Armagh Banbridge Craigavon Community Planning Partnership

Community & Voluntary Sector Panel

Action Plan

May 2022

Theme 1: Mental Health and Wellbeing

Steering Group Lead: Colin Loughran

Action	Priorities / Deliverables
Promote mental health self-care of staff and volunteers within the CVSE sector	• Encourage the sharing of relevant self-care information and training opportunities among CVSP members and CVSE sector • Deliver self-care programmes for those from the CVSE sector involved in direct care and support provision • Support awareness raising within CVSE work places around the value of peer support and promote peer support opportunities for staff and volunteers within CVSE sector • Promote and support good practice approaches to delivering accessible MHW support to staff and volunteers within CVSE sector organisations, for example through effective supervision, reviewing work practices and boundaries and linking into policy
Work closely with Council and others to improve mental health awareness and capacity of communities throughout the Borough	• Support CVSP members and CVSE organisations to collaborate with the Council, PHA, Trust and other statutory partners to effectively circulate details of current MHW services and support pathways available in the Borough for the wider community • Work in partnership with Council and other statutory partners to strengthen collaborative responses to the mental health and wellbeing of residents across the Borough, particularly for prevention and early intervention
Support and enable the CVSE to better support the mental health and wellbeing of communities	• Collaborate with the CVSE sector to identify supports that will help them to better meet the mental health and wellbeing needs of their communities • Encourage the sharing of information about resources and opportunities that assist CVSE organisations to promote mental health and wellbeing • Highlight training and educational opportunities for the CVSE sector to develop skills and knowledge that help to promote positive health and wellbeing of communities across the borough

Theme 2: Anti-Poverty

Steering Group Lead: Chris Leech

Action	Priorities / Deliverables
Strengthen understanding within the CVSE sector of poverty in the Borough	• Facilitate conversation among the CVSP to explore how we think about poverty and social exclusion nationally and locally • Engage with idea of Poverty Truth Commission and how this can contribute to building understanding of poverty
Engage with CVSE sector to raise awareness and understanding of who is working on these issues and what they are doing	• Design and conduct a Survey of the CVSE sector across the Borough to identify the number and range of CVSE organisations actively seeking to address poverty issues and the nature of the actions being undertaken • Disseminate results and set up a live hub point/directory that can be updated • Represent CVSP on the CPSP actions on tackling poverty and social exclusion • Support networking of support and advice service providers
Facilitate an independent Anti-Poverty Forum for the Borough	• Research and create terms of reference for an Anti-Poverty and Social Inclusion Forum for the Borough • Establish an Anti-Poverty Forum for the Borough connecting CVSP members, other CVSE organisations and others into this

Theme 3: Place and Locality Planning

Steering Group Lead: Laura Wylie

Action	Priorities /Deliverables
Promote and encourage participation with Place planning processes	• Encourage CVSP members to promote and engage with place planning processes for their areas • Encourage engagement with Participatory Budgeting initiatives at local levels • Support and facilitate local communities to engage in locality planning processes for their areas
Ensure the diversity of voices within communities are heard and represented within place shaping and community planning processes including the CVSP	• Actively engage with underrepresented groups and facilitate their participation in the CVSP • Ensure geographical and sector representation on the CVSP Steering Group • Advocate for inclusive participatory practice across the CVSE sector and in community planning processes
Highlight key issues for communities at locality and borough wide levels	• Ensure that issues highlighted by CVSE organisation at local level through place shaping and locality planning processes are reflected back at a Borough wide level and inform thematic actions elsewhere in this Action Plan and the CPSP Response and Recovery Plan

Theme 4: Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability

Steering Group Leads: Brendan MacPartlin and Martin Stevenson

Action	Priorities/ Deliverables
Build awareness and understanding of the impacts of climate change	• Identify and encourage CVSE organisations that are working around climate action and sustainability to join the CVSP • Generate conversation among the CVSP to explore how we think about climate action and environmental sustainability globally, nationally and locally
Build capacity within the CVSE sector to develop environmentally just practices	• Education and awareness raising climate action tools for the CVSE sector • Raise awareness of available expertise/organisations that can help and support with changing practices • explore actions that encourages sustainable practices and carbon offsetting and identify a number of key Good practice actions that CVS could take; for examples see comments
Identify and encourage collaborative actions across sectors to promote climate justice	• Develop a CVSP position statement on taking climate change seriously – and publicise to encourage discussion and wider consideration and collaboration across sectors • Promote and encourage CVSE orgs to benefit from new green funding streams

Theme 5: Strengthening the CVSE Sector

Steering Group Lead: Donna Stewart

Action	Priorities/ Deliverables
Support leadership development and co-design capacity within the CVSE sector	• Deliver Leadership development programme for CVSP and CVSE members • Support CVSE peer support and networking opportunities within the borough • Strengthen succession planning within the CVSE by supporting efforts to attract younger people in to volunteering and community activity
Promote and raise awareness of the role, purpose and contribution of the CVSP with the wider CVSE sector and with other sectors across the borough	• Prepare and deliver presentation on the CVSE and role and purpose of the CVSP to a Council meeting • Prepare and deliver presentation on the CVSE and role and purpose of the CVSP to the CPSP statutory partners • Produce a promotional leaflet/video about the role and purpose of the CVSP • Develop CVSP social media accounts (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram as appropriate) • Produce a regular Newsletter for the CVSP
Promote the CVSE sector as a vibrant and creative environment to work	• Profile the members of the CVSP and what each of the member organisations does on the Community Planning website • Design and conduct a skills survey of CVSE sector in the borough to identify strengths, support needs and development actions that would strengthen the CVSE sector • Showcase the breadth of what the CVSE sector does in the borough by hosting a half day development fair – drawing on the skills and knowledge within the CVSE in the borough • Link in with Careers and Employment fairs for schools to promote the sector as a career route for young people
Support and encourage volunteering across the borough	• Engage with CVSE organisations to raise awareness of and promote good practice with recruitment, retention and support of volunteers • Promote volunteering development opportunities such as the EPIC Awards • Support efforts to engage volunteers in identifying what the issues, needs and supports are • Link with Age Alliance and Loneliness Network