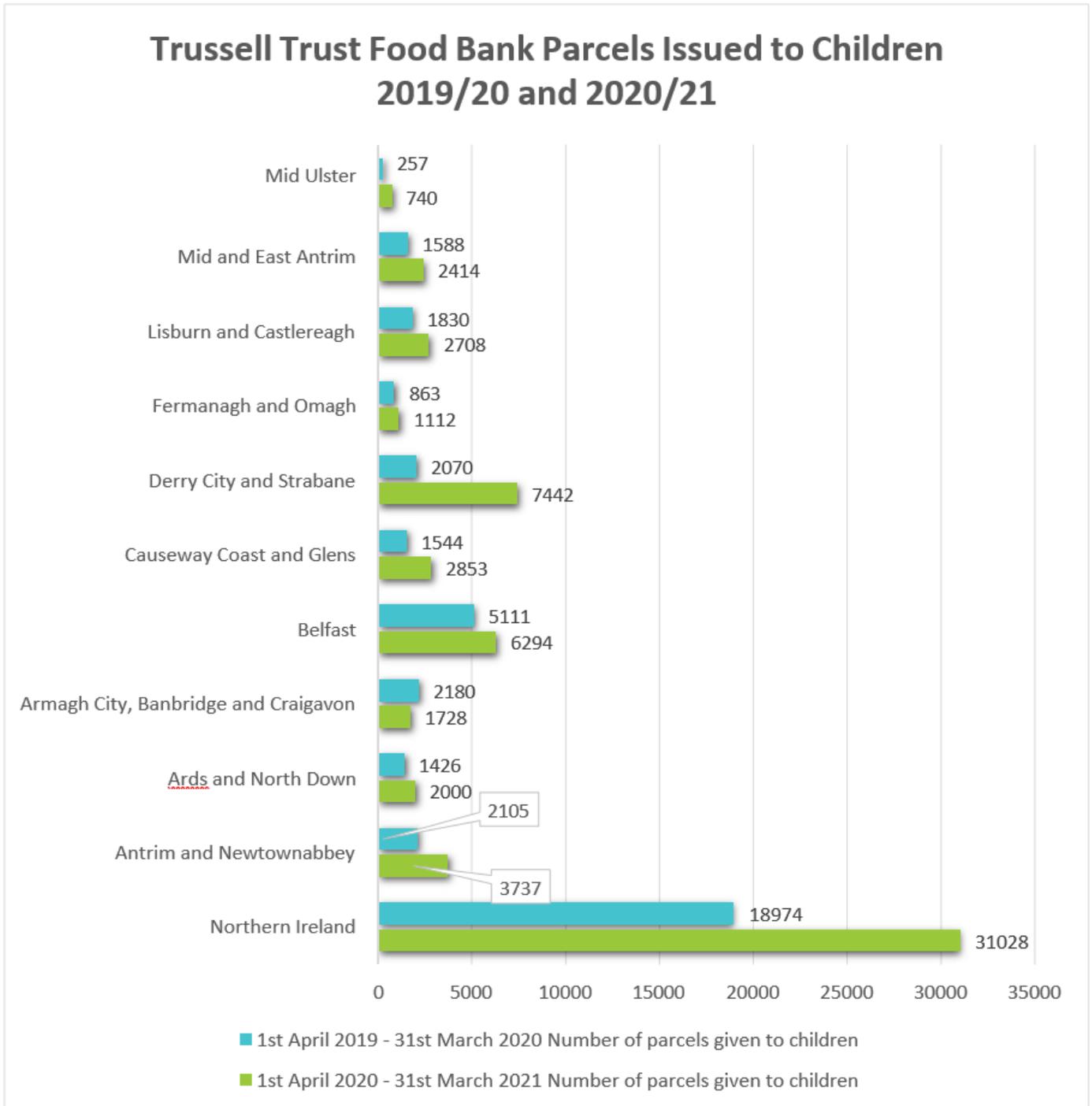
Table 3 - Income Deprivation Affecting Children (IDAC) Top 25%

SOA Name	IDAC Rank	IDAC %
Whitehouse	52	27.8%
Carnmoney_1	117	24.7%
Coole	131	24.3%
Greystone	212	22.5%

Source: NISRA

The chart below shows that Antrim & Newtownabbey ranks third amongst local councils in terms of food parcels issued to children

Chart 5 – Food Bank Parcel Distribution for Children (2019 – 2020 and 2020 –2021)

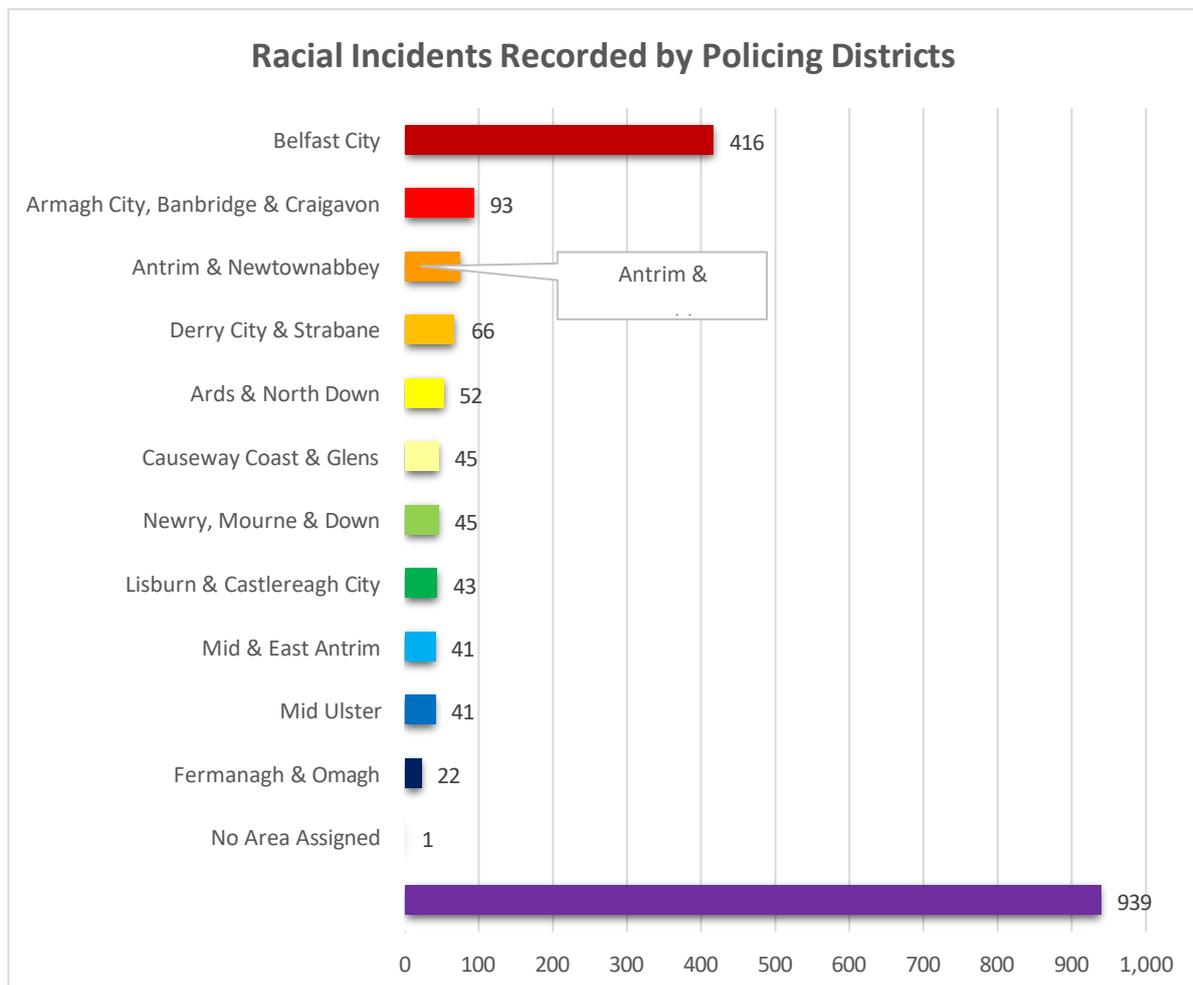


Living in Safety

Antrim & Newtownabbey was one of only 3 LGDs to show an increase in Racial incidents between 2019 and 2020.

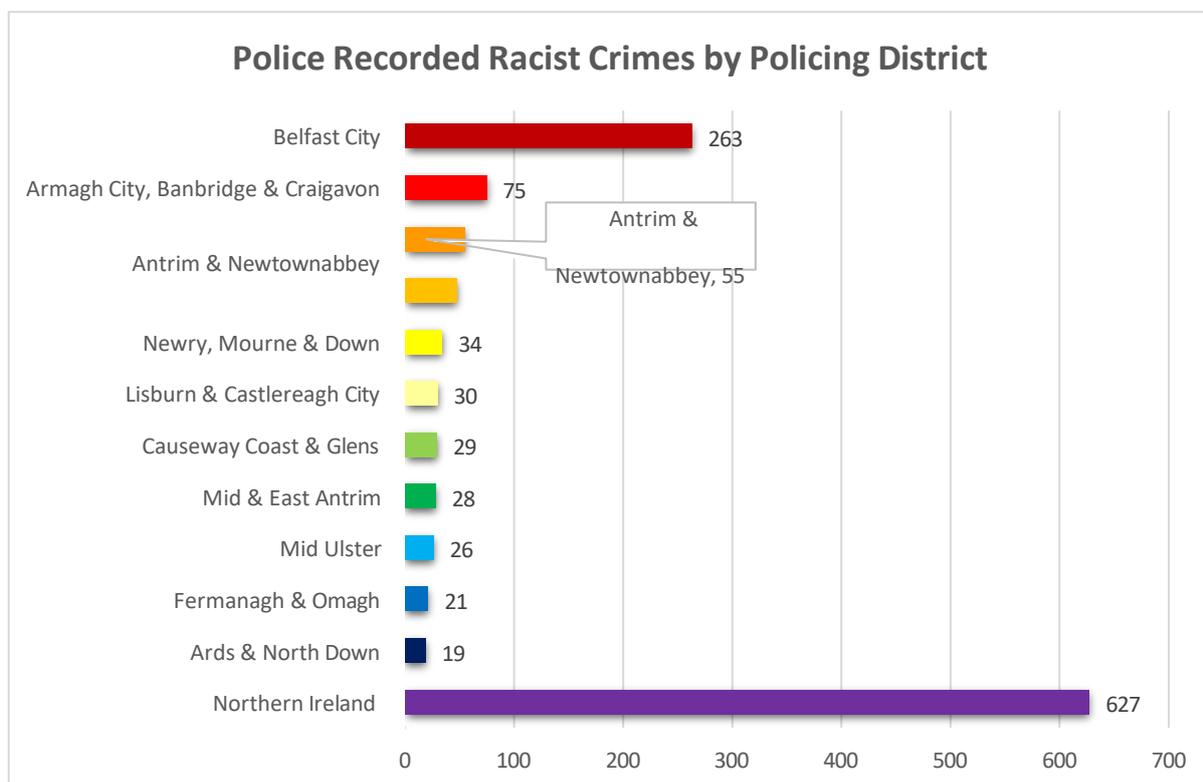
Policing District	Jan 19 – Dec 19	Jan 20 – Dec 20	Difference
Belfast City	409	416	7
Lisburn & Castlereagh City	45	43	-2
Ards & North Down	54	52	-2
Newry, Mourne & Down	47	45	-2
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	88	93	5
Mid Ulster	59	41	-18
Fermanagh & Omagh	37	22	-15
Derry City & Strabane	54	66	12
Causeway Coast & Glens	50	45	-5
Mid & East Antrim	78	41	-37
Antrim & Newtownabbey	64	74	10
No Area Assigned	0	1	1
Northern Ireland	985	939	-46

The total number of racial incidents was third highest amongst LGDs.

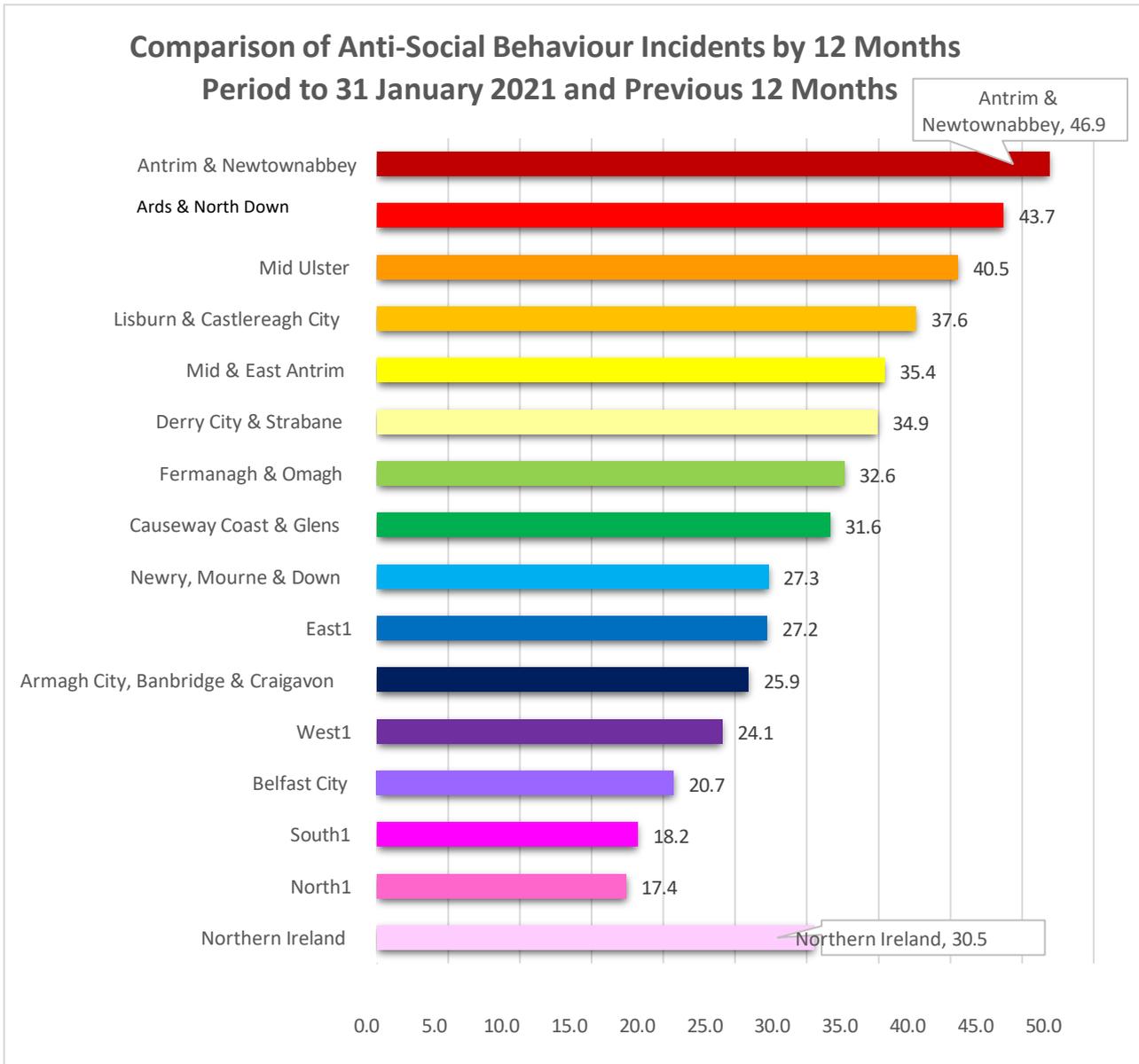


Antrim & Newtownabbey had the third highest increase in Racial crimes during this period and the third highest total of racial crimes overall.

Policing District	Jan 19 – Dec 19	Jan 20 – Dec 20	Difference
Belfast City	262	263	1
Lisburn & Castlereagh City	28	30	2
Ards & North Down	30	19	-11
Newry, Mourne & Down	33	34	1
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	58	75	17
Mid Ulster	44	26	-18
Fermanagh & Omagh	24	21	-3
Derry City & Strabane	34	47	13
Causeway Coast & Glens	28	29	1
Mid & East Antrim	76	28	-48
Antrim & Newtownabbey	45	55	10
Northern Ireland	662	627	-35



Antrim & Newtownabbey had the highest increase in Anti-Social Behaviour incidents in the 12 months to January 2021.





Appendix 4: DEA Profiles

Key Facts

- 7267 young people aged under 25
- 3473 fall within the key youth service priority age bands of 9-13 and 14-18
- 15% of young people below the age of 16 live in households whose income is below 60% of the Northern Ireland median
- 12.2% of working age population are employment deprived
- 16% of school leaver go on to Further Education (Northern Ireland 27%)
- 53% of Free School Meals Entitled school leavers attain 5 GCSES including English & Maths (Northern Ireland 60%)
- 732 Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents recorded in 2020-21
- 7 crimes with a racial motivation in 2020-21
- 5 crimes with a sectarian motivation in 2020-21
- 145 crimes with a domestic abuse motivation in 2020-21

Current Education Authority funded Youth Provision

- Crumlin Youth Centre
- Antrim & Crumlin Area Youth Worker
- Flare Senior Youth Worker

Survey/Consultation findings

Participation

- Lack of facilities; Young people in Crumlin commented on the youth club only being opened on a part-time basis. The young people had identified a need for the youth to open full-time, at least 5 days per week, including Saturday. Also, that at least 2 nights were set aside as a senior nights (age 14+). They also identified a need for more residentials, and trips organised throughout the year, but particularly for summer.
- Young mums group identified needs included information/training on relationships, sexual health, parenting, CVs, Job interview skills, and when accessing training that childcare was available so they could attend the courses.
- Rural isolation - Young people identified different types of isolation, one area was rural isolation and transport to and from youth centres. This included transport to the youth centre, if transport was available and sometimes parents were unable to give young people a lift to the centre. But also, the times public transport was available in rural areas and when that transport finished for the evening. The question was asked if Youth Service could provide transport to meet these needs?
- NEET - drop-in style café/provision for NEET young people.

Health and Wellbeing

- Access to services for physical activities e.g. Football Pitches
- Food Poverty – Youth Centre food bank, Fair share allotment, Grow food, Healthy cooking

Learning and Achieving

- Accreditation/training: Topics identified include relationships, sexual health, parenting, CVs, Job interview skills, YSWQ, OCNs in Health and Well-being, Managing Personal Finances, Health and Well-Being, Bullying, IT, Cooking Skills, , Internet Safety, OCN Level 1 Youth Development/Level 2 Youth Leadership, Good Relations, Mindfulness/Emotional Health and Well-being, CSE, First Aid, John Muir Awards

Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity, including Good Relations

- Young people said that youth clubs should be a welcoming and safe space for newcomers and other marginalised young people. That youth clubs don't just say they are inclusive, but actively reach out to young people who may not know of the service or who don't know how to get involved.
- Outreach – Engage with Newcomers, LGBTQIA+, Young People with disabilities, Children who are Looked After to provide bespoke programmes and help to engage in universal services
- Gender Identity - To have up to date information and training for young and staff on gender issues. To consider things like gender neutral toilets in youth clubs.
- Gender Identity - Young people commented on school and the youth club about being bullied if they were different and wanting or seeing the need to have a safe place where they or their friends could be accepted and be themselves. Some comments about not having a register with boys and girls on it these were outdated. Also comments on the attitudes of some staff and other young people. The need not only to display posters, but to show actions.
- LGBTQ Regular training, workshops, and awareness sessions for all young people and staff in youth clubs so that LGBTQ+ young people feel safe and valued.

Living in Safety and Stability

- Young people felt safe in their own areas but were keen to visit other areas and build up relationships so they could feel safe crossing different areas in Antrim.
- Diversionary programmes that educate young people about anti-social behaviour and its consequences

Environment and Climate

- Environment Suggestions from young people of clean up days in the local areas and across areas to bring together youth service, councils, local people. Tree planting, growing veg. Bringing in Outdoor Learning Service and promoting the environment.

Summary

Centre based delivery times should be modified in line with consultations with young people and take into account the impact that living in rural areas has on young people's mobility.

Key Inclusion issues need addressed with LGBTQIA+, Young Parents, Newcomers and Rurally Isolated young people being a priority.

Programmes should include a focus on physical and emotional health and wellbeing.

Young people should have opportunities to engage with other communities and build positive relationships.

Young people should have the opportunity to engage with others within their own communities, build positive relationships, and be more aware of the impact of their actions e.g. inter-generational work, Anti-Social Behaviour.

Young people should have relevant vocational training opportunities, accredited and non-accredited.

Environmental impacts should be included within all programmes.

Key Facts

- 7684 young people aged under 25
- 3439 fall within the key youth service priority age bands of 9-13 and 14-18
- 16% of young people below the age of 16 live in households whose income is below 60% of the Northern Ireland median
- 21% of working age population are employment deprived
- 73% of 18-21 year olds are not enrolled in Higher or Further Education
- 7.6% absenteeism in Post-Primary schools
- 29.9% of post-primary pupils are eligible for free school meals (NI average 27.2%)
- 47% of school leaver attain 2 A-Levels or equivalent (Northern Ireland 60%)
- 69% of school leavers attain 5 GCSES including English & Maths (Northern Ireland 78%)
- 53% of Free School Meals Entitled school leavers attain 5 GCSES including English & Maths (Northern Ireland 60%)
- 90% of school leavers attain 5 GCSEs or equivalent (Northern Ireland 92%)
- 76% of Free School Meals Entitled school leavers attain 5 GCSEs or equivalent (Northern Ireland 84%)
- 405 newcomer pupils, 76% at primary (Northern Ireland 69%)
- Standardised preventable death ratio 127 (base 100)
- The standardised admission rate for alcohol related issues is 1191 per 100,000 population. (Northern Ireland 659)
- The standardised admission rate for self-harm is 304 per 100,000 population. (Northern Ireland 117).
- 1257 Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents recorded in 2020-21
- 25 crimes with a racial motivation in 2020-21
- 4 crimes with a sectarian motivation in 2020-21
- 2 crimes with a homophobic motivation in 2020-21
- 286 crimes with a domestic abuse motivation in 2020-21

Current Education Authority funded Youth Provision

- Parkhall Youth Centre
- Antrim & Crumlin Area Youth Worker
- Antrim & Randalstown Area Youth Worker
- Ballycraig Youth Centre
- FLARE Senior Youth Worker
- REACH Youth Worker
- Bytes Antrim Town Detached Workers
- Rathenraw Youth Programme

Survey/Consultation findings

Participation

- Young people identified a need for more residentials, and trips organised throughout the year, but particularly for summer.
- Young people spoke of limited opening times of project or youth club, specific age groups which excluded them on a particular evening, activities that were boring, limited trips, no residentials or exchanges which they had participated on previously and activities that were too young for their age group.

Antrim DEA

- Isolation - Young people spoke of other young people they knew who seemed to be isolated in their homes because they were addicted to gaming or because they lacked the confidence to come to the youth club or felt the youth club wasn't a place where they felt included.
- Newcomers - Educational Programmes - need to tackle Racist attitudes and behaviours, safe spaces for new-comers, integrated programmes.
- LGBTQIA+ – bespoke support and safe spaces need to be made available, more educational programmes specifically for this group of young people, better links with LGBTQ service providers

Health and Wellbeing

- Self-harm/Emotional Health -There has been a large increase in visible self-injury across the Antrim DEA. From FLARE Consultations with young people, there is a notable need for development through Small Support under the Emotional Health & Well Being Framework around Family Mental Health, resilience, and coping mechanisms for young people.
- Working Parents Poverty – there has been a large increase in young people attending provisions speaking out on the poverty in their homes and the fear for winter with cost of living increases. The need for the Young People within the Youth Service Provisions is that they need to access spaces that provide warmth and food provisions and development of relationships with parents and families who may need support, guidance or signposted.

Learning and Achieving

- Accreditation/training: Topics identified include relationships, sexual health, parenting, CVs, Job interview skills, YSWQ, OCNs in Health and Well-being, Managing Personal Finances, Health and Well-Being, Bullying, IT.
- The opportunity to do Maths and English in club, as some young people are not getting support doing homework at home.

Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity, including Good Relations

- Inclusion: Young people said that youth clubs should be a welcoming and safe space for newcomers and other marginalised young people. That youth clubs don't just say they are inclusive, but actively reach out to young people who may not know of the service or who don't know how to get involved.
- Gender Identity - To have up to date information and training for young people and staff on gender issues. To consider things like gender neutral toilets in youth clubs.
- Gender Identity - Young people commented on school and the youth club about being bullied if they were different and wanting or seeing the need to have a safe place where they or their friends could be accepted and be themselves. Some comments about not having a register with boys and girls on it these were outdated. Also comments on the attitudes of some staff and other young people. The need not only to display posters, but to show actions.
- LGBTQIA+ - Regular training, workshops, and awareness sessions for all young people and staff in youth clubs so that LGBTQIA+ young people feel safe and valued.
- LGBTQIA+: Parental acceptance / fear of 'coming out' / acceptance of others. There is a need to empower LGBTQIA+ young people to confidently challenge barriers they are facing, in relation to feeling safe in their communities / speaking openly about themselves. Young people have discussed with staff that they feel other young people do not understand or accept their chosen pronouns. There is also a need to educate in a wider context on acceptance and understanding of others, with inclusivity of LGBTQIA+

Antrim DEA

- Newcomers – There have been successful projects in the area that helped support young people who are newcomers to link in and access local services which they would never have attended on their own.

Living in Safety and Stability

- Most young people felt safe in their own areas but were keen to visit other areas and build up relationships so they could feel safe crossing different areas in Antrim. They don't like to cross invisible lines e.g. from one estate to another.
- Sectarianism, young people felt that there is an issue with parents not letting their kids mix with people from different backgrounds and religion.
- Paramilitarism- some young people reported on not feeling safe in their area, feeling under threat or under pressure and issues around paramilitary groups still recruiting.
- Anti-social Behaviour in areas.

Environment and Climate

- Environment Suggestions from young people of clean up days in the local areas and across areas to bring together youth service, councils, local people. Tree planting, growing veg. Bringing in Outdoor Learning Service and promoting the environment.

Summary

Centre based delivery times should be modified in line with consultations with young people.

Key Inclusion issues need addressed with LGBTQIA+, Newcomers and Socially Isolated young people being a priority.

Programmes should include a focus on physical and emotional health and wellbeing.

Bespoke Emotional Health and Wellbeing programmes targeting young people who self-harm.

Programmes targeting bullying with emphasis on gender identity.

Young people should have opportunities to engage with other communities and build positive relationships.

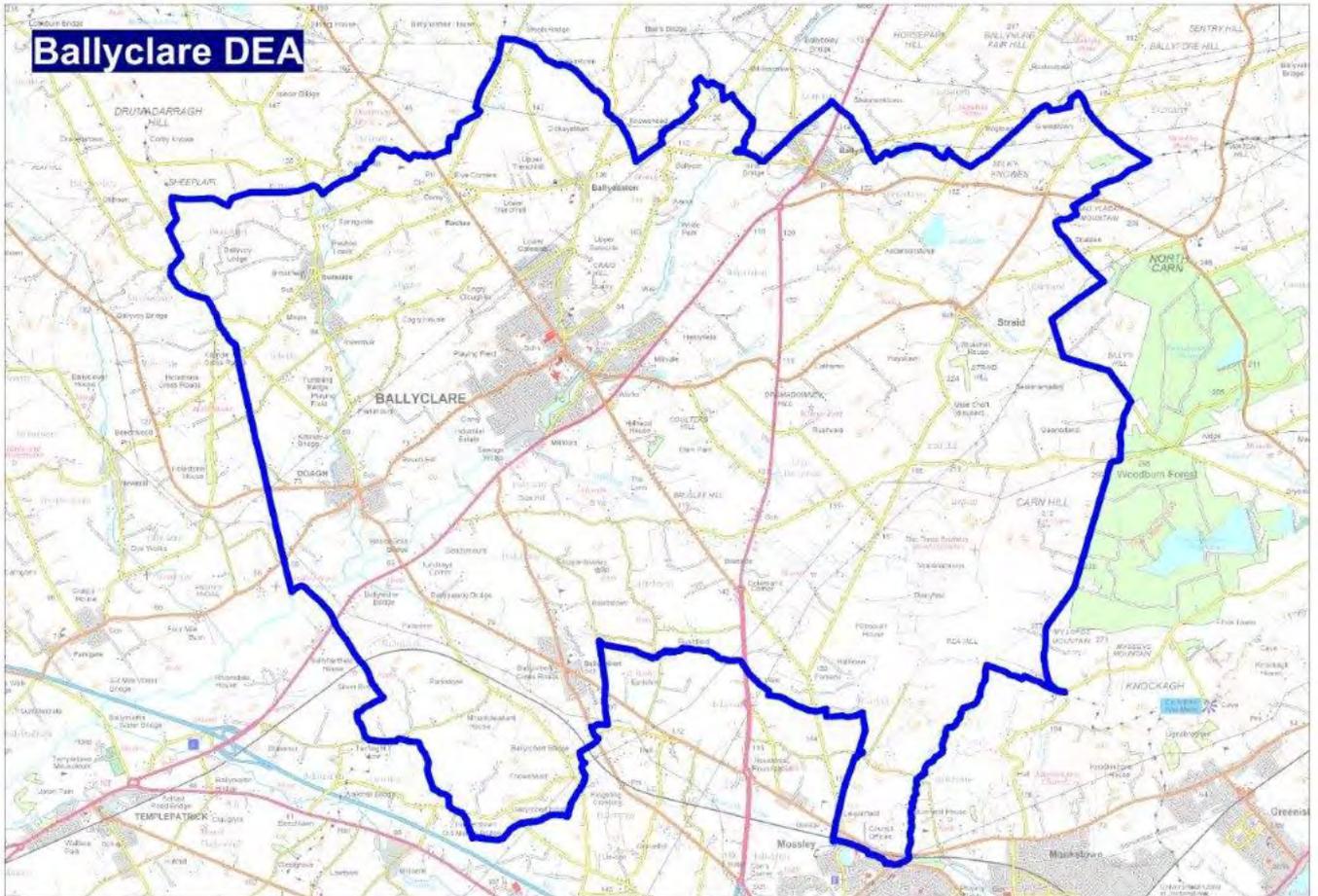
Young people should have the opportunity to engage with others within their own communities, build positive relationships, and be more aware of the impact of their actions e.g. Anti-Social Behaviour.

Support for young people experiencing the influence of paramilitaries.

Young people should have relevant vocational training opportunities, accredited and non-accredited.

Environmental impacts should be included within all programmes.

Ballyclare DEA



Key Facts

- 5801 young people aged under 25
- 2737 fall within the key youth service priority age bands of 9-13 and 14-18
- 14% of young people below the age of 16 live in households whose income is below 60% of the Northern Ireland median
- 14% of working age population are employment deprived
- 77% of school leavers attain 5 GCSEs including English & Maths (Northern Ireland 78%)
- 53% of Free School Meals Entitled school leavers attain 5 GCSEs including English & Maths (Northern Ireland 60%)
- 85% of school leavers attain 5 GCSEs or equivalent (Northern Ireland 92%)
- 52% of Free School Meals Entitled school leavers attain 5 GCSEs or equivalent including English & Maths (Northern Ireland 60%)
- 7% of school leavers are unemployed (Northern Ireland 45)
- 627 Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents recorded in 2020-21
- 4 crimes with a racial motivation in 2020-21
- 2 crimes with a sectarian motivation in 2020-21
- 111 crimes with a domestic abuse motivation in 2020-21
- The Grange Neighbourhood Renewal Area is within this DEA.

Current Education Authority funded Youth Provision

- Newtownabbey North Area Youth Worker
- FLARE Senior Youth Worker
- REACH Youth Worker
- Greater Ballyclare Youth for Christ

Survey/Consultation findings

Participation

- Access to centre based provision with the space to provide a range of physical and creative programmes.
- Significant numbers of detached young people who don't engage in centre based services.
- Significant numbers of young people with ADHD/Autism who need support engaging with services.
- Impact of transport links between outlying villages.

Health and Wellbeing

- Young people need support to cope with living with family members who have mental health issues.
- Significant numbers of young people using high levels of alcohol.
- High smoking rates amongst young people aged 13+, also vaping.
- High levels of recreational drug use amongst young people aged 13+.
- Impact of food poverty on young people
- Self-harm

Learning and Achieving

- CV building/Knowledge of training and apprenticeships
- How to Cook/Budget planning/Lifeskills
- Job/Volunteering opportunities

Ballyclare DEA

Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity, including Good Relations

- Young parents group identified needs included information/training on relationships, sexual health, parenting, CVs, Job interview skills, and when accessing training that childcare was available so they could attend the courses
- Intergenerational work to alleviate tensions between younger and older people; to break down barriers and build respect.

Living in Safety and Stability

- Safety lighting in rural areas especially between the villages of Doagh, Burnside, and Ballynure.
- High levels of Anti-Social Behaviour in Centenary Way area.

Summary

Centre based delivery times should be modified in line with consultations with young people and take into account the impact that living in rural areas has on young people's mobility.

Key Inclusion issues need addressed with SEN, Young Parents, and Rurally Isolated young people being a priority.

Programmes should include a focus on physical and emotional health and wellbeing.

Key health issues around Alcohol, Drug, Smoking and Vape use need addressed.

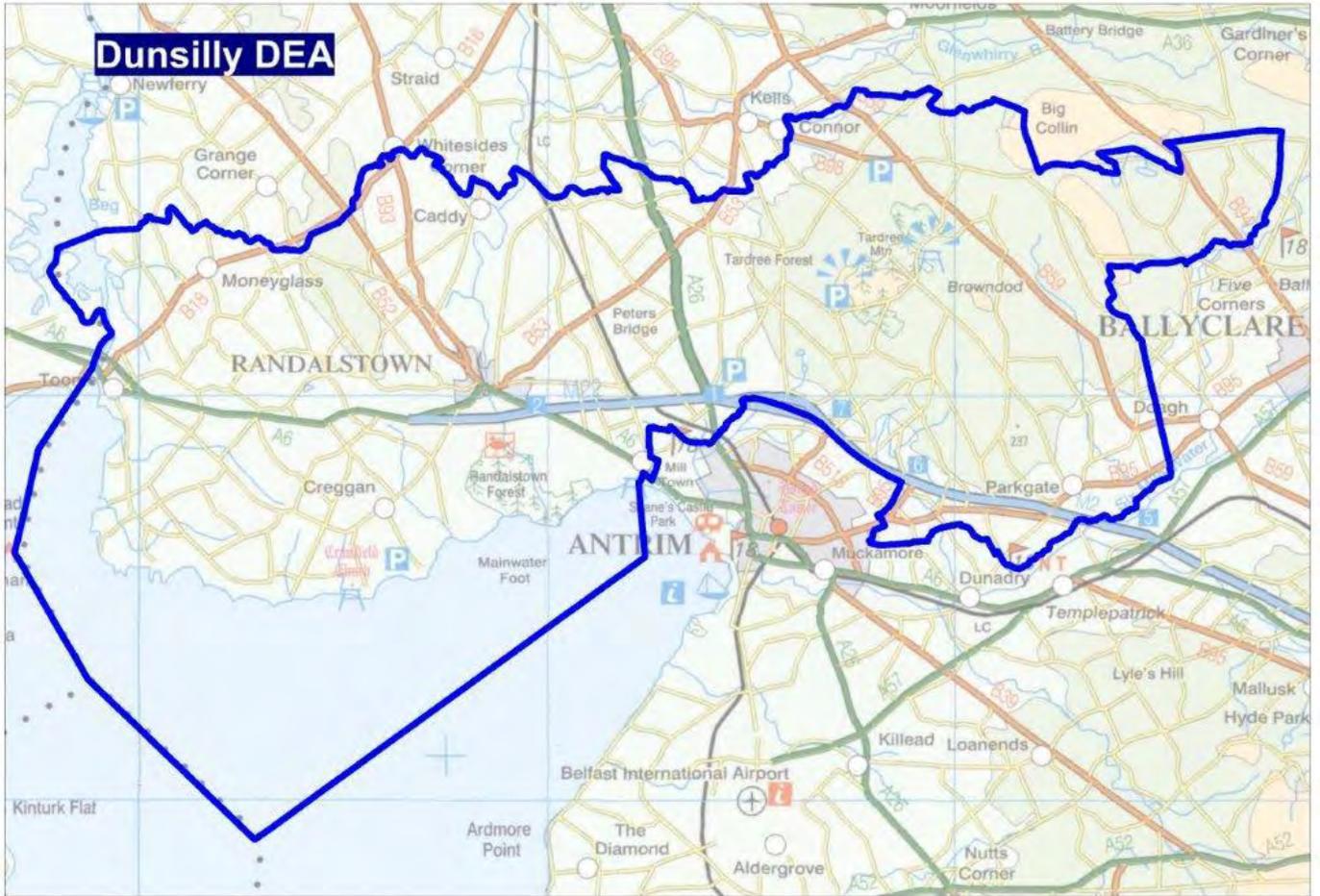
Young people should have the opportunity to engage with others within their own communities, build positive relationships, and be more aware of the impact of their actions e.g. inter-generational work, Anti-Social Behaviour.

Young people should have relevant vocational training opportunities, accredited and non-accredited.

Young people should have the opportunity for Lifeskills programmes focused on independent living.

Environmental impacts should be included within all programmes.

Dunsilly DEA



Key Facts

- 5646 young people aged under 25
- 2760 fall within the key youth service priority age bands of 9-13 and 14-18
- 16% of young people below the age of 16 live in households whose income is below 60% of the Northern Ireland median
- 14.5% of working age population are employment deprived
- 8% of school leavers go onto employment (Northern Ireland 10.6%)
- The standardised admission rate for self-harm is 158 per 100,000 population. (Northern Ireland 117).
- 393 Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents recorded in 2020-21
- 3 crimes with a racial motivation in 2020-21
- 2 crimes with a sectarian motivation in 2020-21
- 2 crimes with a homophobic motivation in 2020-21
- 98 crimes with a domestic abuse motivation in 2020-21

Current Education Authority funded Youth Provision

- Antrim & Randalstown Area Youth Worker
- FLARE Senior Youth Worker
- REACH Youth Worker

Survey/Consultation findings

Participation

- Lack of services – Young people spoke of limited opening times of project or youth club, no weekend youth provision, specific age groups which excluded them on a particular evening, activities that were boring, limited trips, no residentials or exchanges which they had participated on previously and activities that were too young for their age group.
- Rural isolation - Young people identified different types of isolation, one area was rural isolation and transport to and from youth centres. This included transport to the youth centre, if transport was available and sometimes parents were unable to give young people a lift to the centre. But also, the times public transport was available in rural areas and when that transport finished for the evening.

Health and Wellbeing

- Isolation rural areas between Randalstown and Toome
- Drugs/Alcohol misuse

Learning and Achieving

- Accreditation/training: Topics identified include relationships, sexual health, parenting, CVs, Job interview skills, YSWQ, OCNs in Health and Well-being, Managing Personal Finances, Health and Well-Being, Bullying, IT.

Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity, including Good Relations

- Young mums group identified needs included information/training on relationships, sexual health, parenting, CVs, Job interview skills, and when accessing training that childcare was available so they could attend the courses.
- Newcomers – There have been successful projects in the area that helped support young people who are newcomers to link in and access local services which they would never have attended on their own.

Dunsilly DEA

- Gender Identity - Young people commented on school and the youth club about being bullied if they were different and wanting or seeing the need to have a safe place where they or their friends could be accepted and be themselves. Some comments about not having a register with boys and girls on it these were outdated. Also comments on the attitudes of some staff and other young people. The need not only to display posters, but to show actions.

Living in Safety and Stability

- Young people felt there is a lack of community cohesion/sense of belonging - Some young people commented on how they don't feel part of their own community. Also, how they are viewed by the local community and labelled anti-social if there hanging around the street. Even if they don't cause trouble.
- Young people felt safe in their own areas but were keen to visit other areas and build up relationships so they could feel safe crossing different areas in Antrim.

Summary

Young people need signposted to local youth services taking into account the impact that living in rural areas has on young people's mobility.

Key Inclusion issues need addressed with LGBTQIA+, Young Parents, Newcomers and Rurally Isolated young people being a priority.

Programmes should include a focus on physical and emotional health and wellbeing.

Key health issues around Alcohol, Drug, Smoking and Vape use need addressed.

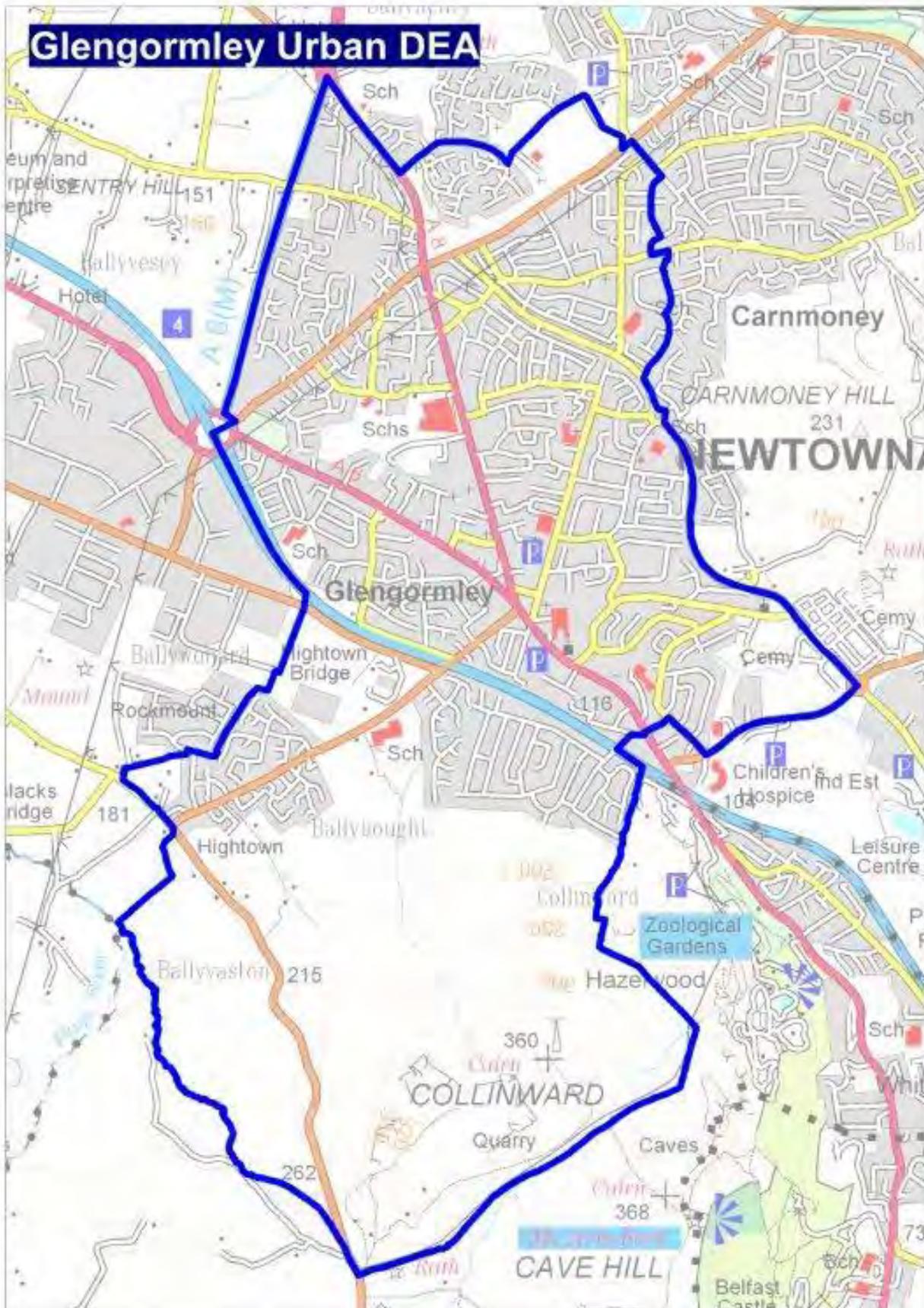
Young people should have opportunities to engage with other communities and build positive relationships.

Young people should have the opportunity to engage with others within their own communities, build positive relationships, and be more aware of the impact of their actions e.g. inter-generational work.

Young people should have relevant vocational training opportunities, accredited and non-accredited.

Environmental impacts should be included within all programmes.

Glengormley Urban DEA



Glengormley Urban DEA

Key Facts

- 6775 young people aged under 25
- 3174 fall within the key youth service priority age bands of 9-13 and 14-18
- 14.5% of young people below the age of 16 live in households whose income is below 60% of the Northern Ireland median
- 15.4% of working age population are employment deprived
- 5.2% of school leavers are not in employment, education, or training
- 18.6% of school leavers go onto Further Education (Northern Ireland 27%)
- 9.8% of school leavers are unemployed (Northern Ireland 4%)
- 715 newcomer pupils, 30% at post-primary (Northern Ireland 21%)
- The standardised admission rate for self-harm is 180 per 100,000 population. (Northern Ireland 117).
- 756 Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents recorded in 2020-21
- 5 crimes with a racial motivation in 2020-21
- 10 crimes with a sectarian motivation in 2020-21
- 2 crimes with a homophobic motivation in 2020-21
- 207 crimes with a domestic abuse motivation in 2020-21

Current Education Authority funded Youth Provision

- Glengormley Youth Resource Centre
- Newtownabbey North Area Youth Worker
- FLARE Senior Youth Worker
- REACH Youth Worker
- ENGAGE Area Youth Worker

Survey/Consultation findings

Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity, including Good Relations

- **Gender Identity:** Education around challenging language needs to be undertaken with staff and young people. There are numbers of young people who are questioning their gender identity who do not feel comfortable or safe to speak about this often.
- **Young Mum's Social Exclusion** We have identified that young parents, linked with the Family Nursing Partnership are facing a lack of socialisation from peers and lack of accessibility to services for support and opportunities. Through consultations with these young people, there is a lack of knowledge regarding their entitlements to Government Support, Social Housing, and a concern in speaking to professionals e.g. doctors, health visitors, etc... about support or advice that they need. The parents have a lack of self-confidence in themselves and their abilities, with a fear of being judged. This has linked into postnatal mental health, with a number of young parents that we have consulted having a mental health diagnosis. There is a high need for a safe space to work with the parents to support and address these needs.
- **Newcomers** – numbers of refugees attending Glengormley High School, opportunities for them to integrate into youth services.
- **Homophobia** impact on young people who identify as LGBTQIA+

Health and Wellbeing

- **Self-Injury/Suicide,** FLARE consultation identify numbers of young people with visible self-injury and young people affected by or contemplating suicide.
- **Vaping,** high numbers of young people aged 10+ have developed habitual use of vapes.

Glengormley Urban DEA

Learning and Achieving

- Opportunity for work experiences.

Living in Safety and Stability

- Paramilitarism, young people feeling controlled by paramilitaries in their areas.
- Sectarianism, mistrust of those from neighbouring areas resulting in lack of contact and aggression.

Summary

Centre based delivery times should be modified in line with consultations with young people and take into account the impact that living in rural areas has on young people's mobility.

Key Inclusion issues need addressed with LGBTQIA+, Young Parents, and Newcomers young people being a priority.

Key health issues around Vape use need addressed.

Bespoke Emotional Health and Wellbeing programmes targeting young people who self-harm.

Programmes should include a focus on physical and emotional health and wellbeing.

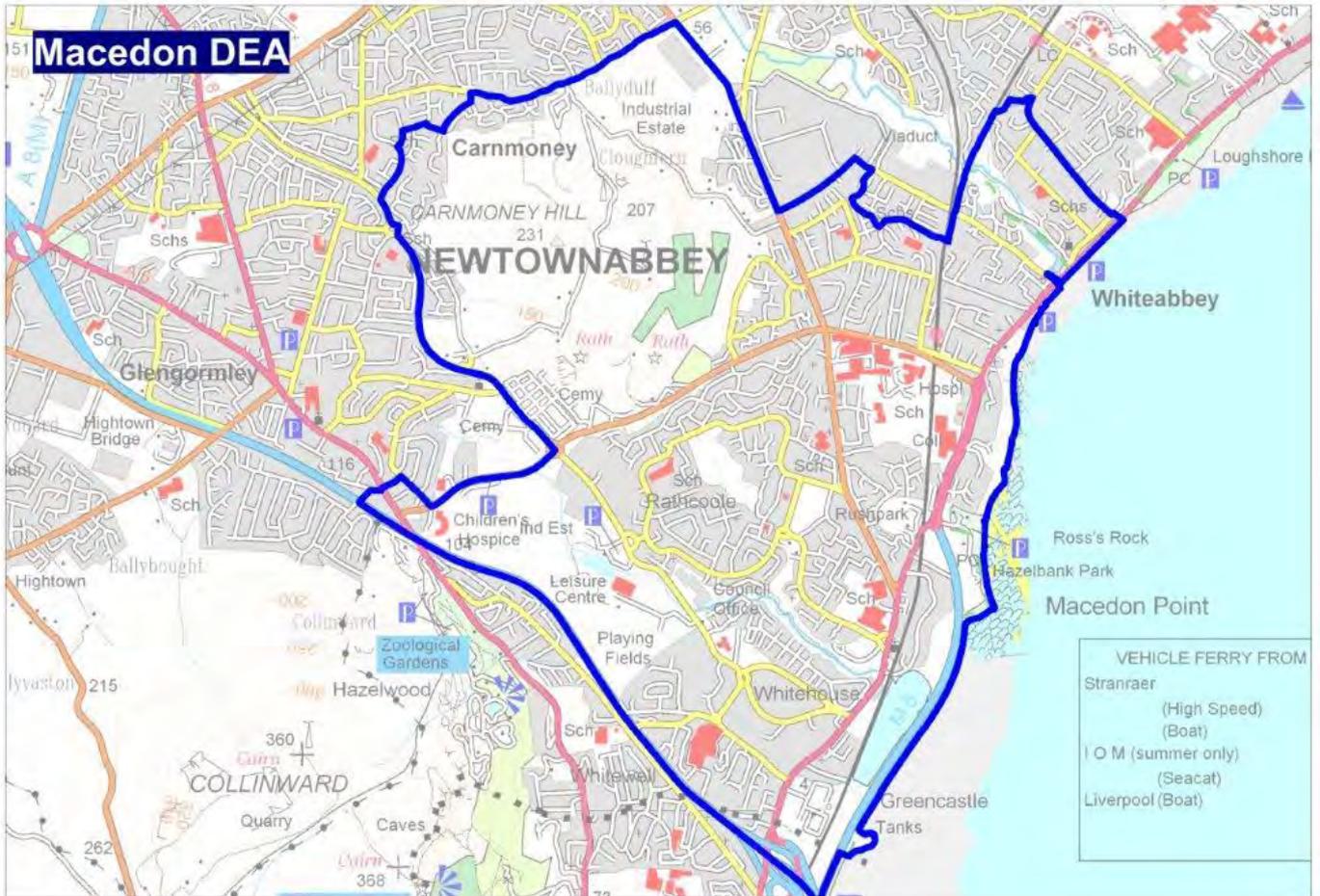
Young people should have opportunities to engage with other communities and build positive relationships.

Support for young people experiencing the influence of paramilitaries.

Young people should have relevant vocational training opportunities, accredited and non-accredited.

Environmental impacts should be included within all programmes.

Macedon DEA



Key Facts

- 6692 young people aged under 25
- 2972 fall within the key youth service priority age bands of 9-13 and 14-18
- 19% of young people below the age of 16 live in households whose income is below 60% of the Northern Ireland median
- 25.6% of working age population are employment deprived
- 4% of 16-18 year olds are not in Education, Employment or Training
- 77% of 18-21 year olds have not enrolled in Higher or Further education
- 39.2% of post-primary pupils are eligible for free school meals (NI average 27.2%)
- 8.2% absenteeism in post-primary school
- 50% of school leavers attain 2 A-Levels or equivalent (Northern Ireland 60%)
- 68% of school leavers attain 5 GCSEs including English & Maths (Northern Ireland 78%)
- 52% of Free School Meals Entitled school leavers attain 5 GCSEs including English & Maths (Northern Ireland 60%)
- 78% of Free School Meals Entitled school leavers attain 5 GCSEs or equivalent (Northern Ireland 84%)
- Standardised preventable death ratio 128 (base 100)
- The standardised admission rate for alcohol related issues is 1150 per 100,000 population. (Northern Ireland 659)
- The standardised admission rate for self-harm is 226 per 100,000 population. (Northern Ireland 117)
- Crude suicide rate 27 per 100,000 (Northern Ireland 16)
- 1001 Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents recorded in 2020-21
- 17 crimes with a racial motivation in 2020-21
- 11 crimes with a sectarian motivation in 2020-21
- 1 crimes with a homophobic motivation in 2020-21
- 274 crimes with a domestic abuse motivation in 2020-21
- Area includes Rathcoole Neighbourhood Renewal Area

Current Education Authority funded Youth Provision

- Rathcoole Youth Centre
- Millgreen Youth Centre
- Rathcoole Area Youth Worker
- Newtownabbey South Area Youth Worker
- Senior Youth Worker - Team Leader
- FLARE Senior Youth Worker
- REACH Youth Worker
- ENGAGE Senior Youth Worker

Survey/Consultation findings

Participation

- Safe space to relax and develop friendships

Health and Wellbeing

- Food poverty – young people presenting as hungry at youth centre due to lack of food in home
- Body image – obesity; lack of nutritious diets at home

- Bullying- lack of knowledge on what bullying is and its impact, identifying and signposting for those in need of support
- Drug/Alcohol misuse: Young people unaware of dangers of substance misuse, long term impact on health

Learning and Achieving

- Low Educational Attainment – training accreditation for English and Maths
- School pressures- young people needing to understand importance of education and building better rapport with teachers. Young people unaware how to manage exam pressure.
- Vocational training opportunities: Barista, Barbering/Hairdressing, Beauty
- Life skills: money management, cookery, transition to work

Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity, including Good Relations

- Young Mum's Social Exclusion We have identified that young parents, linked with the Family Nursing Partnership are facing a lack of socialisation from peers and lack of accessibility to services for support and opportunities. Through consultations with these young people, there is a lack of knowledge regarding their entitlements to Government Support, Social Housing, and a concern in speaking to professionals e.g. doctors, health visitors, about support or advice that they need. The parents have a lack of self-confidence in themselves and their abilities, with a fear of being judged. This has linked into postnatal mental health, with a number of young parents that we have consulted having a mental health diagnosis. There is a high need for a safe space to work with the young parents to support and address these needs.

Living in Safety and Stability

- Young Men and Violence - the impact of crime has in relation to their futures and opportunities with career paths
- Sectarianism: respect and awareness of other communities, violence along interface, need for community relations building along the interface particularly with young men
- Paramilitarism: coercive control and recruitment of young men, fear and negative impact on the communities

Summary

Centre based delivery times should be modified in line with consultations with young people and take into account the impact that living in rural areas has on young people's mobility.

Key Inclusion issues need addressed with Young Parents.

Programmes should include a focus on physical and emotional health and wellbeing.

Young people should have opportunities to engage with other communities and build positive relationships.

Young people should have the opportunity to engage with others within their own communities, build positive relationships, and be more aware of the impact of their actions e.g. inter-generational work, Anti-Social Behaviour.

Support for young people experiencing the influence of paramilitaries.

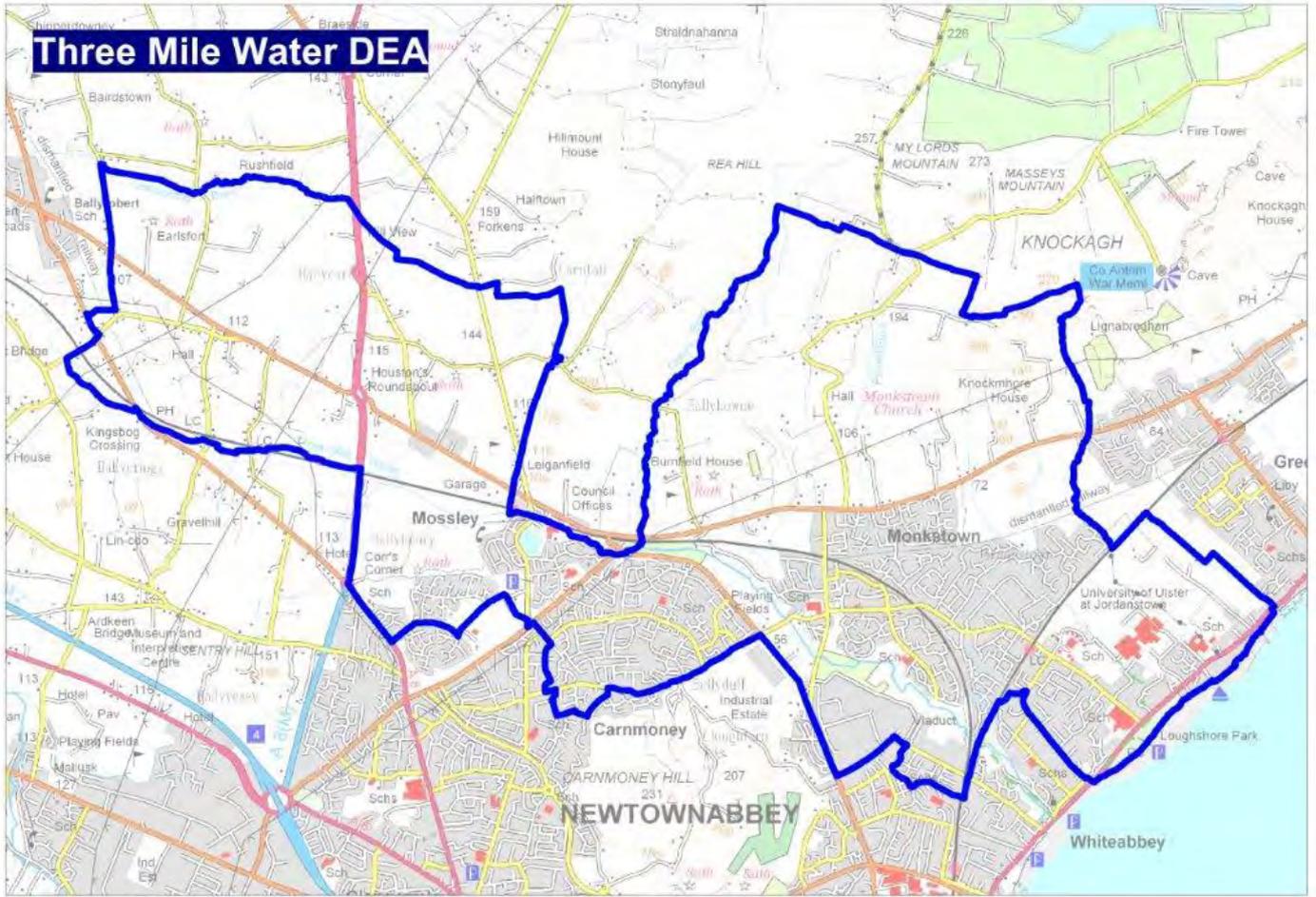
Programmes addressing for young men's attitudes towards violence

Young people should have relevant vocational training opportunities, accredited and non-accredited.

Macedon DEA

Environmental impacts should be included within all programmes.

Threemilewater DEA



Threemilewater DEA

Key Facts

- 7188 young people aged under 25
- 3598 fall within the key youth service priority age bands of 9-13 and 14-18
- 15% of young people below the age of 16 live in households whose income is below 60% of the Northern Ireland median
- 15.3% of working age population are employment deprived
- 72% of 18-21 year olds have not enrolled in Higher or Further education
- 17.5% of domestic dwellings are in a state of disrepair
- The standardised admission rate for self-harm is 165 per 100,000 population. (Northern Ireland 117).
- 549 Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents recorded in 2020-21
- 1 crimes with a homophobic motivation in 2020-21
- 4 crimes with a sectarian motivation in 2020-21
- 163 crimes with a domestic abuse motivation in 2020-21

Current Education Authority funded Youth Provision

- Bridge Youth Centre
- Ballyduff & New Mossley Area Youth Worker
- FLARE Senior Youth Worker
- REACH Youth Worker
- Monkstown Boxing Club Detached Project

Survey/Consultation findings

Participation

- Lack of youth provision in Ballyduff
- After school programmes
- Opportunities to engage in policy making

Health and Wellbeing

- Young people experiencing mental health issues, waiting list for CAMHS support.
- Young people expressing concerns on habitual alcohol and drug use.

Learning and Achieving

- Programmes available to develop personal skills
- Preparation for work
- Life skills to succeed in life after school
- Employability skills
- Leadership skills

Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity, including Good Relations

- Insular, lack of opportunity to meet with others from different communities, newcomers, those with different cultural backgrounds.

Living in Safety and Stability

- Sectarianism: respect and awareness of other communities, violence along interface, need for community relations building along the interface particularly with young men
- Paramilitarism: coercive control and recruitment of young men, fear and negative impact on the communities

Threemilewater DEA

Summary

Centre based delivery times should be modified in line with consultations with young people and take into account the impact that living in rural areas has on young people's mobility.

Key health issues need addressed around Alcohol and Drug use

Programmes should include a focus on physical and emotional health and wellbeing.

Support for young people experiencing the influence of paramilitaries.

Young people should have opportunities to engage with other communities and build positive relationships.

Young people should have the opportunity to engage with others within their own communities, build positive relationships, and be more aware of the impact of their actions e.g. inter-generational work, Anti-Social Behaviour.

Young people should have relevant vocational training opportunities, accredited and non-accredited.

Environmental impacts should be included within all programmes.

Youth Service