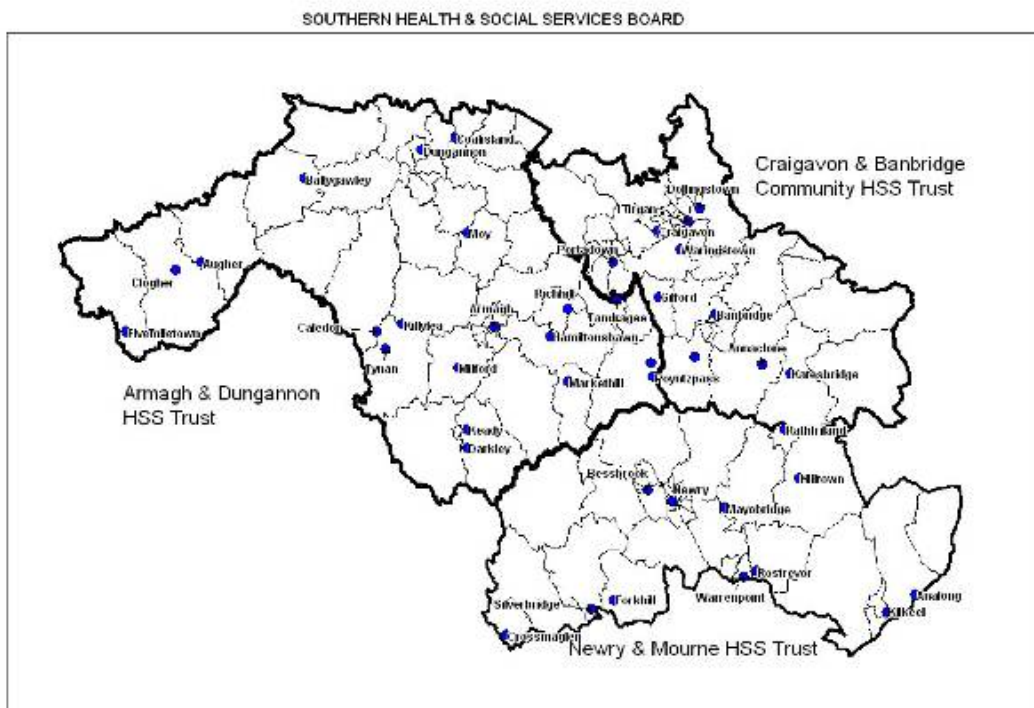


Southern Area Article 20 Review 2004

- Armagh & Dungannon HSS Trust
- Craigavon & Banbridge HSS Trust
- Newry & Mourne HSS Trust
- Southern Childcare Partnership



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Contents

	<u>Page</u>
• Foreword	4
• Why Review?	5
• Where Are We Now? An Overview of Early Years Services in the Southern Area	7
• Armagh & Dungannon Review of Provision	27
– Executive Summary	28
– Profile of Armagh & Dungannon HSS Trust	31
– Local Provision	33
– Armagh City Electoral District	37
– Orchard Electoral District	41
– Crossmore Electoral District	45
– Cusher Electoral District	49
– Torrent Electoral District	53
– Dungannon Electoral District	57
– Clogher Electoral District	61
– Blackwatertown Electoral District	65
– Summary of Current Service Provision Trust Wide	69
– Equality of Opportunity	72
– Early Years Support Services	76
* Gaps in Provision	85
– Family Support Services	87
* Gaps in Provision	102
• Craigavon & Banbridge Review of Provision	104
– Executive Summary	105
– Profile of Craigavon & Banbridge HSS Trust	108
– Local Provision	110
– Banbridge Electoral District	114
– Dromore Electoral District	119
– Knockiveagh Electoral District	124
– Portadown Electoral District	129
– Lurgan Electoral District	134
– Central Electoral District	139
– Loughside Electoral District	145
– Summary of Current Service Provision Trust Wide	150
– Early Years Support Services	151
– Family Support Services	161

• Newry & Mourne Review of Provision	176
– Executive Summary	177
– Profile of Newry & Mourne HSS Trust	180
– Local Provision	180
– Newry City Electoral District	183
– Slieve Gullion Electoral District	191
– Mournes Electoral District	198
– Rathfriland Electoral District	205
– Crotlieve Electoral District	210
– The Fews Electoral District	217
– Summary of Current Service Provision Trust Wide	223
– Early Years Support Services	224
* Gaps in Provision	230
– Family Support Services	232
* Gaps in Provision	242
– Feedback	244
• Key Messages Arising from Review	246
• Glossary of Terms	248
• Appendices	249

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Foreword

This third review of Early Years services in the Armagh & Dungannon HSST, Craigavon & Banbridge HSST and Newry & Mourne HSST has been produced collaboratively by the three Trusts and the Southern Childcare Partnership to meet the requirements of the Children (NI) Order 1995. This collaborative approach is indicative of the strong commitment in the Southern Area to the development of 'joined up' services based on a clear assessment of need.

The document sets out a general overview of factors impacting on the Early Years environment and contains an assessment of the level, pattern and range of day care and related services to children aged 0-14 years and their families on a Trust by Trust basis. Key messages have been identified by the review process to foster an integrated approach to service development and to support the targeting of future investment in the Southern Area.

The commitment of the members of the three Local Early Years Fora who guided the review process is much appreciated. Particular thanks are owed to the Early Years Team Leaders – Mairead Conlon, Janice Riddall and Dermot Slevin who led on this substantial and detailed piece of work. They were ably assisted by Vicky Allen and Liz Cushnie. Special thanks also to Stella Cunningham and Moira Grimley from the Southern Childcare Partnership for their input.

We commend this review to anyone seeking statistical or qualitative information on Early Years services in the Southern Area. A summary of the key points will also be produced to facilitate a wider audience for the main messages. In particular, we welcome any feedback/comments from parents, employers or communities to assist us in this ongoing process.



Tony Rodgers
Chairman SCCP



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Why Review?

The duty to carry out a regular review of Early Years services is set out in The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995. Part IV 'Support for Children and their Families', Article 20 of the Order, states that 'every authority shall review together with the appropriate education and library board and district councils' and shall publish the result of the review. The Children Order guidance states that this should establish 'the level, pattern and range of day care and related services for young children'. The review is to be undertaken every three years and should cover the following:

- Day care provision for pre-school and other children including those run by the Trust, Education & Library Boards, District Councils and those in the independent sector
- The extent to which the services of childminders are available
- Provision of day care by people required to register under the Order
- Services which might be used by children in need taking into account the Trusts' responsibilities towards such children in need and their families.

Day care is defined by the Order as 'any form of care or supervised activity provided for children during the day'.

'Childcare First' the Northern Ireland Childcare Strategy (April 2000) states:

'Childcare Partnerships have responsibility for drawing up Childcare Plans for their areas. The Childcare Plan should include an assessment of demand for, and supply of, childcare places based on local audits.'

The 'Article 20 Reviews' provide a thorough assessment of need, which underpins the Southern Area Childcare Plan. For this reason a collaborative approach has been taken to the production of the review. It has been conducted as a joint exercise by:

- Armagh & Dungannon Health & Social Services Trust
- Craigavon & Banbridge Health & Social Services Trust
- Newry & Mourne Health & Social Services Trust
- Southern Childcare Partnership

The advantages of this approach are:

- Reviews are steered at Trust level by each Early Years Forum to ensure local knowledge and control
- Overarching and common themes can be reflected in a joined-up way
- A common Action Plan is possible to ensure a smooth interface with the Childcare Plan.

This review process ensures that there is an ongoing thorough assessment of need. In this way, gaps in provision, changes in children's, parents' and communities' needs can be identified. The information set out within this Review will provide the basis of the Southern Childcare Plan 2005-2008.

Where Are We Now? An Overview of Early Years Services in the Southern Area

Executive Summary

1. There are a number of current policy initiatives that will impact on the development of the Early Years sector. This provides the overall context for the Article 20 review process. These initiatives include the:
 - Review of Children First
 - Review of the Pre-school Education Expansion Programme
 - OFMDFM Children's Strategy
 - 'Pathways to Change' paper on resourcing the voluntary and community sector
 - Standards for daycare and childminding are currently being developed by the DHSSPS.

For further detail see page 10.

2. The Southern Childcare Partnership (SCCP) is a forum of Early Years stakeholders in the Southern Area. The mechanism of the SCCP allows the partners to add value to their activities by promoting an integrated and effective approach to investment in the Early Years sector. The work set out in this section reflects the individual and combined efforts of SCCP partner organisations. For further detail see page 11.
3. Demographically the Southern Area is undergoing change. The population aged 0-14 years is steadily decreasing. A number of social and economic factors are changing demand for Early Years services. This includes substantial house building bringing changing settlement patterns, a mobile work force impacting on family networks, increased numbers of working mothers and increased levels of one parent families. There is a developing black and minority ethnic population requiring culturally sensitive services. The trend for children with a disability to seek access to local mainstream services means that both the physical environment and the skills of the project staff have to meet their needs. The Southern Area has an extensive rural hinterland so the delivery of services to children living in rural areas offering them opportunities to develop and socialise are important. For further detail see page 11.

4. Funding and the sustainability of services remains a key concern for the SCCP. Through its sub-committee, the Strategic Funding Panel, the SCCP maintains a strategic approach to directing investment. The use of geo-mapping, assessment of need, the Early Years infrastructure and local knowledge all contribute to the effective targeting of investment. The short term nature of funding for Early Years services continues to be a cause for concern. The SCCP is working at Area and Departmental level to promote a strategic response to sustainability. For further detail see page 13.
5. Training & quality are fundamental to the building of a robust and sustainable sector. The SCCP's Training & Quality Sub-Committee allocates the SCCP's investment in workforce development to meet key priorities. This includes continuing professional development awards, a short course programme and bursaries for quality accreditation schemes. Through funding from PEACE 2, the SCCP will be enabled to offer additional short courses aimed at promoting cultural awareness, equality measures, mutual understanding and reconciliation. For further detail see page 14.
6. Equality of access for the most economically and socially excluded groups is central to 'Children First'. The SCCP recognises this principle as key to the SCCP's commitment to ensuring that every child and community receives the services that they require. By actively targeting the most excluded and isolated communities and families, the SCCP can reach all children. A number of measures have been taken to improve the access of rural children, children with a disability and children from black and minority ethnic backgrounds. This includes representation on the SCCP, targeting of investment and collaborative working with partners to improve access to services. For further detail see page 15.
7. Family Support becomes an increasingly important aspect of the SCCP's work. There are several strands to the SCCP's work in this area, in particular the support provided to Sure Start schemes. A fifth scheme, Sure Start in South Armagh, has been added to the four existing projects. Sure Start continues to offer an innovative and integrated approach to supporting families with pre-school children. The SCCP has also worked with partners to target investment at quality family support services. The

development of a Southern Area Family Support Strategy will offer an integrated approach to family support across all levels of need. For further detail see page 16.

8. Consultation with parents, children, communities and employers continues to inform the full range of assessment of need and planning processes including this Article 20 review. Through partners a consultation mechanism has been put in place. Feedback from these various processes is included in this document. In particular, the feedback highlights gaps in services. For further detail see page 17.

9. Links to Other Processes

Links to related processes are crucial to ensure that the continuum of assessment of need and targeting of investment is to the forefront and that resources are used to best effect. As set out in 'Children First', the SCCP works to develop integrated plans with Children's Services Planning and the Pre-School Education Expansion Programme. An interface with the Southern Area Child Protection Committee and SHSSB Wraparound for children with a disability ensures linkages to safeguard and meet the needs of all children. For further detail see page 21.

10. Performance Indicators

The SCCP has put in place 8 performance indicators, which partners work towards on a collaborative basis. Five of these performance indicators have been achieved with the remaining three indicators being partially achieved. The SCCP will revisit these indicators as part of the ongoing planning process. This review will inform the development of these outcome measures. For further detail see page 21.

11. Action at Local Early Years Forum level since the last Article 20 Review

Each Early Years Forum identified a series of actions arising from the last Article 20 review. An up-date from each Local Early Years Forum is provided to provide a starting point for the current review. For further detail see page 24.

1. The Changing Policy Arena

In April 2000 'Children First' the Northern Ireland Childcare Strategy established Childcare Partnerships and provided the foundation for a co-ordinated approach to childcare and family support. Further information on the Southern Childcare Partnership can be found on:

www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org

'Children First' is currently under review by the Inter-Departmental Group on Early Years. This review will look at what is needed to drive the strategy forward, what resources are required and how the process can become more integrated. The Review is taking the form of a series of workshops involving the Inter-Departmental Group and representatives of the Childcare Partnerships. At the end of the process revised policy guidelines should be available to direct the priorities of the Childcare Partnerships. One of the main hopes for the SCCP is that the review of 'Children First' will provide a more integrated approach at Departmental level to support the Childcare Partnerships' actions at area level.

A number of other policy developments are likely to impact on the Early Years sector over the coming months:

- OFMDFM Children's Strategy is being consulted upon with the aim of producing an overarching approach to meeting children's needs
- DHSSPS Children In Need Strategy is being consulted upon in relation to improving the delivery of services to vulnerable children and children in need
- The Pre-School Education Expansion Programme is being reviewed during 2004
- 'Pathways to Change' is a position paper produced by the Task Force on Resourcing the Voluntary and Community Sector. This is currently out for consultation.
- Standards for childminding and daycare are currently being developed by the DHSSPS. These standards will provide guidelines for the registration of the Early Years sector and will be in place by late 2004.

All of the above will impact upon the Early Years sector and will be explored in more depth in the Childcare Plan due to be produced in April 2005.

The Southern Childcare Partnership has particularly focused on the Thematic Review 'Starting Strong' undertaken by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and published in 2001, www.oecd.org. The policy lessons from the thematic review are:

- a systematic and integrated approach to policy development and implementation
- a strong and equal partnership with the education system
- a universal access approach with particular attention to children in need of special support
- substantial public investment in services and the infrastructure
- a participatory approach
- appropriate training and working conditions for staff in all forms of provision
- systematic attention to monitoring and data collection
- a stable framework for research and evaluation.

The Southern Childcare Partnership is working to progress these themes within the Southern Area.

2. The Southern Childcare Partnership

The SCCP has continued to work to its three year action plan. Progress against this is set out in the Review of the Childcare Plan available from the SCCP's website. The sections below set out significant activity undertaken in relation to the Childcare Plan, which impacts upon the Article 20 review process. The SCCP is a forum of Early Years Stakeholders in the Southern Area. The work of the SCCP demonstrates collaborative activity undertaken by all the SCCP's partners.

3. Demography

The size and the nature of the population in the Southern Area is undergoing change. (For the child population aged 0-14 years please see maps on appendices 1 – 4). This obviously has implications for the type of childcare and Early Years services that are required. The table below shows the 0 – 14 years population of the Southern Area and the changes in the population since 1991.

**Southern Board Child Population Comparison of 1991
Census and 2001 Census**

Trust	Aged 0 to 4			Aged 5 to 9			Aged 10 to 14		
	1991	2001	Variance	1991	2001	Variance	1991	2001	Variance
A&D	8390	7557	-10%	8711	7907	-9%	8861	8687	-2%
C&B	9023	8709	-3%	8852	9271	5%	8766	9770	11%
N&M	7492	6752	-10%	7803	7075	-9%	7826	7771	-1%
Total	24905	23018	-23%	25366	24253	-14%	25453	26228	9%

As the table shows, there is a decline in the population aged 0-14 years. The Department of Education anticipates that the school population will drop by 30,600 between now and the academic year of 2009-10 making an estimated 18,000 fewer primary school pupils in NI. Obviously this trend will also affect the Southern Area.

In 2004 there were 4444 children seeking 4185 funded pre-school places. Therefore 443 were unplaced. The profile of the funded places were 2730 statutory nursery places, 1455 voluntary/private playgroup places and 536 reception places.

Allied to this anticipated change in the age profile of the population, new housing developments have seen changing settlement patterns. A greater number of families are headed by one parent while smaller, more mobile families are slowly changing the traditional extended family networks.

There are increasing additional needs that also have to be reflected in the planning of Early Years services. The census figures below shows the black and minority ethnic groups in the Southern Area. Anecdotal evidence also suggests that the cultural diversity of Northern Ireland has steadily expanded since the 2001 census.

Ethnic Groups by District Council Area – Census 2001

District Council	Persons in Ethnic Group:											
	White	Irish Traveller	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Other Asian	Black Caribbean	Black African	Other Black	Chinese	Other Ethnic Group
Armagh	54,008	82	59	18	0	0	4	6	3	5	54	21
Dungannon	47,363	154	68	23	12	3	3	3	9	14	58	25
Craigavon	79,863	133	144	86	118	10	0	5	14	17	222	58
Banbridge	41,219	26	60	13	8	0	3	5	4	5	34	15
Newry & Mourne	86,543	239	93	15	21	3	0	9	11	8	93	22
Total	308,996	634	424	155	159	16	10	28	41	49	461	141

Parents caring for a disabled child often decide that their child will benefit from local mainstream services. This means that small projects in local communities need to develop skills to ensure that everyone has equal access to the service. There is increasing recognition that children in rural areas may lack the opportunities to develop and socialise that are available to urban children. Matters such as lack of transport, suitable buildings, etc, are barriers that need to be overcome to offer children in the Southern Area rural hinterland access to services.

Social and economic deprivation is measured through a number of studies notably the Robson Measures of Deprivation issued in 1994 based on the 1991 census and more recently through the Noble Measures of Deprivation 2001, which compares a number of key indicators such as income, education & training, social environment, etc. Set out in appendix 6 are the top 25% of wards in the Southern Area as identified by both of the measures.

4. Funding & Sustainability

The SCCP continues to use geo-mapping, assessment of need, the Early Years Infrastructure and local knowledge to inform the targeting of investment.

The short term nature of funding to the sector has long been a cause for concern. With the closure of the New Opportunities Fund Childcare Programme and the end of PEACE II approaching, the financial future of the sector is far from clear.

To promote a strategic approach, the Childcare Partnerships have carried out audits of group based provision to estimate the financial shortfall. This information has been provided to the Department of Health & Social Services and Public Safety. Through the Childhood Fund Steering Group, this information will be collated and analysed on a regional basis in an effort to develop a co-ordinated sustainability strategy.

In the short term, the SCCP is using available Childhood Fund and DHSSPS family support monies to maintain all groups until June 2005. Playcare funding will also be directed at sustaining out of school hours projects. The SCCP has established a Sustainability Working Group to gather additional information to ensure a co-ordinated and strategic approach in the Southern Area.

5. Training & Quality

This area has suffered from a lack of strategic direction and funding under Children First. However, since the last Article 20 Review, the SCCP has provided £35,000 to ensure that every group based provider has a leader qualified (and the ability to ensure that there is always a Level NVQIII staff member on the premises) and 50% of all other staff qualified to NVQ Level II.

The needs of childminders have also been to the fore. Bursaries have been provided to 24 childminders to enable them to undertake an NVQ qualification. Short courses and accreditation schemes have also been actively promoted to meet the needs of childminders.

To ensure that a quality play environment is offered to older children in an out of schools context, appropriate play qualifications have been promoted and funded. One ongoing difficulty has been the lack of NVQ Assessors in this area and equivalent alternatives have actively been sought.

In addition, a programme of short courses to support on-going development has been devised and implemented to promote ongoing staff development. An investment of £40,000 directed into this area has allowed training to be offered in the following areas:-

- Child Protection
- First Aid
- Risk Assessment
- Child Development.

Through this short course programme it has been possible to reach a wide range of staff. For example, in the period September 2002 – June 2003, 335 staff benefited from the short course training programme.

The short course programme will be added to by a grant from the Childhood Fund to offer training in relation to promoting peace and reconciliation and equal opportunities. This strand will come on stream during 2004. Full details of the SCCP's training programme can be accessed via the website.

In the region of £26,000 has been invested in raising the quality of provision through:-

- Best Practice Seminar in June 2003 to link the Southern Childcare Partnership/Children's Services Planning Best Practice guidance into developments such as the Common Pre-School Standards and DENI's 'Begin With Quality' report.
- 8 pre-school groups received NIPPA accreditation
- 20 out of school hours groups will undertake Playboard's accreditation
- High/Scope development programme has benefited a range of groups and staff
- High/Scope for Childminders has been delivered to 10 childminders.

6. Equality of Access

In order to ensure that all children and communities receive the service that they require, the SCCP actively targets the most excluded and isolated communities and families. Activity includes:-

- Rural areas have continued to be a priority with ongoing assessment of need and the targeting of investment
- Disadvantaged and/or rurally isolated wards under the Noble and Robson indicators of disadvantage have continued to receive substantial investment
- Sure Start funding has enabled the SCCP to invest in integrated and innovative family support services to five of the most disadvantaged communities in the Southern Area
- Representation of minority groups and interests at Childcare Partnership and sub-committee level to ensure that a broad perspective is taken

- Setting up of systems to collect information on the community and ethnic background of children accessing services in order to monitor take up. This has already been implemented by the Sure Start projects in the Southern Area. Ways in which to collect data in a co-ordinated way across the sector are being explored
- Through the Childhood Fund providing additional resources to groups to ensure that children with a disability or from an ethnic minority are able to access that service
- The SCCP has worked collaboratively with the SHSSB's Wraparound scheme to provide 'joined up' services for children with a disability and their families
- The SCCP has worked with the PEAG to highlight the inequity of treatment for children with a disability using a community sector pre-school setting through the Pre-school Education Expansion Programme. Children with a special education need in a statutory setting would be liable to additional support. However, this is not funded in the case of community placements. The SCCP is greatly concerned about this disparity
- Financial support to groups working with ethnic minority families and children including assessment of need, production of resources, translation and interpreting and service delivery
- Collaborative working with partners to reshape services eg the ADHSST initiative to register Portuguese speaking childminders
- Collaborative working with partners to challenge racism eg NIPPA 'Together In The Park' education and media initiative
- Short course training programmes to promote peace & reconciliation including Special Needs (Inclusion & Equality of Access), Anti-Sectarian Training, Section 75 Training, Identification of Cultural Barriers, Traveller culture, Balanced Intervention in relation to Gender Mainstreaming and Equal Opportunities, Policy Planning & Development that support Reconciliation and Curriculum Development Supporting Mutual Understanding.

7. Family Support Strategy

The SCCP has a key role in the assessment of need/targeting of resources for community based family support services including Sure Start.

There are four fully operational Sure Start projects in the Southern Area based in Clogher Valley, Dungannon, Portadown (Corcrair Ward) and Newry. A fifth project is currently under development in the South Armagh Area. Sure Start continues to offer an innovative and integrated approach to supporting families with pre-school children.

The SCCP has collaborated with the Childhood Fund to ensure that important community based family support services are invested in across the Southern Area. In order to ensure an integrated approach to family support at all levels of need, the SCCP is working jointly with the Children & Young People's Committee and the Area Child Protection Committee to develop a Family Support Strategy. The Working Group has identified 10 principles that will underpin the strategy. These are set out at Appendix 7. Further information on the development of the strategy to date will be contained in the Review of the Childcare Plan available on the SCCP's website.

8. Consultation

Consultation with parents, children and employers is a high priority for the SCCP and happens on an ongoing basis. The results of consultation exercises have supported assessment of need as part of this Article 20 Review. Consultation has been carried out through a number of means. These have included:

Parents:

- Facts N Fun events held by the Early Years Fora
- Responses through the SCCP web-site
- Sure Start Parents' Groups
- Parents attending public meetings on childcare related issues
- Parents participating in the consultation process carried out by members of the SCCP. This has included NICMA, NIPPA, PlayBoard, Homestart (Armagh), The Springwell Centre (Lurgan), Playtime Day Nursery (Newry), Happy Days, Orana and the Rainbow Nursery (Dromore) holding consultation events involving parents and children.

Key findings of the consultation include:

- Parents have difficulty finding flexible provision
- Cost is the least important factor when selecting provision
- There are family support needs for children aged 0-3 and in the 8 plus age group
- User friendly information about services is required

- Ongoing consultation with parents is the best way to involve them
- Shortage of childminders
- After school clubs are needed
- Difficult for shift workers to get childcare
- No summer holiday provision or play areas
- More services are needed especially summer schemes, after school services, etc.
- Child development is the main reason for using playgroups
- Services are too expensive
- Lack of structured support to families with multiple births
- Lack of transport is an issue for some parents
- The needs of black and minority ethnic children are not being met, particularly with regard to out of school activity

Feedback from parents of children with a disability has been obtained through the SHSSB Wraparound. Key points relating to Early Years services included:

- Better forward planning is needed to help the child through pre-school, school, etc.
- Information is needed on where to meet other parents eg parent and toddler groups
- Parents find parent and toddler groups helpful but there's nowhere to go when the child gets older
- Sure Start programmes are well received and valued at local level

Parents using out of school/afterschool facilities commented on why they use an out of school facility:

- 53% - convenience of location
- 25% - staff and management of facility
- 20% - equipment and activities
- 12% - it's affordable
- 5% - it was recommended
- 81% - rated the service excellent
- 15% - rated the service good
- 2% - rated the service satisfactory
- 2% - rated the service poor

On whether the service meets their needs:

- 86% - yes
- 14% - no (unmet needs involved transport, no summer scheme, no breakfast club, not enough flexibility)

Use of Family Tax Credits:

89% - were aware of tax credit

8% - were not aware of tax credit

61% - claimed tax credits

Children were consulted via:

- The SCCP's website on-line questionnaire
- The consultation process carried out by members of the SCCP

Children using out of school/afterschool activities commented:

What they most liked about their clubs was:

- meeting friends
- the staff
- arts & crafts
- physical games
- outside activities
- the snacks

What they liked least:

- homework
- reading (boys)
- not enough toys
- tuna sandwiches

The majority of children would like their club to have a children's committee (most clubs did not have one).

Consultation with parents with children aged 0-4 years indicated:

- 50% plus use parent & toddler groups
- parents weren't sure about how to access parenting classes
- 60% of parents worked mostly on a part-time basis
- the majority of parents used a mixture of formal and informal childcare
- of the parents who were not working many felt that childcare in their area was too expensive or inflexible to allow them to return to work or training
- parents who used childcare felt that it provided value for money
- the majority believed that parents should not have to bear the brunt of childcare costs and that government assistance is inadequate

- parents do not want to be replaced as carers but welcome anything that assists and enhances their role such as a choice of childcare, flexible working arrangements and flexible childcare.

Employers were consulted via:

- The SCCP website
- The Business Breakfast hosted by SCCP and Armagh & Dungannon HSST
- A postal questionnaire

Consultation with employers has provided the following feedback:

- Employers recognise the importance of work/life balance
- Full employment in some areas means that employers are starting to think about work/life balance and childcare issues
- Summer school holidays are the problem time for most employees/employers in relation to childcare
- Clusters of employers may come together to establish work related childcare options
- Breakdown of childcare arrangements causes problems to the parent, their colleagues and the employer
- There needs to be greater clarity and proper guidelines on work/life balance issues to support employers and minimise abuse
- Employers would like information on local childcare provision, leaflets to offer advice on childcare to employees and information on financial support for working parents.

Consultation with service providers offered the following feedback on developmental needs and gaps in services:

- Safe play areas are required for all ages in many areas
- Summer schemes for all ages are required in many areas
- Coverage of out of school clubs is still patchy and further schemes are required
- More childminders are required in most areas
- Parent and Toddler groups are not always readily available in all areas
- Mobile speech therapy services was a recurring theme in relation to expressed need.

9. Links to Other Processes

'Children First' tasks the Childcare Partnerships with developing community based Early Years and Family Support services to meet the needs of all families in their local communities. In order to ensure an integrated approach to planning and to avoid duplication of resources and effort the SCCP works along a continuum of service provision. This provides a seamless range of services for families meeting their current need. In particular, Children First tasks the Childcare Partnerships with developing integrated plans with Children's Services Planning and the Pre-School Education Advisory Group. The SCCP has close links with both these processes and the Southern Area Child Protection Committee (SACPC) and the SHSSB Wraparound programme for children with a disability.

The Southern Health & Social Services Board through the SCCP is an active participant within the Southern Pre-School Advisory Group, which is a sub-committee of the Southern Education and Library Board. Over the next year, the Department of Education will be undertaking a review of the Pre-School Education Programme. The SCCP and its partners will make an active contribution to this process.

Children's Service Planning is co-ordinated by the Southern Area Children's & Young People's Committee. The tasks of CSP are to:

- Provide a mechanism by which coherence and consistency are ensured in the planning of services to children and young people across all agencies
- Develop a plan for services for vulnerable children and 'children in need' as defined by the Children (NI) Order (1995).

In order to promote an integrated approach, the SCCP has a shared sub-committee with Children's Services Planning and the SACPC. The Family Support Strategy Working Group has developed a Southern Area Family Support Strategy. Over the next three years, a joint action plan will be agreed and put into action.

10. Performance Indicators

The SCCP had put in place a number of performance indicators. The achievement of these targets requires a collaborative approach by a number of partners. These are:

- i) The number of children from ethnic minorities or children with a disability availing of early years services will increase by a minimum of 5% each year. (partially achieved)

At the time of setting this target a baseline was not in place to monitor progress against this. The SCCP has been working to develop adequate monitoring services and to capture this information on an area basis. This has included setting in place equality monitoring processes in relation to Sure Start projects. In addition the SCCP has put in place a range of initiatives to promote equality of access.

- ii) By September 2004 80% of 3 year olds will have access to a pre-school place. (achieved)

The PEAG statistics show that in the year 2002/2003, 92% of children in the final year of pre-compulsory education received a pre-school place. In September 2003 4,080 pre-school places were available in the Southern Area.

- iii) During 2001/2 a Parenting Pack will be made available to parents of new borns in the Banbridge District Council area. This pilot will be evaluated and inform more widespread distribution. (achieved)

The evaluation of the pilot led the SCCP to develop a concise local directory of services. This has been distributed throughout the Southern Area through health visitors, Sure Start projects, community groups and is also available on the SCCP's website. Evaluation of this directory has been very positive and it will be further developed by the SCCP.

- iv) The number of registered after school and out of school places available to 5-14 years olds will increase by a minimum of 5% each year. (achieved)

The New Opportunities Fund Childcare Programme allowed an increase from 257 places in 1998 to 2,489 funded places. The SCCP is currently prioritising the sustainability of these services and the promotion of quality.

- v) The number of children 5-14 years old accessing out of school hours learning activities will increase by a minimum of 5% each year. (achieved)

Through the New Opportunities Fund Out of School Hours Learning programme co-ordinated by the SELB, 38 primary and 14 post primary schools in the SELB area have been able to offer out of school learning activities to their pupils. The total number of children participating in this programme is 5,212.

- vi) By 2003 the number of NVQ trained childminders will have increased by 20%. (partially achieved)

This was an aspirational target that was not accompanied by funding. However, the SCCP has funded a number of training initiatives aimed at childminders (see the Training & Quality section). At June 2003 12% of childminders held a qualification.

- vii) By 2003 50% of staff employed in out of school projects will have an appropriate NVQ qualification. (partially achieved)

As of June 2003 97% of groups met the qualification standard. The SCCP continues to actively promote quality in out of school projects by promoting play based qualifications, ongoing relevant professional development and accreditation through Playboard. The SCCP is funding bursaries for Playwork NVQs but due to lack of assessors alternative qualifications are being considered and promoted. For the period 2002/2003 12 staff received bursaries from the SCCP.

- viii) By 2004, all staff in registered playgroups will have appropriate NVQ qualifications. (achieved)

This initiative was initially funded through bursaries from the Social Services Inspectorate. Since this scheme ceased in 2001, the SCCP has offered a programme of bursaries to priority staff. At June 2003 97% of groups met the qualification requirements.

The SCCP will set revised performance indicators as part of the ongoing planning process. The review will inform the outcome.

11. Action at Local Early Years Forum level since the last Article 20 Review

Armagh & Dungannon

- Increase in registered childminders – an integrated approach including PR, information evenings and start-up grants has led to a 35% increase in registered childminders.
- Enable providers to access funds – Early Years Funding Guide produced and distributed
- Access to Information – Social Services Register circulated regularly to health visitors, Southern Childcare Partnership web-site live, Local Guide to Childcare & Family Support Services distributed
- Training – Comprehensive training programme ongoing with local providers needs fed into this process
- Capacity Building – additional staff resources still needed
- Links with employers – workshop with employers held in January 2004
- Transport – strategic approach still required
- Care Needs of Older Children – Play qualifications being promoted and funded
- Community Management – NIPPA Good Practice Manuals funded by the SCCP distributed to all group based providers
- Consultation with children – through SCCP process and web-site
- Equality of access for children with special needs and children from ethnic minority communities – this has been actively targeted since the last Article 20.

Craigavon & Banbridge

- Access to children from Ethnic Minorities has increased due to increasing funding for Travellers Support Group and employment of education and lay health workers. The Trust have also been involved in training 12 people from the Chinese Community within the childminding sector.
- Access for children with disabilities has increased due to wraparound funding and increased awareness of the needs of children with disabilities. This has led to at least 43 additional children (with disabilities) receiving Early Years Services. The Trust has also developed a Specialist Childminding Scheme (15 childminders) for children with disabilities.

- A Parenting Information Pack was made available to parents of newborns in Banbridge District and this was extended throughout the area.
- The number of children availing of Out of School provision has increased by 25% due to a sustained programme of awareness and financial assistance within this sector.
- While the overall number of registered childminders had not increased since previous review there has been an increase in qualifications within this sector. This was due to a targeted training programme which the Trust will continue to develop.
- All playgroup and day nursery staff have relevant qualifications e.g. Leader – NVQ III, Deputy Leader NVQ II and 50% of all other staff with relevant qualification. Again this increase in qualifications was due to a comprehensive training programme.
- Increase in number of Day Nurseries from 13 to 17. This represents a 28% increase.
- Continuous assessment of training needs has resulted in an extensive training programme with areas such as risk assessment, child protection, first aid and child development being accessed by providers.
- Enable providers to access funds – Early Years Funding Guide produced and distributed.
- Community Management – NIPPA Good Practice Manuals funded by the SCCP distributed to all group based providers.
- Consultation with children – through SCCP process and website.

Newry & Mourne

- Transport – Local sub-group has been set up to link into ongoing initiatives.
- Play Areas in the Community – ongoing
- Capacity Building & Community Development – Early Years Worker released to work with groups on developmental issues. Bid for funding to SHSSB.
- Sustainability – Early Years Funding Guide distributed. The targeting of grant aid is ongoing. Retainer fee for SCCP training introduced. Issue of remuneration of Early Years staff was raised at the SCCP.
- Out of School Developments – ongoing.
- 0-3 Year Olds – 17 Parent & Toddler Groups animated with a post to support this funded through the Childhood Fund.

Crèches provided to support parenting programme attendance.

- Childminding Recruitment & Information – User friendly leaflet designed and disseminated in South Armagh. Discussions with NICMA about a strategic approach are ongoing. Freepost system to facilitate the availability of vacancy information for parents is awaiting resource issues to be addressed. Details of services kept up to date. SCCP information guide on services circulated.
- Employers – HPSS summer scheme in place. Contact with other employers not progressed.
- Quality – Definitive statement made by SCCP. Funding to providers providing group based care for children with additional needs in voluntary sector PEAG placements has been supported by the SHSSB, SCCP and Trust. Health Promotion representative on the Forum. Quality assurance bursaries have been made via the SCCP with NMHSST area having the highest number of NIPPA accredited groups in NI.
- Family Support – DELTA targeted to Fews and Slieve Guillion. Support provided to community house based providers re funding applications. Outreach services to Slieve Gullion being progressed through Sure Start in South Armagh. Special Needs access has been progressed via the Mencap Play Advisor video.

Armagh & Dungannon
Health & Social Services Trust

Article 20 Review 2004

Executive Summary

The 2004 Article 20 Review outlines the availability of services with all known **early years services** being mapped and tabulated at local level.

Tables and maps are provided showing the Noble Deprivation Measure by Ward.

Available data re: access to services in respect of **children with disabilities/additional needs and children from ethnic minority communities** has been included.

The Review includes information provided by **Early Years Support Services and Family Support Services** together with gaps in provision and recommendations for future development as identified by these service providers.

Key Messages and Observations Arising from the 2004 Review

- **Childminders**

Since the 2001 Review there has been an increase in the number of registered childminders in the Trust area. A major factor in the achievement of this increase has been the work of the Promoting Registered Childminding Working Group.

It is important that this group continues to address this area of child care and that the momentum in respect of this increase in registered childminding is maintained.

- **Day Nursery Provision**

There has been an increase in the number of day nurseries since the 2001 Review. All current day nurseries are provided by the private sector and a large area to the west of Dungannon town has no full day care provision.

- **Pre-school Provision**

There has been an increase in SELB nursery provision. Voluntary, private and statutory pre-school provision appears to be meeting need.

- **Out of School Care**

Since the 2001 Review there has been an increase in the number of registered out of school places. However, this review has highlighted the need for consideration to be given to assessment of need, consultation with service users, training and sustainability in respect of out of school care.

- **Services for 0 – 3 Years Old Children**

The need for development of services for 0 – 3 year old children has been identified.

- **Children with Disabilities/Additional Needs**

Overall there has been an increase in the number of children with disabilities/additional needs accessing services. The Review highlights gaps in provision, sustainability issues and inequality of access with particular reference to the pre-school sector. These issues require to be addressed to ensure equality of opportunity for all children.

- **Ethnic Minority Communities**

The number of minority groups resident in the Trust area continues to increase.

Progress is ongoing in the development of services in respect of the Traveller community.

A number of projects and initiatives are being developed to provide support and services to children and families from other ethnic minority groups. It is important that the needs of all these communities in the Trust area are identified. A co-ordinated approach by service providers is required in order to ensure that family support and child care services are reflective of the needs of these communities.

- **Funding**

The need for core-funding/sustainability for projects and services in the statutory, voluntary and community sectors has been highlighted in the Review. Every effort should be made to address this issue.

- **Training**

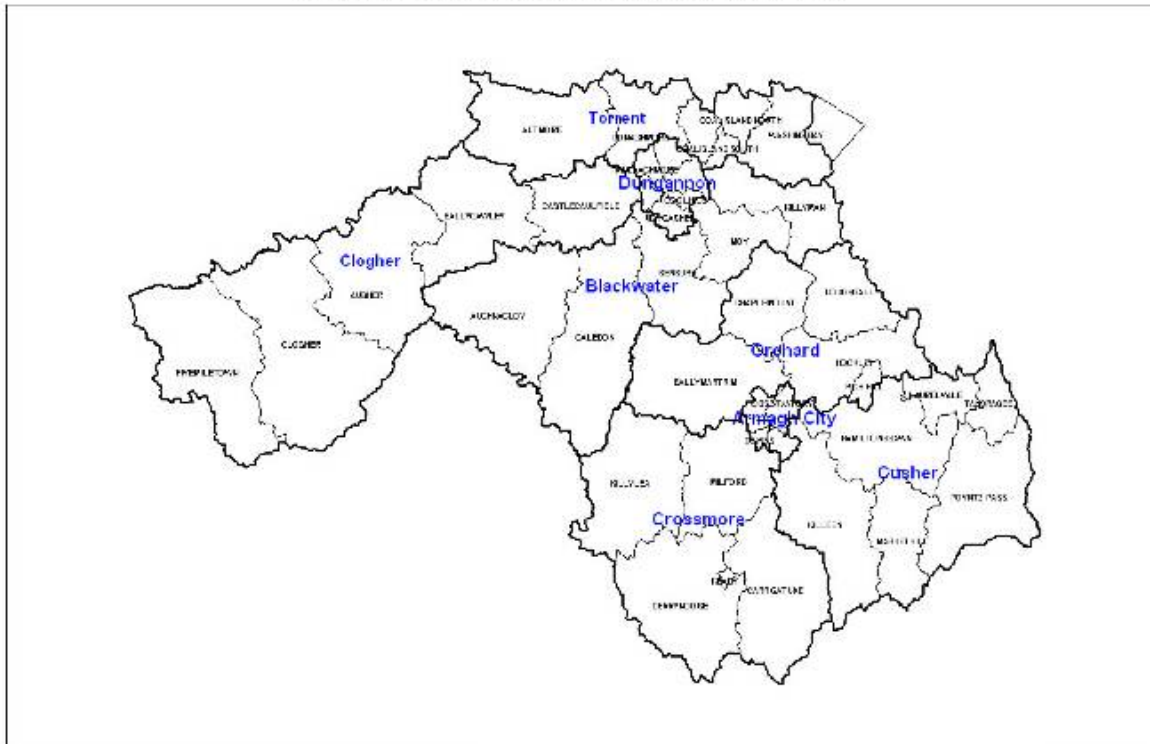
Since the 2001 Review, there has been a comprehensive training programme in place. However, the Review has identified the need for training related action to be undertaken in a number of areas eg Out of School Care, Parent and Toddler groups, High/Scope.

- **Parental Participation/Consultation**

During the process of this review, the subject of parental participation/consultation has been a matter for discussion at Armagh and Dungannon Trust Early Years Forum. Effective, acceptable methods which ensure meaningful parental participation should be established.

Profile of Armagh and Dungannon Health & Social Services Trust

Armagh & Dungannon HSS Trust by Electoral Districts



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Geography

The Trust covers an area of 1451 square kilometres and represents 45.6% of the land area of the Southern Health and Social Services Board. The land area stretches from near Newtownhamilton in Co Armagh to the shores of Lough Neagh and across the Clogher Valley corridor to Fivemiletown. The Trust's boundaries are coterminous with the electoral districts of Armagh and Dungannon District Councils. The area is very much a rural community with two main centres of population in Armagh and Dungannon and a number of smaller towns, villages and hamlets.

Demography

The population of the Trust area based on 2001 census information is approximately 102,000.

The following tables give a population profile by age of children living in the Armagh and Dungannon District Council areas. This information is drawn from the 2001 census figures.

Child Population Profile

Armagh District Council Area

Age	2004
0 – 4 years	3971
5 – 7 years	2447
8 – 9 years	1623
10 – 14 years	4579
	TOTAL 12,620

Dungannon District Council Area

Age	2004
0 – 4 years	3586
5 – 7 years	2179
8 – 9 years	1574
10 – 14 years	4139
	TOTAL 11,478

Local Provision

Current Service Provision by Electoral District

All known early years services have been mapped by ward, grouped into electoral districts and tabulated. Services include childminders, day nurseries, playgroups, after/out of schools clubs, holiday schemes, crèches, parent and toddler groups, SELB provision, youth groups registered with SELB, District Council provision and Delta programmes.

Information, based on 2001 census data is provided regarding the number of children by ward in the age categories 0 – 4 years, 5 – 9 years, 10 – 14 years together with the total child population of each electoral district.

Appendix 6 shows the 25% most deprived wards according to the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure and the Robson Measure of Deprivation. The full deprivation picture can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

Armagh and Dungannon District Council areas are comprised of the following individual wards:

<u>Electoral District</u>	<u>Ward</u>
Armagh City	Downs; Callanbridge; Abbey Park; Observatory; Demesne; The Mall;
Crossmore	Killylea; Milford; Derrynoose; Keady; Carrigatuke;
Cusher	Killeen; Markethill; Poyntzpass; Tandragee; Laurelvale; Hamiltonsbawn;
Orchard	Charlemont; Loughgall; Hockley; Ballymartrim; Richhill;
Blackwater	Aughnacloy; Caledon; Benburb; Moy; Killyman;
Clogher	Augher; Clogher; Fivemiletown; Ballygawley; Castlecaulfield;
Dungannon	Drumglass; Killymeal; Coolhill; Moygashel; Ballysaggart; Mullaghmore;
Torrent	Altmore; Donaghmore; Coalisland West and Newmills; Coalisland North; Coalisland South; Washingbay;

Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure

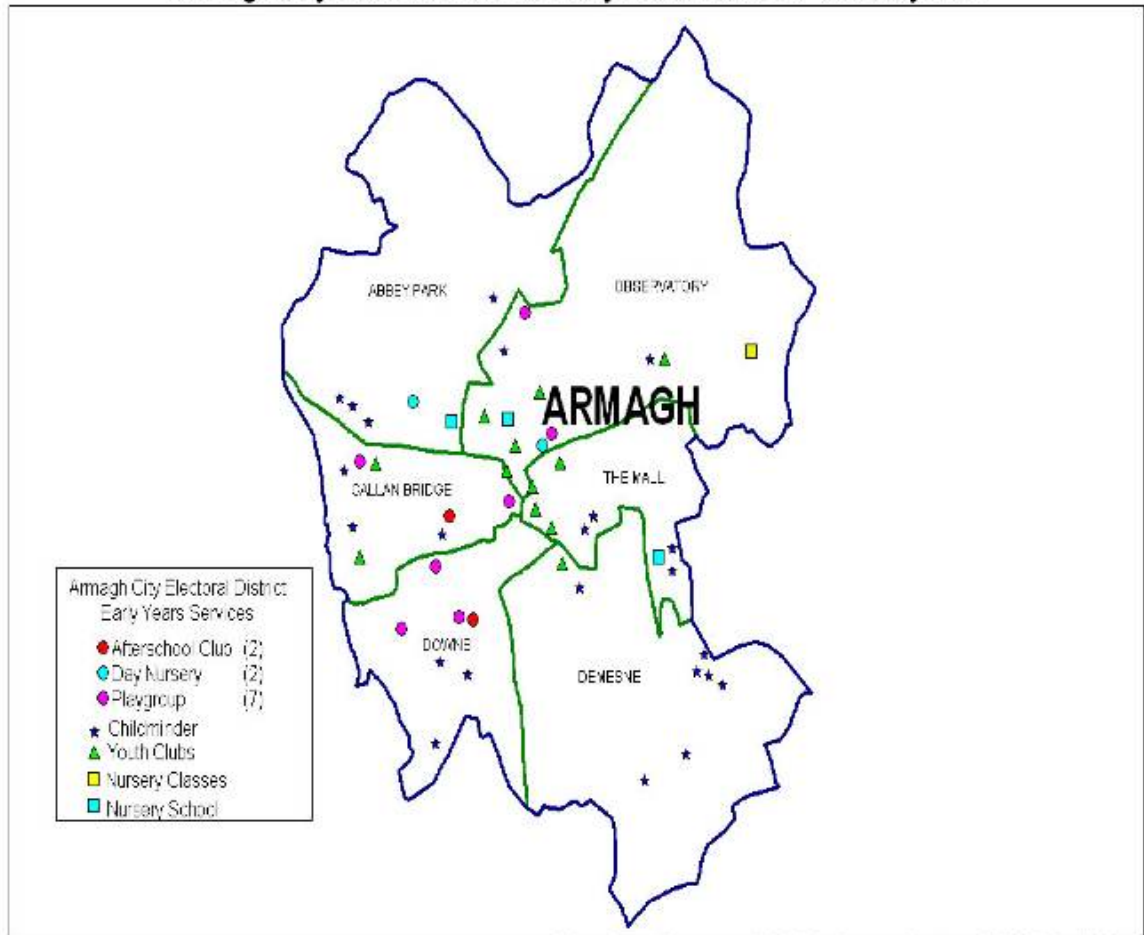
Figures for Armagh and Dungannon Health and Social Services Trust Wards

Figures drawn from table showing rankings across the Southern Health and Social Services Board.

Rank	District Council	Ward	Score
7	Armagh	Callanbridge	44.01
10	Dungannon	Ballysaggart	40.27
18	Armagh	Abbey Park	34.44
20	Dungannon	Coalisland South	33.81
21	Armagh	Downs	33.05
27	Dungannon	Altmore	28.92
30	Dungannon	Fivemiletown	27.54
31	Armagh	Keady	27.35
32	Dungannon	Clogher	26.84
33	Dungannon	Ballygawley	25.55
36	Dungannon	Mullaghmore	25.10
40	Dungannon	Washingbay	24.31
41	Dungannon	Drumglass	24.29
42	Dungannon	Augher	24.11
44	Dungannon	Coalisland West & Newmills	23.54
45	Dungannon	Coalisland North	23.43
46	Armagh	Carrigatuke	23.10
50	Dungannon	Donaghmore	21.89
56	Dungannon	Caledon	19.84
58	Armagh	Markethill	19.70
59	Dungannon	Aughnacloy	19.46
60	Armagh	Killylea	19.19
61	Armagh	Charlemont	19.14
62	Armagh	Ballymartrim	18.78
63	Armagh	The Mall	18.61
69	Armagh	Killeen	17.31
71	Dungannon	Moy	17.17
73	Armagh	Derrynoose	16.74
77	Dungannon	Killymeal	15.75
78	Dungannon	Castlecaulfield	15.58
79	Armagh	Poyntzpass	15.11
81	Armagh	Loughgall	14.69
82	Armagh	Observatory	14.49

84	Dungannon	Benburb	13.84
92	Dungannon	Moygashel	12.07
94	Armagh	Tandragee	11.42
96	Armagh	Milford	10.95
97	Dungannon	Killyman	10.95
101	Armagh	Hockley	9.96
103	Armagh	Hamiltonsbawn	8.77
104	Dungannon	Coolhill	8.77
109	Armagh	Demesne	7.70
110	Armagh	Richhill	7.34
114	Armagh	Laurelvale	6.03

Armagh City Electoral District- Early Years Services - January 2004



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Armagh City Electoral District

The Armagh City Electoral District comprises 6 wards and the total population based on 2001 census data is 14,372. (OSNI Wards 1993)

Child Population Profile

Ward	Nos of children aged 0 – 4 years	Nos of children aged 5 – 7 years	Nos of children aged 8 – 9 years	Nos of children aged 10 – 14 years
Abbey Park	176	97	81	222
Observatory	129	102	81	177
The Mall	107	71	42	153
Demense	210	113	85	242
Downs	249	117	87	242
Callanbridge	205	129	80	230
TOTALS	1076	629	456	1266

The following table contrasts the range of current services with those available in 2001.

Service	2001	2004	Places Available	Numbers Attending	Funded Places Available
Childminders	17	23	105		
Day Nurseries	1	2	38	41	
Playgroups	7	7	162	213	87
After/Out of Schools	2	2	50	58	
After/Out of School Clubs/Activities (District Council)		9		199	
Holidays Schemes (District Council)	4	4		3600	
Parent & Toddlers	2	4			
Nursery Schools/Nursery Classes SELB	4	4	156		
Reception Provision	3	4	17		
Out of School Hours Learning SELB		3		113	
Youth Groups SELB	26	13		834	
Delta	8	18			
Play Parks		7			
Special Schools	1	1	100		
Summer Schemes A&D Trust		2	48		

The following points are worth noting in relation to service provision:

There has been a 35% increase in the number of **childminders** with an additional 26 places being provided.

Day nursery places have increased by 6. One facility has a waiting list as at 1. 4. 2004. A new facility is in process of being registered in the Downs ward with provision for 49 day nursery places, 26 playgroup places and 26 out of school places. This will provide a valuable community facility.

Playgroup provision has remained constant (7). 87 funded places are available.

SELB nursery provision shows minimal change. There are approximately 430 children aged 3 – 5 years living in the district. 260 pre-school children have availed of free places – 20% more than an estimated 216 children who would be in the cohort grouping entitled to funded pre-school places. This suggests that a number of children travel into Armagh from other electoral districts to receive free pre-school provision.

One Special School providing 100 places is located in Observatory ward.

Out of School Hours Learning Projects funded by NOF took place in 3 venues with 113 children attending.

Summer schemes were provided by Armagh and Dungannon Trust in Observatory ward in 2002 and 2003.

The number of **after/out of school clubs** remains constant with an increase of 10 in the number of places available.

There has been an increase in **District Council** provision in respect of out of school/after school clubs. 3600 children attended holiday schemes in the District in 2003 and 7 play parks are provided by the Council.

Whilst the number of youth clubs registered with the **SELB Youth Service** shows a decrease, there is a wide range of services for children and young people provided by the community which are not the subject of youth services supervision or support.

The number of **Delta** programmes which have been provided 2001 – 2003 inclusive for parents of pre-school, upper primary and post primary children has more than doubled. However, there have been no programmes provided in Abbey Park and Demesne wards.

Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure

Ward	Score	Rank
Callanbridge	44.01	7
Abbey Park	34.44	18
Downs	33.05	21
The Mall	18.61	63
Observatory	14.49	82
Demesne	7.70	109

When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score, the more deprived is the area.

Callanbridge, Abbey Park and Downs wards score as being the most deprived wards in the Armagh City Electoral District and also in the Armagh District Council area. Callanbridge ward scores as the most deprived ward in Armagh and Dungannon Trust area.

Callanbridge and Downs wards have the highest concentrations of Income Support Claimants, Job Seeker Allowance Claimants, Lone Parents on Income Support and young people in receipt of DLA in the district.

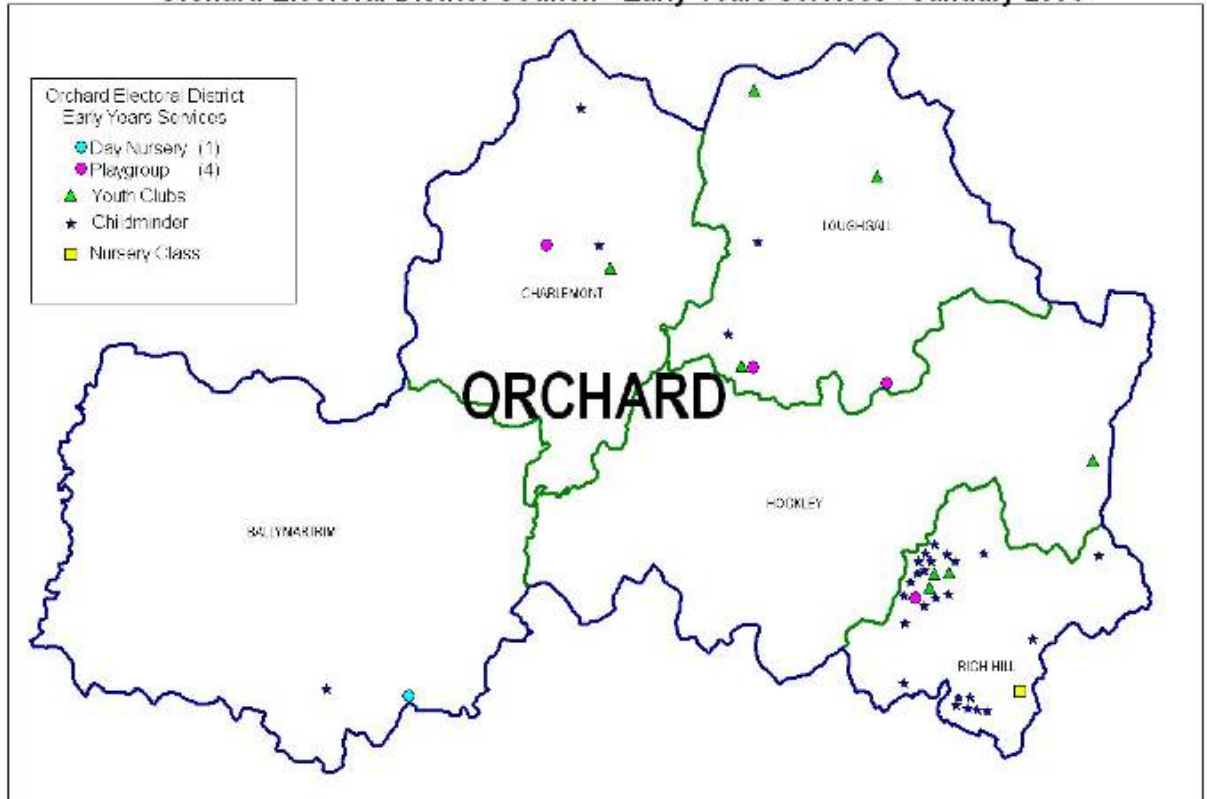
Approximately 57% of pre-school children and approximately 45% of children aged 5 – 9 years in the district live in these 3 wards.

There has been a significant increase in the number of childminders (from 2 – 11) in these wards. The two afterschool groups in the electoral area are in Downs and Callanbridge wards as are 5 of the 7 playgroups. The one day nursery in the electoral area is in Abbey Park ward. A further day care facility is in the process of being registered in Downs ward.

In this urban area there remains a need for a continuing increase in the number of childminders.

(Orchard map to be inserted)

Orchard Electoral District Council - Early Years Services - January 2004



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Orchard Electoral District

The total population based on 2001 census data is 11,924 (OSNI Wards 1993).

Child Population Profile

Ward	Nos of children aged 0 – 4 years	Nos of children aged 5 – 7 years	Nos of children aged 8 – 9 years	Nos of children aged 10 – 14 years
Charlemont	184	120	84	170
Loughgall	169	137	87	219
Hockley	127	100	63	157
Ballymartrim	169	97	75	216
Richhill	243	145	91	266
TOTALS	892	599	400	1028

The following table contrasts the range of services currently available with those which were available in 2001.

Service	2001	2004	Places Available	Numbers Attending	Funded Places Available
Childminders	30	29	127		
Day Nurseries	1	1	48	55	
Playgroups	4	4	94	88	41
After/Out of Schools	1	-			
Holidays Schemes (District Council)		1		512	
Parent & Toddlers	3	1			
Nursery Schools/Nursery Classes SELB	1	1	52 incl 16 under 3 years old		
Reception Provision	9	9	29		
Out of School Hours Learning SELB		1		23	
Youth Groups SELB	26	15		992	
Delta	2	8			
Play Parks		6			

Childminder numbers show minimal change, 72% of childminders are located in the Richhill ward which has the largest number of children aged 0 – 14 in the district. There is one registered childminder in Ballymartrim ward and none in Hockley ward.

One **day nursery** located in the Ballymartrim ward has increased its available places by 12, as at 1. 4. 2004 there is a waiting list for places in this facility. Plans are in place for a second day nursery with provision for 40 places in this ward.

Playgroup numbers have remained constant; there are 41 funded places in playgroups across the district.

SELB nursery provision remains constant. There are approximately 357 children aged 3 – 5 years living in the district with an estimated 183 children who would be in the cohort grouping entitled to funded pre-school places. At September 2003, 104 children availed of pre-school places - a 57% uptake.

One **Out of School Hours Learning Project** was provided in Loughgall ward in 2003 with 23 children attending.

There is no **after/out of school provision** in the district. Since 2001 Review, one afterschool club based in Richhill has closed, a second afterschool club opened in the Ballymartrim ward and has now closed. A total of 599 children aged 5 – 9 years who may wish to avail of afterschool facilities live in the district.

There has been a decrease in the number of registered **youth groups** in the district.

A **District Council** Summer Scheme held in Richhill in 2003 had an attendance of 512. There are 6 District Council play parks in this district.

8 **Delta** programmes were provided 2001 – 2003 inclusive.

Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure

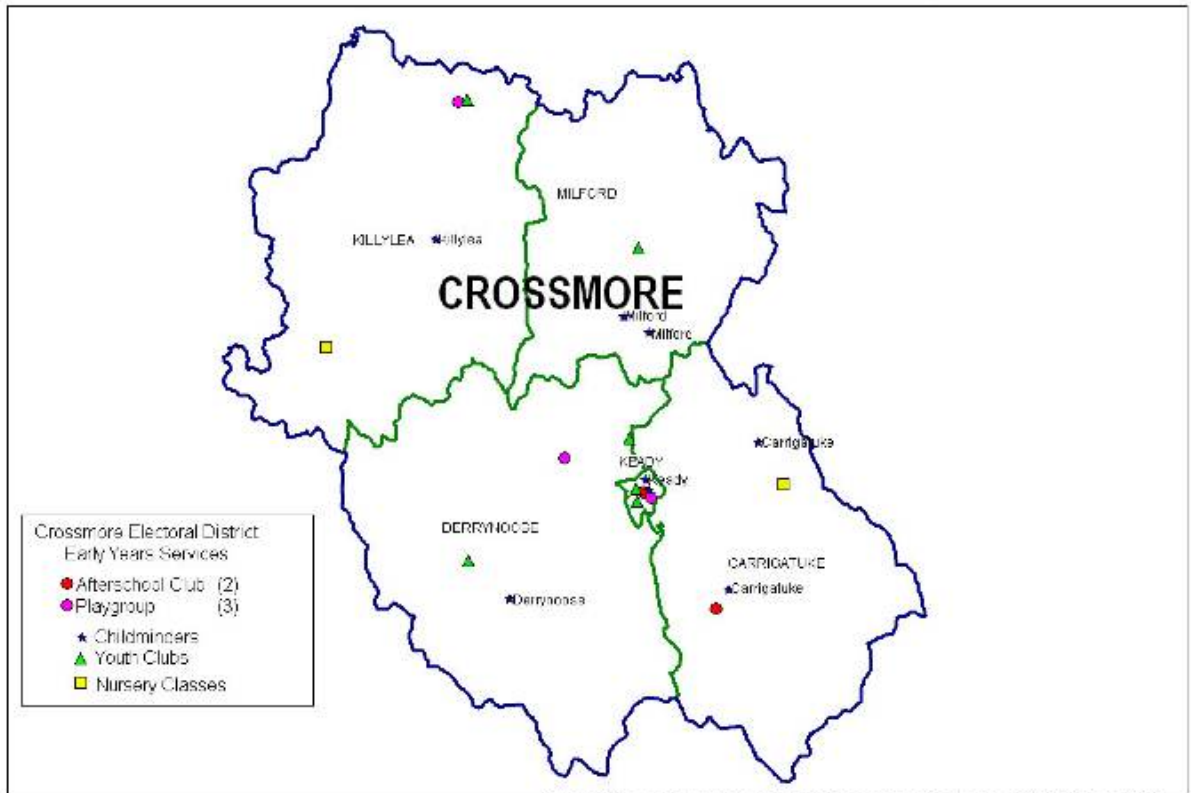
Ward	Score	Rank
Charlemont	19.14	61
Ballymartrim	18.78	62
Loughgall	14.69	81
Hockley	9.96	101
Richhill	7.34	110

When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score, the more deprived is the area.

Overall this presents as one of the areas of lowest need in the Armagh District Council area. However, there is a high concentration of Income Support Claimants and Job Seeker Allowance Claimants in Charlemont ward. Loughgall ward has the highest number of young people on DLA and Richhill ward the highest number of Lone Parents on Income Support in the district – this can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

There are no after/out of school groups in this district.

Crossmore Electoral District - Early Years Services - January 2004



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Crossmore Electoral District

Total population of district based on 2001 census is 11,153 (OSNI Wards 1993).

Child Population Profile

Ward	Nos of children aged 0 – 4 years	Nos of children aged 5 – 7 years	Nos of children aged 8 – 9 years	Nos of children aged 10 – 14 years
Killylea	154	113	86	219
Milford	130	108	85	238
Derrynoose	277	162	107	281
Keady	124	71	49	150
Carrigatuke	174	116		
TOTALS	859	570	327	888

The following table contrasts the range of current services with those available in 2001.

Service	2001	2004	Places Available	Numbers Attending	Funded Places Available
Childminders	6	8	34		
Day Nurseries	-	-	-	-	
Playgroups	2	3	54	73	34
After/Out of Schools	1	2	48	38	
Holidays Schemes (District Council)		1		600	
Parent & Toddlers	5	4			
Nursery Schools/Nursery Classes SELB		2	26 FT - incl 8 under 3 years old 26 PT -incl 9 under 3 years old		
Reception Provision	6	8	29		
Out of School Hours Learning SELB		1		500	
Youth Groups SELB	11	7		888	
Delta	6	11			
Play Parks		6			

There has been an increase of 2 in the number of **childminders** since 2001. The number of childminders remains low in this district.

A new **playgroup** has opened in Derrynoose providing 10 places: 34 funded places are available over the district.

SELB nursery provision has increased from 21 places to 79 places. There are approximately 344 children aged 3 – 5 years old living in the district with an estimated 153 children who would be in the cohort grouping entitled to free pre-school places. At September 2003, 96 children availed of pre-school places – a 62% uptake.

One **Out of School Hours Learning Project** took place in Keady ward in 2003 with 500 children attending.

After/out of school groups have increased by one. There is one group in Keady ward and one group in Carrigatuke ward, 48 places are available. It should be noted that the total number of children in the district aged 5 – 9 years who may wish to avail of afterschool facilities is 897. For the past 2 years, successful summer schemes have been provided in Carrigatuke ward.

There are 7 registered **youth groups** across the district.

Armagh **District Council** provided a holiday scheme in Keady ward in 2003 with 600 children attending. There are 6 District Council play parks in the area. A dual-use scheme which is being developed between the council and Keady High School will provide activity programmes for all age groups in the greater Keady area.

11 **Delta** programmes were provided in this district 2001 – 2003 inclusive with all wards being covered.

Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure

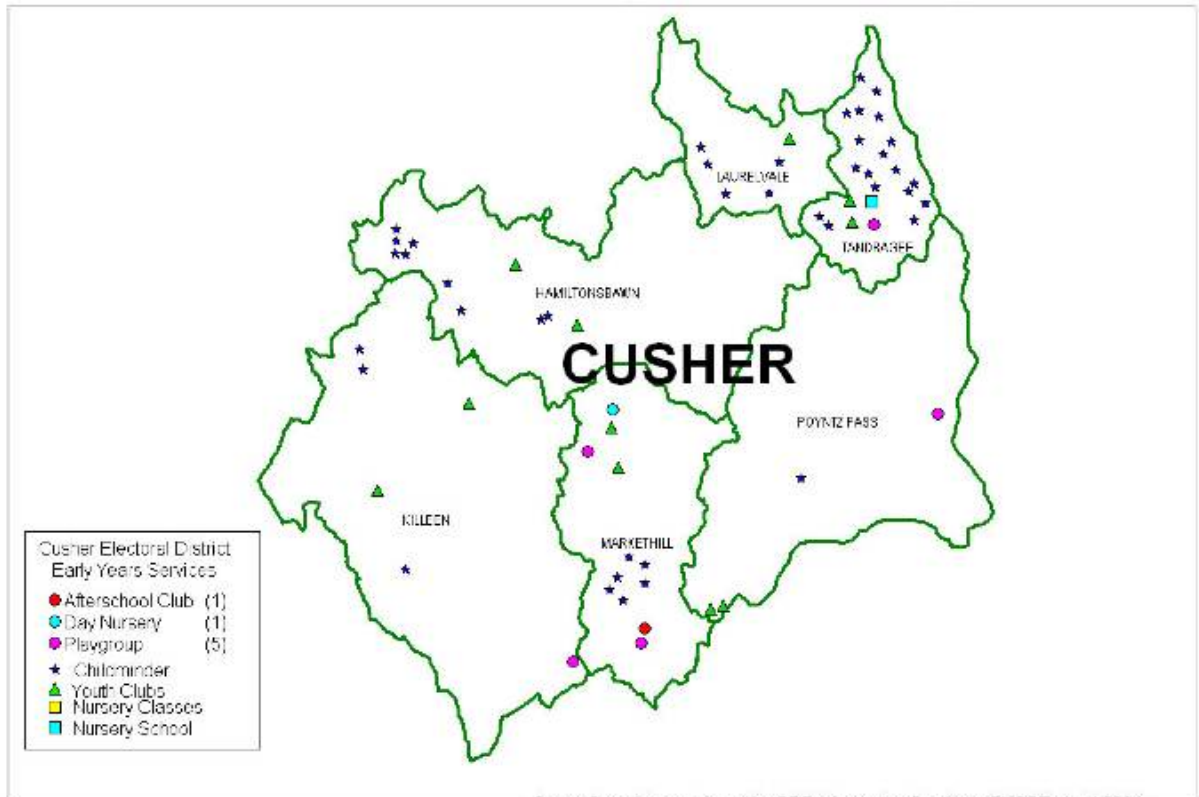
Ward	Score	Rank
Keady	27.35	31
Carrigatuke	23.10	46
Killylea	19.19	60
Derrynoose	16.74	73
Milford	10.95	96

When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score, the more deprived is the area.

The wards of Keady and Carrigatuke show the highest scorings. Derrynoose ward has a high number of young people in receipt of DLA, Keady ward has a high number of Lone Parents on Income Support and Killylea ward has a high concentration of Job Seeker Allowance Claimants – this can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

This district has historically had low levels of registered early years provision. There has been an increase in provision since the 2001 Review, however, there is a need for continued targeting of need in this district.

Cusher Electoral District Council - Early Years Services - January 2004



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Cusher Electoral District

Total population based on 2001 census data is 11,153 (OSNI Wards 1993).

Child Population Profile

Ward	Nos of children aged 0 – 4 years	Nos of children aged 5 – 7 years	Nos of children aged 8 – 9 years	Nos of children aged 10 – 14 years
Killeen	253	127	86	208
Markethill	167	105	69	181
Poyntzpass	149	100	60	179
Tandragee	192	100	84	209
Laurelvale	184	104	69	175
Hamiltonsbawn	199	113	82	216
TOTALS	1144	649	450	1168

The table below contrasts the range of current services with those available in 2001.

Service	2001	2004	Places Available	Numbers Attending	Funded Places Available
Childminders	32	43	185		
Day Nurseries	1	1	46	25	
Playgroups	5	5	116	180	74
After/Out of Schools	3	1	24	13	
After/Out of School clubs Activities (District Council)		1		25	
Holidays Schemes (District Council)	3	5		2990	
Parent & Toddlers	5	5			
Nursery Schools SELB		1	78 – incl 20 under 3 years old		
Reception Provision	7	6	21		
Out of School Hours Learning SELB		1			
Youth Groups SELB	27	15		849	
Delta	10	12			
Play Parks		11			
Crèches		1	8		

There continues to be an increase in the number of registered **childminders** in this district - from 32 to 43 – the highest number of childminders in any district over the Trust area. However, there is only one childminder in Poyntzpass ward.

One **day nursery** provides 46 places, as at 31. 3. 2004 this facility has vacancies.

The number of **playgroups** remains constant with an increase of 8 available places. There are 74 funded places in playgroups across the district.

SELB nursery provision shows a significant increase from 30 to 99 places with a nursery school having been provided in Tandragee. There are an estimated 458 3 – 5 year old children living in the district, with an estimated 221 children who would be in the cohort grouping entitled to free school places. At September 2003, 153 children availed of free pre-school places – a 69% uptake.

2 after/out of school groups have closed leaving one group in Markethill ward providing 25 places for a total population of 1099 5 – 9 year old children living in the district. One out of school group in the Markethill ward is re-opening April 2004 providing 24 places.

District Council provision has increased with 4 holiday schemes based in Tandragee and one based in Markethill catering for a total attendance of 2990 children. One afterschool club in Tandragee has a weekly attendance of approximately 25 children.

15 registered **youth groups** are spread across the district.

12 **Delta** programmes have been provided 2001 – 2003 inclusive in this district. There have been no programmes in the Laurelvale ward.

Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure

Ward	Score	Rank
Markethill	19.70	58
Killeen	17.31	69
Poyntzpass	15.11	79
Tandragee	11.42	94
Hamiltonsbawn	8.77	103
Laurelvale	6.03	114

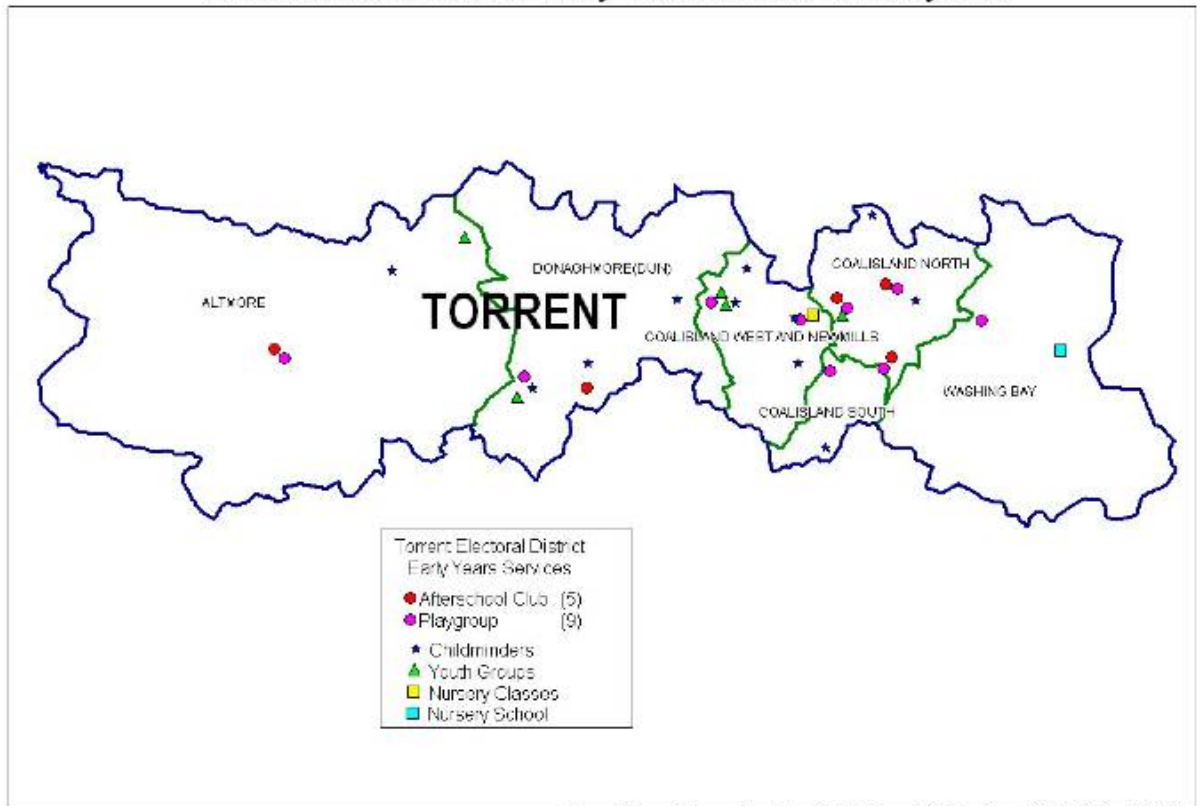
When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score, the more deprived is the area.

The above table indicates that this is one of the areas of lowest need in the Armagh District Council area.

However, Markethill and Killeen wards have high concentrations of Income Support Claimants, Job Seeker Allowance Claimants and young people in receipt of DLA. Tandragee ward has a high number of Lone Parents on Income Support – this can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

This district has the second largest child population in the 0 – 14 age range in the Armagh District Council area and it would appear there is a need for continued expansion of services such as after/out of school groups, holiday schemes etc.

Torrent Electoral District - Early Years Services - January 2004



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Torrent Electoral District

Total population based on 2001 census data is 13,361 (OSNI Wards 1993).

Child Population Profile

Ward	Nos of children aged 0 – 4 years	Nos of children aged 5 – 7 years	Nos of children aged 8 – 9 years	Nos of children aged 10 – 14 years
Altmore	174	106	72	181
Donaghmore	161	112	72	193
Coalisland	173	99	77	182
West and Newmills				
Coalisland	232	115	97	256
North				
Coalisland	273	152	113	238
South				
Washingbay	178	127	84	267
TOTALS	1191	711	515	1317

The table below contrasts the range of services which are currently available with those which were available in 2001.

Service	2001	2004	Places Available	Numbers Attending	Funded Places Available
Childminders	3	10	48		
Playgroups	9	9	200	278	156
After/Out of Schools	5	6	122	144	
Holidays Schemes (DC)	1	-			
Parent & Toddlers	2	3			
Nursery Schools/Nursery Classes SELB		2	78		
Reception Provision	4	4	20		
Out of School Hours Learning SELB		2		365	
Youth Groups SELB	7	6		927	
Delta	16	15			
Play Parks		6			

There has been a significant increase in the number of **childminders** from 3 to 10. As at 1. 3. 2004 3 new childminders are in final stages of registration. Washingbay and Coalisland North wards as yet have no childminding provision. However, in a district which historically has had very few registered childminders, the above noted increase is of some importance.

There are 9 **playgroups** in the district. Since 2001 Review one privately run playgroup has closed and one community group has been registered. There are 156 funded places in playgroups in the district.

SELB nursery provision has increased significantly from 38 places to 98 places. There are an estimated 308 3 – 5 year old children living in the district with an estimated 240 children who would be in the cohort grouping entitled to free pre-school places. At September 2003, 254 children availed of free pre-school places.

Out of School Hours Learning projects were provided at 2 venues with 365 children attending.

The number of **after/out of school groups** has increased by one – with a total of 122 places now available.

6 **youth groups** in the district are registered. It should be noted that there are a wide range of activities available for children and young people which are not registered with the youth service.

District Council provides 7 play parks in the area.

15 **Delta** programmes for parents of pre-school, upper primary and post primary children were provided 2001 – 2003 inclusive in this district. No programme has been provided in the Altmore ward. However, there has been a good coverage of other wards in this disadvantaged district.

Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure

Ward	Score	Rank
Coalisland South	33.81	20
Altmore	28.92	27
Washingbay	24.31	40
Coalisland West & Newmills	23.54	44
Coalisland North	23.43	45
Donaghmore	21.89	50

When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score, the more deprived is the area.

This electoral district presents as being one of the areas with high levels of deprivation in the Dungannon District Council area. It has also the largest child population in the council area in each of the age ranges profiled.

Coalisland North and Coalisland South wards have a high concentration of Income Support Claimants with Coalisland West and Newmills ward and Washingbay ward having high numbers of Job Seeker Allowance Claimants. Coalisland West and Newmills ward has a high number of Lone Parents on Income Support and Coalisland North and Washingbay wards have high concentration of young people in receipt of DLA – this can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

There has been a significant increase in the number of childminders in this district and interest in registration is continuing. All wards have playgroup facilities and there is good coverage provided by out of school/afterschool clubs.

A valuable facility is the An Tearmann project in this district which provides playgroup, afterschool and parent and toddler facilities for the Traveller community.

Torrent Electoral district has the largest number of children aged 0 – 14 in the Armagh and Dungannon Trust area. There is good ward coverage in respect of playgroups and afterschool care. Figures suggest that there remains a need for the further promotion of registered childminders, parent and toddler groups and summer schemes in this district.

Dungannon Electoral District - Early Years Services - January 2004



Crown Copyright, produced by CCP Information Services, SHSSB, April 2004

Dungannon Electoral District

Total population based on 2001 census data is 11,486 (OSNI Wards 1993).

Child Population Profile

Ward	Nos of children aged 0 – 4 years	Nos of children aged 5 – 7 years	Nos of children aged 8 – 9 years	Nos of children aged 10 – 14 years
Drumglass	129	70	54	136
Killymeal	123	75	63	187
Coolhill	164	87	62	167
Moygashel	137	64	52	125
Ballysaggart	154	94	69	184
Mullaghmore	148	100	54	159
TOTALS	855	490	354	958

The table below contrasts the range of current services with those available in 2001.

Service	2001	2004	Places Available	Numbers Attending	Funded Places Available
Childminders	14	22	105		
Day Nurseries	2	2	99		
Playgroups	5	3	58	67	24
After/Out of Schools	2	2	48	80	
Holidays Schemes Out of School/After School (District Council)	1	1 2		3000 92 weekly 30 – 35 weeks	
Parent & Toddlers	2	4			
Nursery Schools/Nursery Classes SELB	3	4	FT – 78 incl 35 under 3 years old PT – 78		
Reception Provision	2	1	25		
Out of School Hours Learning SELB		2		344	
Special School		1	71		
Youth Groups SELB	20	15		1885	
Delta	9	9			
Play Parks		7			
Crèche	1		20		
Summer Scheme A&D Trust		1	24		

There has been a significant increase in the number of **childminders** from 14 to 22. However, there are no registered childminders in Drumglass ward.

One **day nursery** closed and one was registered in Killymeal ward. The number of day nurseries remains constant, however, an additional 10 places have been provided. One day nursery has a waiting list for 6 weeks – 3 year old children, the second day nursery has vacancies as at 31. 3. 2004.

There are 3 **playgroups** in the district. Since the 2001 Review 2 playgroups have closed in the district with the loss of 38 places. There are 24 funded places in playgroups across the district.

SELB nursery provision shows a slight increase. There are an estimated 342 3 – 5 year old children living in the district with an estimated 179 children who would be in the cohort grouping entitled to free pre-school places. At September 2003, 170 children availed of pre-school places – a 95% uptake.

Out of School Hours Learning Projects were provided at 2 venues with 344 children attending.

The number of **after/out of school groups** has remained constant, catering for 80 children with 790 5 – 9 year old children living in the district.

There is a range of registered **youth groups** spread across the district.

District Council provided one holiday scheme with approximately 3000 children attending and 3 sports specific and recreation schemes with attendance of 325. 2 after/out of school clubs with 92 participants weekly are facilitated over a 30 – 35 week period.

There are 7 play parks in the district.

Armagh and Dungannon Trust provided one **summer scheme** in 2003 – 24 places.

There is one **crèche** in the Drumglass ward with 20 available places.

9 **Delta** programmes have been provided 2001 – 2003 inclusive in this district. 3 of these have been provided in Sperrinview Special School.

No programmes have been provided in Coolhill, Mullaghmore and Ballysaggart wards. However, Sure Start now cover Ballysaggart, Dungannon town, Moygashel and Granville and are providers of parental education projects.

Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure

Ward	Score	Rank
Ballysaggart	40.27	10
Mullaghmore	25.10	36
Drumglass	24.29	41
Killymeal	15.75	77
Moygashel	12.07	92
Coolhill	8.77	104

When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score, the more deprived is the area.

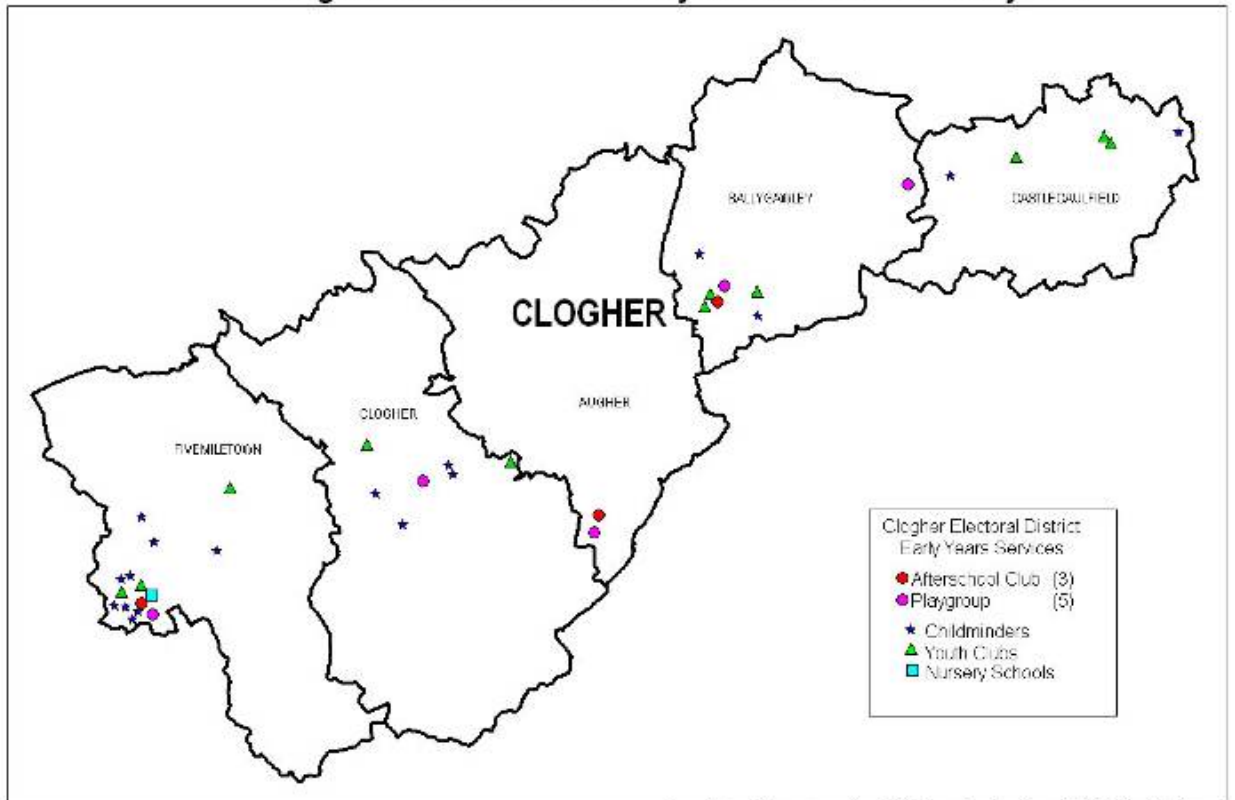
Ballysaggart ward has the highest ranking score in Dungannon District Council area. Ballysaggart and Killymeal wards have high concentrations of Income Support Claimants, Job Seeker Allowance Claimants and Lone Parents on Income Support. Mullaghmore and Ballysaggart wards show high numbers of young people in receipt of DLA – this can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

Ballysaggart ward has a range of registered services – childminders, (2); day nursery (1); playgroups (2); after/out of school club (1).

Sure Start provide a wide range of services in this area.

Whilst there has been an increase in childminders since 2001 Review, there is a need for continuing promotion of registered childminding in this district. There is one ward with no provision and 3 wards each with 2 childminders.

Clogher Electoral District - Early Years Services - January 2004



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Clogher Electoral District

Total population based on 2001 census data is 10,306 (OSNI Wards 1993).

Child Population Profile

Ward	Nos of children aged 0 – 4 years	Nos of children aged 5 – 7 years	Nos of children aged 8 – 9 years	Nos of children aged 10 – 14 years
Augher	119	98	75	208
Clogher	156	80	75	165
Fivemiletown	127	82	50	143
Ballygawley	192	99	75	198
Castlecaulfield	165	119	85	221
TOTALS	759	478	360	935

The table below contrasts the current services with those available in 2001.

Service	2001	2004	Places Available	Numbers Attending	Funded Places Available
Childminders	11	17	79		
Playgroups	5	5	110	131	80
After/Out of Schools	2	3	70	87	
Holidays Schemes (District Council)		1		400	
Parent & Toddlers	3	5			
Nursery Schools SELB	1	1	26		
Reception Provision	7	5	13		
Out of School Hours Learning SELB		1		270	
Youth Groups SELB	12	17		1606	
Delta	11	18			
Play Parks		5			

There has been a significant increase in the number of **childminders** from 11 to 17, Augher remains the only ward with no childminding provision. However, as at 31. 3. 2004 6 new childminding registrations are ongoing – one of these being in the Augher ward.

The number of **playgroups** remains constant. One playgroup closed in Ballygawley ward and one playgroup was registered in Augher ward. There are 80 funded places in playgroups throughout the district.

SELB nursery provision shows minimal change. An estimated 304 3 – 4 year old children live in the district with an estimated 157 children who would be in the cohort grouping entitled to free pre-school places. At September 2003, 119 children availed of pre-school places – a 76 % uptake.

Out of School Hours Learning Projects were provided at one venue with 270 children attending.

3 **after/out of school** groups cater for 87 children; the total 5 – 9 year old population of the area is 838 children.

The number of registered **youth groups** has increased from 12 to 17.

District Council provided one holiday scheme with an attendance of approximately 400 children. 5 play parks have been provided in the district.

The number of **Delta** programmes provided 2001 – 2003 inclusive in this district has increased from 11 to 18, 5 of these have been provided as part of Clogher Valley Sure Start. No programmes have been provided in the Ballygawley ward during this time.

Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure

Ward	Score	Rank
Fivemiletown	27.54	30
Clogher	26.84	32
Ballygawley	25.55	33
Augher	24.11	42
Castlecaulfield	15.58	78

When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score, the more deprived is the area.

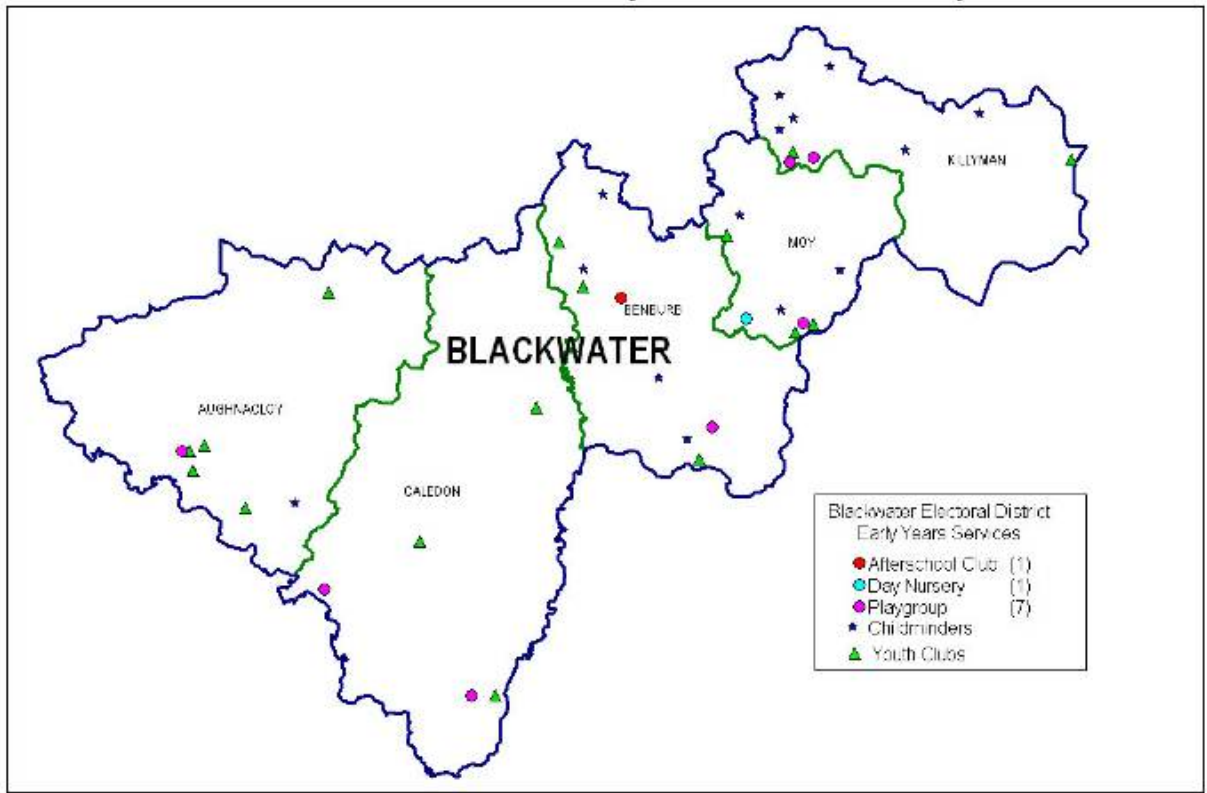
This district presents as being one of the areas of high deprivation in the Dungannon District Council area.

Ballygawley and Castlecaulfield wards have a high concentration of Income Support Claimants with Ballygawley, Fivemiletown and Clogher wards showing high incidence of Job Seeker Allowance Claimants. Ballygawley ward has a high number of Lone Parents on Income Support and Castlecaulfield has a high number of young people in receipt of DLA – this can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

Sure Start provide a wide range of services in the Clogher Valley area.

There has been a significant increase in the number of registered childminders in this area with interest in registration ongoing. There is no day nursery provision in this district.

Blackwater Electoral District - Early Years Services - January 2004



Crown Copyright, produced by CCP Information Services, SHSSB, April 2004

Blackwatertown Electoral District

Total population based on 2001 census data is 10,247 (OSNI Wards 1993).

Child Population Profile

Ward	Nos of children aged 0 – 4 years	Nos of children aged 5 – 7 years	Nos of children aged 8 – 9 years	Nos of children aged 10 – 14 years
Aughnacloy	143	101	64	168
Caledon	144	93	70	185
Benburb	157	98	71	225
Moy	201	107	73	175
Killyman	136	101	67	175
TOTALS	781	500	345	928

The table below contrasts the range of current services which are currently available with those which were available in 2001.

Service	2001	2004	Places Available	Numbers Attending	Funded Places Available
Childminders	11	14	58		
Day Nurseries	-	1	34	28	
Playgroups	7	7	156	206	123
After/Out of Schools		1	24	22	
Parent & Toddlers	4	3			
Reception Provision SELB	4	5	14		
Out of School Hours Learning (SELB)		3		82	
Youth Groups SELB	16	21		1061	
Delta	10	17			
Play Parks		6			

There has been an increase in the number of **childminders** from 11 to 14. There are no registered childminders in Caledon ward.

A **day nursery** has opened in Moy ward providing 34 places; this facility has a waiting list for babies up to one year as at 31. 3. 2004.

The number of **playgroups** remains constant. Each ward is covered by playgroup provision with Killyman and Caledon wards each having 2 groups. There are 123 funded places in playgroups throughout the district.

SELB nursery provision has increased from 8 to 14 places. There are an estimated 312 3 – 5 year old children living in the district with an estimated 139 children entitled to free pre-school places. At September 2003, 137 children availed of pre-school places – a 100% uptake.

3 Out of School Hours Learning Projects took place with 82 children attending.

One **out of school group** has opened in Benburb providing 24 places. This is the only out of school group in this electoral district which has some 845 children aged 5 – 9 years living in the area.

There has been a 31% increase in the number of registered **youth groups**.

District Council provide 6 play parks in the area.

17 **Delta** programmes were provided 2001 – 2003 inclusive for parents of early years, upper primary and post primary children with all wards receiving coverage.

Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure

Ward	Score	Rank
Caledon	19.84	56
Aughnacloy	19.46	59
Moy	17.17	71
Benburb	13.84	84
Killyman	10.95	97

When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score, the more deprived is the area.

Overall this district presents as being the least deprived in the Dungannon District Council area.

However, Aughnacloy and Killyman wards show a high concentration of Income Support Claimants with Moy and Killyman wards having a high number of Job Seeker Allowance Claimants. Moy and Aughnacloy wards have high numbers of Lone Parents on Income Support and Benburb has a high concentration of young people in receipt of DLA – this can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

There has been an increase in the number of childminders in the district and each ward has playgroup coverage. The one day nursery in the area has a waiting list as at 31. 3. 2004.

An identified need in this district would appear to be for out of school care, holiday schemes.

Summary of Current Service Provision Trust Wide

Registered Provision in Armagh and Dungannon Trust

Provider	Numbers 2001	Places 2001	Numbers at 31. 1. 2004	Places 2004
Childminders	124	562	166	741
Playgroups	45	960	43	950
Day Nurseries	5	214	7	265
After/Out of Schools	17	274	17	392
Crèches	1	20	2	28
A & D Trust Holiday Schemes			3	72

SELB Provision

	Numbers 2001	Places 2001	Numbers 2004	Places 2004
Nursery Schools/ Nursery Classes	5	221	15	598 incl 88 under 3 years old
Reception Provision	41	182	42	166
Out of School Hours Learning	-	-	15	1785
Special Schools	2	107	2	171

District Council Provision

Activity	Numbers 2001	Numbers Attending 2001	Numbers at 31. 1. 2004	Numbers Attending 2004
Holiday Schemes	23	11430	16	11428
Afterschool Activities			12	316 (weekly)

Community Services

DELTA	No of Progs 98 - 2001	No of Parents Attending	No of Progs 2001 - 2004	No of Parents Attending
	88	1579	136	

Parents & Toddler Groups	Numbers 2001	Numbers at 31. 1. 2004
	27	30

Youth Groups	Numbers 2001	Numbers 2004
	125	109

Since 2001 Review there has been an increase in the number of registered **childminders** from 124 to 166 with an increase in available places from 562 to 741. There has also been a decrease in the number of wards with low or no provision.

No provision – from 10 in 2001 to 5 in 2004.

1 Childminder – from 8 in 2001 to 6 in 2004.

Currently 45 childminders hold or are working towards relevant qualifications – 27%. Since 2001 Review 6 childminders have completed High/Scope training.

There has been a decrease in the number of **playgroups** from 45 to 43 with the loss of only 10 places. Overall the number of children who were not offered a place in September 2003 and over the past year is low.

In the Trust area, there are 38 community playgroups and 5 privately run groups.

Day nursery provision has increased from 5 to 7. Four of these facilities are in the Armagh area with applications for the establishment of 2 further day nurseries in this area presently being processed. One day nursery is located in the Benburb area and 2 are in Dungannon town leaving a large area of Dungannon district without day nursery provision.

3 day nurseries have waiting lists, 2 have all places filled and 2 have vacancies as at 31. 3. 2004.

All day nursery provision is in the private sector.

The number of **after/out of school** groups remains constant at 17 providing 392 places – an increase of 118 places from 2001 Review. Since 2001 Review, one group has been registered and has closed. One group which closed is presently being re-registered. 4 other groups have closed and 4 have been registered. These figures highlight the need for:

- community audits to assess need
- consultation with service users re: suitable programmes of activities
- appropriate staff training
- sustainability.

There has been an overall increase in **SELB nursery provision**. Together with funded pre-school places in playgroups 85% of children have free pre-school places.

Out of School Hours Learning projects were provided in 15 venues with 1785 children taking part in a variety of activities.

District Council provision shows an increase in after/out of school clubs/activities.

50% of wards have **parent and toddler** groups.

There is limited **crèche** provision – one in Armagh district and one in Dungannon district.

3 **holiday schemes** were provided by Armagh and Dungannon Trust in 2003 – 78 places.

Delta programmes have increased from 88 (1998 – 2002) to 136 (2001 – 2003). Provision of primary and post primary programmes has increased in a number of areas.

The number of **youth groups** registered with the SELB youth service shows a small decrease. However, it should be noted that there is a wide range of services for children and young people provided by the community which are not the subject of youth services supervision or support.

Equality of Opportunity

Children with Disabilities/Additional Needs

The following table gives a breakdown of the numbers of children (Birth – 14 years) with a disability/additional needs who are currently accessing services/have accessed services in the last 12 month period.

Children with a Disability Accessing Statutory Provision

Numbers of Children	Social Services Provision
223	children receiving a service from Children's Disability Team
31	children receiving a service from Sensory Impairment Team
	Community Nursing Services
132	children with learning disability
	Children with a Disability Accessing community Based Provision
3	children using a registered childminder
2	children attending day nursery
40	children attending playgroup
	District Council Schemes
15	children attended ADC summer schemes in association with Mencap
6	children attended DDC summer schemes in association with Mencap
30	children attended DDC school swimming programme over a 30 week period

The following table represents the range of services offered by the Mencap Play Advisor across the Trust (Sept 2002 – Jan 2004)

Service Provided	Numbers
Placements	28
Play advice/ongoing support	412
Toy Library	5
Inter-agent working	2
Promoting service	5

Since the 2001 Review the **Children’s Disability Team** has become firmly established. The supported playgroup scheme has proved very successful. However, there are gaps in provision ie support for children in afterschool provision and need for increase in supported placements for children in pre-school year (PEAG places). See report in Family Support Services.

The **Sensory Impairment Team** continue to provide a service to children with a sensory impairment – figures are noted in table opposite.

Health Visiting services include targeting children with special needs and offering support to families with children who have physical and learning difficulties – see health visiting report – Family Support section.

Since 2001 Review **Delta** have provided an annual pre-school programme in Sperrinview Special School.

The **SELB** provides a range of services to support provision, to provide for the educational needs of children with a disability and for ethnic minority groups in the area. The services include full time education provision within special schools and learning support units attached to mainstream schools and the availability of specialist advisory officers and teachers who provide educational advice and support to a school, help the school modify the curriculum to provide for the educational needs of all its pupils. The specialist staff support children of the Traveller community, children of groups for whom English is a second language, children with sensory impairments and children diagnosed as being autistic or having Downs Syndrome. A programme of altering school accommodation to provide improved access for children with physical disabilities is being undertaken.

Since 2001 Review **SELB Youth Service** has developed an Inclusion Unit to address the following areas – rural isolation, young people with disabilities, young Travellers, ethnic minority communities. Additional funding has been provided for work with marginalized young people in a variety of projects eg NI Deaf Youth Association, Mencap etc.

Armagh and Dungannon District Councils work in partnership with Mencap to promote inclusiveness in holiday schemes.

Overall there has been an increase in the number of children with disabilities/additional needs who access services across the Trust. Since the 2001 Review development has taken place in this area. It is important that current schemes and projects are sustained and that identified gaps in provision are given consideration. Efforts should continue to ensure that children with disabilities/additional needs are included in mainstream child care provision where possible.

Children from Ethnic Minority Communities

The An Tearmann Project based in Coalisland provides child care facilities for the Traveller community – see report in Family Support section.

The Community Development Team have published a research document in respect of the Traveller community in Armagh which has identified the needs of this community.

A Children and Families Development Worker with the Armagh Travellers' Support Group has been appointed to the team to develop child care and adult personal development groups – see report in Family Support section.

Toybox is a new project which aims to improve the early years development and educational opportunities for Traveller children 0 – 4 years – see report in Family Support section.

A small number of settled Traveller children access local playgroup and afterschool provision in the Armagh area.

SELB provide a range of services to support provision for the educational needs of children from ethnic minority groups in the area.

18% of registered **Dungannon Sure Start** membership is from the migrant working community. In partnership with core Health Visiting, Sure Start have established a Timorese Women's Health and Child Development Group which meets weekly in the women's Centre (provided free), a free crèche is provided. This group will initially run for a 3 month period.

Sure Start employ a Portuguese Family Support Worker for 25 hours per week.

Baby massage classes include members of the Portuguese community – an interpreter is provided.

Sure Start have identified the need for provision of a Portuguese language playgroup and provision of materials in libraries for ethnic minority communities.

Research is being planned/undertaken to identify the needs of the Chinese, Portuguese and Eastern European communities in the Trust area.

The Trust has funded the translation of Childminding Regulations and Guidelines into the Portuguese language. The **Early Years Forum** through CCP funding held a childminding information session for the Portuguese speaking community. One member of the Portuguese community has been registered as a childminder and the **Early Years Team** is presently processing 3 applications for registered childminding from Portuguese applicants.

A small number of children from ethnic minority communities access child care facilities across the Trust

Since 2001 Review a number of projects and initiatives have been developed to provide support and services to children and families from ethnic minority communities. To ensure equality of opportunity, promotion of child care provision reflective of the needs of these communities should remain a focus for all service providers.

Early Years Support Services

Included in this section are services which are directly available to support child care providers in the Trust area and services within other statutory agencies which have an impact on the development of early years services in the Trust.

Early Years Team

The early years team comprises one Senior Social Worker, 3 Early Years Social Workers and 2 Early Years Development and Family Support Social Workers. Additional assistance on an 'as and when' basis is provided by a former member of the team.

The work of the 3 Early Years Social Workers involves:

- Registration of childminders and day care providers.
- Undertaking annual inspections of all registered provision as required by the Children (NI) Order 1995.
- Providing advice and support to providers regarding the development of services, training opportunities and issues pertaining to children in need.
- Delivering training ie pre-registration and child protection.
- Investigating complaints.

The Trust Early Years Panel comprises a Child Care Manager (Chair), one Senior Social Worker in Children's Disability, Health Visitor Team Leader and Senior Social Worker Early Years. The panel meet monthly to consider applications for registration, inspection reports and discuss pertinent issues.

Since the last Article 20 Review in 2001 the role of the 2 Family Support Social Workers has been redefined to include an emphasis on Early Years Development.

In addition their work includes:

- Management and training of family support workers. The family support work scheme aims to provide a home based service to support, enable and empower parents to provide adequate care for their children. Following an assessment of need support workers are contracted to provide assistance/education for vulnerable and isolated parents in practical parenting tasks.

From 2. 2. 2003 – 31. 3. 2004 68 families with 168 children have availed of the family support worker's scheme.

- Assessment of local need and targeted intervention to meet expressed need.
- Parenting programmes.
- Self-esteem/empowerment groups.
- Behaviour management.

All members of the early years team work in close collaboration with both the voluntary and statutory sectors to develop and support quality services.

Representatives of the early years team are involved in strategic planning fora including a wide range of Southern Child Care Partnership sub groups (Training and Quality, Website/Database, Sustainability), the Pre-School Education Advisory group (PEAG), Sure Start Management Committee, Delta Steering group, Wraparound and Summer Scheme Steering groups etc.

Since the last Article 20 Review the early years team have worked proactively to assist in operationalising the action plan. In co-operation with the Southern Child Care Partnership, through Trust multi-agency initiatives early years developments having included promoting registered childminding campaign, Facts 'n' Fun events, ethnic minority communities projects (Travellers, Portuguese, Lithuanians) and training and quality initiatives.

Gaps in provision:

1. Need to target wards identified as having low childminding provision.
2. Sustainability with particular reference to afterschool/out of school provision.
3. In most areas, day nurseries have waiting lists.
4. Lack of crèche provision to support training.
5. Early years team capacity remains an issue.

Northern Ireland Childminding Association

NICMA is a charity and membership organisation which works to support childminders, parents and children. The main purpose is to promote the development of children by providing quality child care and education in a registered home-based setting.

Services provided include:

- Locally based NICMA Development Officer.
- Promotion of the provision of high quality child care and education within registered, home-based settings.
- Provision of training in child care and education.
- Provision of support, information and advice to new and established registered childminders.
- Provision of information and advice to parents seeking or currently using a registered childminder.
- Provision of and promotion of a support network for childminders.
- Promotion of registered childminding and to encourage registration.
- Promotion of NICMA membership and insurance.

Developments since the last Article 20 Review in 2001:

- Promoting registered childminding campaign has seen a childminding increase of 35%.
- 74% (121) childminders in the Armagh and Dungannon Trust have NICMA membership and insurance (Southern Board average 62%).
- Increase in parental enquiries regarding childminding placements.
- Increase in the number of childminders availing of a wide range of training through the Childcare Partnership funding and training strategy.
- Start-up grants available to new childminders in areas identified with no or low provision to help towards the cost incurred in registration.
- Pre-registration training courses held bi-annually.

Gaps in provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development include:

- Need for more registered childminders in Coalisland, Newmills, Altmore, Drumglass, Mullaghmore, Aughnacloy, Caledon, Charlemont, Carrickatuke and Derrynoose. These areas could be targeted with information evening for potential childminders.
- The two childminding support groups need support and encouragement to continue.
- Encouragement to all newly registered childminders to attend training sessions on the business side of childminding.

NIPPA

NIPPA the Early Years Organisation, works to promote the development of high quality care, education and play facilities for children aged 0 – 14 and their families.

NIPPA currently employ 2 early years advisors/specialists in the Armagh and Dungannon Trust area assisted by funding from the Trust. One post is full time and one is a 35 hour post of which 22 hours are as development worker for parent and toddler groups (funded by Peace II Measure 2.5). Their role is to provide specialist support to playgroups and early years services focusing on practice and quality assurance issues within groups, promoting training opportunities for staff and offering support and advice to management committees.

Advisors support 33 groups in the Pre-School Education Expansion Programme (PEEP), 24 parent and toddler groups, 4 day nurseries, 1 crèche and 8 playgroups which are not in the PEEP.

Support and training are also provided by the area High/Scope Development Worker for 5 playgroups which currently operate High/Scope.

Since the Article 20 Report 2001:

- Groups have received support in training for management committees.
- Good practice manuals have been distributed to groups.
- Training has been provided on a range of accredited courses including ongoing professional development and training and support for parents.
- 4 groups have reached the accreditation standard.

Recommendations for future development:

- Further training needed on effective committees.
- Need for uniformity of practice across the pre-school sector.
- Need for sustainability/core funding for voluntary groups.
- Core funding for development worker posts with particular focus on development in 0 – 3 years age range.
- Need to lobby for a robust sector work force strategy that addresses issues relating to terms and conditions, qualifications, in-service training and professional development and staff retention.
- Need for additional training for High/Scope groups and Caring Start Programmes for parents.

Family and Child Care Services

Family Support teams.
Looked after children teams.
Child Protection team.
Aftercare Team.
Residential Care teams.
Early Years team.

These teams provide family and child care, fostering, adoption, residential care and early years services across the Trust.

PlayBoard

PlayBoard is the lead agency for promoting and developing children's play in Northern Ireland. PlayBoard's ethos and remit is grounded in a commitment to meet the needs of children, adults and local communities. One of PlayBoard's objectives is to develop sustainable and affordable quality out of school hours PlayCare provision.

Since completion of 2001's Article 20 Review Report:

PlayBoard has established the PlayCare Sustainable Support Project. This project consisting of 1 full time project leader and 2 part-time development officers, provides a support network for all peace projects funded under measure 1.5 Positive Action for Women. The aim of the team is to develop and consolidate existing networks to ensure Playworkers and Management committees deliver quality accessible and sustainable out-of school services. PlayCare staff work closely with local trusts and Partnership development staff in particular the Partnership Out-of-School hour's development officer.

The Partnership development officer based with PlayBoard supports those afterschool projects funding under the New Opportunities Fund for Out of School Hour's Childcare.

Gaps in provision:

The projects which have been created as a result of New Opportunities funding are widespread geographically with a large percentage in the Armagh and Dungannon Health and Social Services Trust area. However, there are still areas such as Poyntzpass who would have welcomed funding for such a service in their community as they do not have one, a local community audit would indicate need. However, the current focus is on trying to sustain those projects which are operational and are struggling to survive.

SELB Youth Service

The Youth Service presently employ 5 youth workers (3 in Armagh and 2 in Dungannon) to support and maintain a range of youth services across the area.

There are currently 109 youth groups registered with the SELB Youth Service across the Trust area. These groups can access grant aid and service level agreements have also been negotiated with some of the larger youth clubs where specific development work or project work is funded. Youth Tutors are contracted by the Youth Service to provide specific services. Although the Youth Service has responsibilities for children and young people aged 4 – 25 years the focus of the work is mainly with post primary children where services include personal development programmes, community relations work and targeted projects aimed at specific groups of young people.

Since 2001 an Inclusion Unit has been developed to address the following areas – rural isolation, young people with disabilities, young Travellers, ethnic minorities. During the past 2 years the Department of Education has provided additional funding for work with marginalized young people in a variety of projects eg NI Deaf Youth Association, MENCAP, Rural Youth etc. A substantial development has been the identification of NOF funding to provide activities for young people. As part of the development plan for the review of the youth service, a Best Value Review is being carried out January 2004 – June 2004. The project will involve an assessment of key aspects of the service including:

1. funding
2. administration
3. operations
4. residential centres
5. grant aid to the voluntary sector
6. schemes of assistance.

Other developments include the development of models of participation and consultation with young people and the development of a partnership with the Millennium Volunteer Scheme to identify volunteers for working in youth groups.

Future plans include:

- ongoing development of the Inclusion Unit
- ongoing development of models of participation and consultation with young people.

District Councils

A range of services are provided at community level or district level by the local District Councils. Children and young people can access:

- leisure centres
- sports facilities
- community centres/community houses
- tourist attractions
- equipped play parks
- play spaces
- holiday schemes: afterschool activities/clubs.

In addition each council has a proactive leasing policy which facilitates registered groups such as playgroups, afterschool clubs and holiday schemes in utilising council property to deliver their services.

Armagh City and District Council

Armagh Council has provided 33 equipped play areas in local communities. Holiday schemes were facilitated at 7 venues throughout the past year with a total attendance of 7703 children. Afterschool activities related clubs are facilitated at 3 venues with an average weekly attendance of 219 children.

Children with disabilities – in association with Mencap approximately 15 children attended summer schemes in Orchard Leisure Centre and Tandragee Recreation Centre.

Since 2001 development of community partnerships to promote community ownership has been ongoing as has been development of afterschool activities. A dual-use scheme is being developed between the council and St Patricks High School in Keady. This will enable development of activity programmes for all age groups in the greater Keady area.

The council will continue to support local communities in development of their own play facilities, community gardens etc. An identified gap in provision is the lack of facilities adjacent to play areas for the 10 – 14 year olds.

Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council

The council has provided 24 equipped play areas in local communities.

Holiday schemes, sports specific and recreation schemes were facilitated at a number of venues during the past year with an approximate attendance of 3725 children. After/out of school clubs are facilitated at one venue with an average weekly attendance of 52 children.

Children with disabilities – in association with Mencap, 6 children per day attended a 3 week summer scheme in 2003.

The School Swimming programme activity encourages the local Special Needs Schools, those schools with Special Needs Units and special needs children in mainstream education to attend the programme. 30 participants per week over a 30 week period attended the above programme in Dungannon Leisure Centre.

The council supports 3 Youth Sport South co-ordinators based in 3 post-primary schools. The co-ordinators target primary schools which send children to their respective schools. The NOF supports the Youth Sport programme and requires each co-ordinator to carry out at least 18 afterschool, coached sports sessions.

The council will continue to consider extension of its coverage of play parks.

Health Action Zone

The main aim of HAZ is to work in partnership at all levels with statutory, community and voluntary sectors to measurably improve health and wellbeing for local communities across Armagh and Dungannon.

HAZ is core funded by DHSSPS and also secures funding for programme activities from a variety of sources eg NOF, IFH, LHSCG, LSP etc.

HAZ focuses on two main delivery themes:

1. Poverty, Disadvantage and Health
2. Rural Health and Wellbeing.

HAZ is responsive to local needs and a number of 'demonstrator' projects have been developed to effectively address health and wellbeing issues.

Examples of some of the work developed over the past three years include:

1. Decent Food for All – addressing food poverty locally. This includes fresh fruit for schools, breakfast clubs, training programmes on diet/nutrition for young people.
2. Safe Farm/Safe Business – aims to reduce accidents and ill health for people living in rural areas.
3. Intergenerational projects including environmental work aimed at young people.

Recommendations for future development include:

1. Encouraging healthy lifestyles – increasing physical activity, reducing obesity.
2. Responding to the needs of young people in isolated rural areas.

Gaps in provision and recommendations for future development as identified by Early Years Support Services.

Early Years Team

- Need to target wards identified as having low childminder provision.
- Overall sustainability with particular reference to after/out of school provision.
- In most day nurseries there are waiting lists.
- Lack of crèche provision to support training.
- Early Years capacity remains an issue.

NICMA

- Need for more registered childminders in Coalisland, Newmills, Altmore, Drumglass, Aughnacloy, Caledon, Charlemont, Carrigatuke and Derrynoose.
- All newly registered childminders to be encouraged to attend training sessions on the business side of childminding.
- Need for Dungannon and Armagh Childminding Support groups to be supported and encouraged.

NIPPA

- Further training needed on effective committees.
- Need for uniformity of practice across the pre-school sector.
- Need for sustainability/core funding for voluntary groups.
- Need for core funding for development worker posts with particular focus on 0 – 3 years development.
- Need for additional training for High/Scope groups and development of Caring Start Programmes for parents.

Playboard

- Need for funding for provision of groups in areas where local community audits indicate need.
- Need for sustainability of projects which are operational and struggling to survive.

SELB Youth Service

- Ongoing development of the Inclusion Unit and of models of participation and consultation with young people.

District Councils

Armagh District Council

- Need for facilities adjacent to play areas for 10 – 14 year olds.

Dungannon District Council

- The council will continue to consider extension of its coverage of play parks.

HAZ

- Encouraging healthy lifestyles.
- Responding to the need of young people in isolated rural areas.

Family Support Services

This section outlines the range of family support initiatives available within Armagh and Dungannon Trust. These are either directly provided by the Trust or are provided by the independent sector as a result of Trust or partial Trust funding for these services.

Health Visiting

Health visiting services are available to every family in the district with a child under 5 years. Health visitors target social need on an individual and caseload basis by prioritising those children deemed as 'in need'.

Services include:

- Parenting programmes such as the Child Development Programme which is delivered to all first time parents within the Trust.
- Support for those mothers with postnatal depression using the Post Natal Depression Screening questionnaire and subsequent non-directive counselling sessions.
- Health visitors have recently become involved in the introduction of the subject of domestic violence to families.
- Primary advice on behaviour and minor mental health problems as outlined in the SHSSB's Child and Adolescent Mental health Strategy.
- Specific work with groups in areas of high deprivation in the form of parent and toddler provision.

Other areas of work within the team includes targeting children with special needs and offering support to families with children who have physical and learning disabilities. A recent development is the delivery of services to various ethnic minority groups in the Trust. This has proved to be challenging and has required the staff to develop new skills, appreciate the cultural variances within each of the groups and target new health needs.

Specific areas of work in targeting social need will be the expansion of the Trust's two Sure-Start sites in Dungannon and the Clogher Valley.

The Trust also employs a Child Protection Nurse Specialist. This staff member gives specialist advice and support to all nursing staff across the Trust on a range of issues related to child protection.

Health visitors have become involved in the inspection of the premises of those wishing to become registered as childminders and advice is given to those who are interested in becoming registered as childminders. During postnatal visits the use of registered day care is actively promoted and mothers who are anticipating their return to work are provided with lists of registered day care in their area.

The Trust provides a school nursing service for children from primary school age to eighteen years if the child remains at school. The main function of the school nurse is to provide an ongoing child health screening service to all children ensuring that any developmental delay is identified early and its impact on their education is minimised.

To assist children with complex needs the Trust is in the process of developing the Community Children's team and are now able to offer families respite care in their own homes, at school or other setting in the Trust area. The service also provides a specialist nursing service to those children:

- acute ill health
- chronic ill health
- children with special needs/disability
- children who are dying.

DELTA

The main purpose of the DELTA Project is to promote partnership with parents within the SELB area by carrying out educare/multi-agency programmes for parents, through parent information and advice sessions. The aim is to promote the development of children and youths from birth to sixteen years old, raising parents' self-esteem and enhancing the parent/carer child relationship.

Parents' programmes were set up in a variety of venues, with approximately 32 early years programmes (450 parents), 8 post primary (147) and 6 primary (104) annually in the Armagh and Dungannon Trust area.

The programmes include healthy lifestyles, language, literacy and sharing books, learning through play, maths, creativity, safety, risk taking behaviours, positive parenting, use of IT and thinking skills. Other topics can be arranged at parents request. Programmes can be tailor made to the groups requirements eg ASD programme, ethnic minority groups or special needs groups.

Since Article 20 Report 2001:

- Baby sitting groups have developed as a result of non-recurrent funding from the DHSS&PS to target elements outlined in the Myths and Reality Report.
- Links with young mothers and school age mothers have been made.
- Additional DELTA time is to be provided to Clogher Sure Start Project as from April 2004.
- Staff have participated in Early Years, SELB and Women's Aid projects.

Although the project has aimed to have an equitable spread throughout the Trust, for a number of reasons fewer than planned ethnic minority programmes have been provided. However, all electoral districts have had programmes and wards in most need (Noble Indicators) have been actively targeted.

Recommendations for future developments:

- that DELTA continue to provide quality parents' programmes
- that areas of need continue to be targeted and DELTA outcomes monitored
- that the project undergoes an overall evaluation in order to consolidate the programmes on offer
- increase in provision of ethnic minority programmes.

Children's Disability Team

Since the Article 20 Report 2001 the Children's Disability Team has become firmly established. The team consists of one Senior Social Worker and seven Social Workers (5.5 wte).

The team provides advice and assistance for children who have a substantive and long lasting physical and/or learning disability. Each child referred will receive an assessment of need and services may be provided as appropriate.

The team are also piloting early response to identified needs of children diagnosed in the autistic spectrum.

The team aims:

- To enable and improve the quality of life for children with a disability.
- To enable families help their child reach his/her full potential.

- To promote independence.
- To work in partnership with children/young people and their families.

Services provided:

- Information and advice.
- Counselling and advocacy.
- Referral to and liaison with other professionals.
- Respite.
- Shared care.
- Regular review of services.

The work of the team has been greatly enhanced during the past three years by Wraparound funding from the Department of Health and Social Services and Public Safety to Southern Health and Social Services Board. Armagh and Dungannon Trust received £80,000 each year to develop and promote services for children with disabilities. Of this £28,000 was specifically targeted at early years provision to further develop supported playgroup scheme and develop specialist childminding in partnership with Early Years team, NIPPA, NICMA and Mencap Play advisors. This included providing training for playgroup staff and childminders and funding one-to-one support in the various playgroups.

The supported playgroup scheme has proved very successful. We are presently providing one-to-one support for eight children with disability or significant developmental delay and a further three are being assessed. This is not an inexpensive service but very worthwhile.

Despite receiving a further £5,000 from Childcare Partnership to support children with a disability in voluntary sector PEAG funded places, we are unable to fully meet demand for this service with the existing budget.

Wraparound Funding also enabled NIPPA to bring in Reggio Emilia Exhibition and lecture to the Trust area.

Gaps in provision include:

- One-to-one support for children with disability in afterschool provision (147 children aged 4 years 2 months – 14 years of which a minimum of 25 may benefit from a supported place).
- Existing budget does not fully meet the demand to support children in their pre-school year.

MENCAP Play Advisor

The main purpose of the Mencap Play Advisor is to facilitate inclusive play and promote the importance of play for children with a disability/developmental delay.

The service offers children with a disability/developmental delay the opportunity to be included in their local pre or after school play provision.

Support is offered to the family and play staff during the settling-in period and support, advice and guidance is available during the child's time in the play provision. Advice is given on appropriate play and play provision. Disability Awareness Raising and Inclusive Play Workshops are offered to families, play staff etc.

Since 2001 the Wraparound Service has been put in place. This includes one-to-one play sessions in the home and the play workshops offered to parents, carers, respite staff etc.

Gaps in provision:

Provision of play sessions and play workshops on the Wraparound service is limited as only 4 hours have been allocated to each Trust area per week. As demand has increased less sessions are allocated per child and there is now a waiting list for these services.

Clogher Valley Sure Start

The main purpose of Clogher Valley Sure Start is to work with parents and children to promote the physical, intellectual, social and emotional development of pre-school children – particularly those who are disadvantaged within the Clogher Valley area.

Clogher Valley Sure Start team is based in Augher and provide a wide range of services which include: family support, toy library, breastfeeding support, dedicated health visiting and midwifery input, safety equipment scheme, parenting programmes and dental health advice.

Developments since Article 20 Report 2001 include:

- CVSS now cover Aughnacloy and Ballygawley wards in addition to Fivemiletown (ADHSST area), Augher and Clogher wards.
- Lead body is now ADHSST.
- The introduction of a childminding network with the aim of providing respite child care for families in specific circumstances.

Gaps in provision include:

- The lack of an accessible venue for holding workshops, parenting programmes etc with onsite crèche facilities.

Dungannon Sure Start

The aim of Sure Start is “to work with parents to be, parents and children to promote the physical, intellectual, social and emotional development of pre-school children to ensure they can flourish at home and when they get to school”.

Dungannon Sure Start is located in Ballysaggart Business Complex, Dungannon and has recently been extended to cover Dungannon town, Moygashel and Granville. The 0 – 4 population in this area is 500. The Sure Start team includes a Programme Manager, 2 administrative officers, information and research officer, 2 midwives, health visitor, 3 family support workers (one bi-lingual), speech and language therapist, occupational therapist, dental health promotion facilitator, certified baby yoga instructor, home start co-ordinator and family support volunteers.

The lead body for this programme is NIPPA – The Early Years Organisation and the accountable body is Armagh and Dungannon Health and Social Services Trust.

The Sure Start team provide a wide range of individual, family and group based services for expectant parents, pre-school children and their families. The focus is on the needs of the whole family and how we can work together to ensure that each child gets the best start in life.

Services include:

- home visiting
- needs assessments and action plans
- liaison, advocacy and signposting
- antenatal classes; breastfeeding support
- parenting preparation groups; positive parenting information; parents as early educators
- primary and community health care and advice
- family support including befriending and social support
- home safety check scheme and home safety equipment scheme
- dental advice and support
- baby massage; baby yoga
- cook it

- parent and toddler group support services
- babble and chat courses
- speech and language development
- play development
- child care advice
- translation and interpreter services
- parenting awareness for young people
- crèche available for some courses.

Home Start

Home Start is a voluntary organisation which provides a volunteer home visiting scheme for families with children under 5 years with the aim of facilitating the prevention of family breakdown. Funding is provided by the Armagh and Dungannon Trust and other sources eg Childhood Fund which is funding the Armagh Outreach project for 2 years.

Families referred in the Armagh and Dungannon Trust area are offered support, friendship and practical help. During the period 1 April 2003 to 30 March 2004 the organisation has provided a service to 81 families and 232 children. 43 volunteers have been trained and are supporting families.

Training and workshops for volunteers on relevant issues including diversity, inclusion, working with minority groups have been developed over the past 3 years. In 2003, funding for the Armagh Outreach Project was secured for 2 years.

Future development would benefit from more permanent funding of the Outreach Project.

Community Development Team

The Community Development Team aims to promote the mainstreaming of a community development approach throughout the Trust while working to provide support to voluntary and community groups within the Armagh and Dungannon Trust area. The ethos of the work is to enable rather than 'do for'. Therefore instead of providing a service programme the Team enables community groups to identify their own needs and works in partnership with statutory and voluntary agencies to develop strategies to meet these needs.

The team provides a range of support services to groups with health and social well being focus.

Services include training, capacity building, funding advice, advocating, signposting and practical assistance.

The team is represented on a wide range of partnerships including:

- Early Years Forum
- Promoting Registered Childminding
- Child Care Forum
- Domestic Violence Forum
- Wraparound
- Delta
- Southern Area Interpreting Services (SAIS)
- SAAT (Southern Area Action with Travellers)
- BME Children and Young Peoples Working Group.

In relation to early years, the team is responsible for the establishment of and the provision of on-going support to Parent and Toddler Groups and Traveller Support Groups.

Developments since the 2001 Review include:

- The publication of a research document in respect of the Traveller Community in Armagh – “Who’s That Knocking At My Door?” which has identified the needs of this community.
- Appointment in October 2003 of Children and Families Development Worker (Armagh Travellers Support Group) to develop child care services and set up personal development groups ie Women’s Group, Young Women’s Group, Young Men’s Group. The post is funded for 2– 3 years by the NI Executive Children’s Fund.
- Establishment of Trust In-house Traveller Forum in April 2004.
- Establishment of Multi-Cultural Working Group in April 2004.

Recommendations and plans for future development:

- Ongoing work to address the identified needs of the Traveller community eg Out of School/Homework Club in the Armagh area, Parent and Toddler Groups in Armagh and Coalisland.
- Baseline research on needs of ethnic minority communities in the Trust area.
- Inclusion of Traveller Culture Awareness training in Trust Induction programme for all new staff.
- Development of more in-depth training on Traveller culture.
- Development of ethnic minorities training for other minority ethnic cultures in Trust area.

An Tearmann

The An Tearmann project operates as a not for profit charity providing support for Irish Traveller families within the Coalisland and Dungannon area. The project is supported by a multi-agency management committee and has a number of on the ground staff.

Service provided – there are currently 16 pre-school places provided, 36 afterschool places and a variety of activities for adult Traveller persons.

Developments since Article 20 Report 2001:

There has been a community development initiative funded by the Community Foundation and a programme for adult education and training, which is funded by STAP LSP. These are to support and provide experience for our client community; this has manifested itself in the form of a Young Women's Group, Women's Group, Men's Group, Parent and Toddler Group and the provision of essential skills classes.

Gaps in provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development:

The biggest concern about the service provided is the nature of how it is funded. It is difficult to plan long term and the service is subject to funding remaining available.

Toybox

The Toybox project aims to:

- improve the early years development and educational opportunities for Traveller children aged 0 – 4 years
- encourage parents to enrol their children in quality pre-school settings
- reduce the development gap between Traveller and settled children.

Using home visits and a regularly changing toybox play resource, part time early years development workers will support parents in using a full range of age appropriate play experiences with their children.

The project aims to target 120 children throughout Northern Ireland in its first year to improve motor skills, concentration, speech and language and sensory awareness – to be measured through observation.

Project staff will work with health visitors and other professionals working with Traveller families.

Parents Advice Centre

This year Parents Advice Centre celebrates its 25th anniversary and the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Dungannon Centre.

It aims to help individuals to cope with and overcome difficulties by:

- providing a listening ear
- identifying options and possibilities
- supporting parents and young people to find their own solutions to problems.

Funding for the centre is provided through the Armagh and Dungannon Trust and charitable funding sources.

The Centre provides a free telephone helpline and face-to-face support and guidance service for young people and parents of children of any age. Issues dealt with include bullying, discipline, aggression, behaviour, unhappiness, drugs, abuse, relationships and emotional difficulties.

Contact with the office can be established:

- by telephone
- by appointment
- by dropping into local office
- by letter and e-mail as an initial contact.

The Parents Advice Centre also provides:

- The Parenting Project – tailor made parenting courses for parents provided regionally.
- The Parenting Forum is a membership of 500 individuals and organisations. The Forum raises the importance of parents and acts as a service on parenting issues, listening to the needs and aspirations of parents.
- The Mens Project increases awareness of the issues facing men and boys in Northern Ireland and promotes their social interests.
- Alternatives to Physical Punishment is a partnership with Save the Children UK which provides training for workers on the alternatives to physical punishment.

A total of 922 telephone calls were received in the Dungannon office between 1 February 2003 and 31 January 2004.

Since 2001 a 'smart divert' telephone system has been put in place ensuring that telephone calls are answered irrespective of area. A major development in 2004 has been the introduction of a free telephone helpline 0808 8010722.

Armagh and Dungannon Young Carers Project

Armagh and Dungannon Young Carers Project was set up in June 2003 to support young carers between the ages of 8 and 18. It is managed by NCH the Children's Charity, an organization that 'supports more than 80,000 children and young people' throughout the UK (as at the 1 April 2004). The project is funded by the Northern Ireland Executive Children's Fund.

The project is currently based at Cookstown and Dungannon Divisional Youth Office, 3a Killyman Road, Dungannon.

The project aims to support young carers with their caring responsibilities and to provide the opportunity to meet, socialise and make friends with other children and young people. The project provides the opportunity for young carers to talk to someone in confidence and to be listened to and respected. It also aims to promote inclusion in all educational, social and leisure opportunities while encouraging young people to reach their full potential. Overall the project aims to provide respite from the caring role and most importantly the opportunity to '**have fun**'.

Regular monthly meetings/activities are underway and currently 13 young people are registered with the project and the numbers are steadily increasing. Many of these young people have enjoyed a wide range of social activities such as 'A Meet & Greet Evening' and a day trip to the 'Odyssey Arena' in Belfast.

It is through continued awareness raising across all sectors and the support of the young people and their families that has enabled the project to go from strength to strength.

Barnardos – Diamond House Family Resource Centre

This referral based project is located in Moy, Co Tyrone where centre-based services are available for families in the Armagh and Dungannon Trust area.

The project is joint funded by Armagh and Dungannon Trust and Barnardos.

Services provided include:

- Working with victims of domestic violence with, in some instances, assessment and preventative work with couples.
- Assessment, preventative, therapeutic and supportive work with children, parents and carers – including self protection skills for children and parents.
- Parenting education programmes.
- Self esteem work.
- Inter-agency work.
- Needs led assessment.
- Family/couple relationship work.

Developments since 2001 Review include:

- Increasing recognition of domestic violence as a form of child abuse and an increase in demand for work in this area.
- Withdrawal of outreach services to Tandragee, Clogher and Fivemiletown.

Recommendations for future development include:

- Preventative/educative work with the Traveller community.
- Further expansion of parenting education programmes.
- Expansion of group/individual service provision for children.
- Greater resources to deal with consistent high demand for assessment, preventative and therapeutic services.

In 2003 – 2004 93 families were provided with a service. Approximately 5 new referrals are received each month and waiting time for new cases is approximately 6 months.

Barnardos Family Group Conference Service

The Barnardos Family Group Conference Service is unique in the UK and Ireland, combining both Family and Restorative Conferencing and as a partnership between a voluntary (Barnardos) and two statutory agencies (SHSSB and SELB).

Family Group Conferencing allows families to take responsibility for the difficulties being encountered, to find their own solutions which will ensure the safety of a child or prevent admission to care. Families, children and young people are respected, valued and empowered in the process.

School Restorative Conferencing focuses on children and young people who are at risk of becoming excluded from school either through their behaviours or choice (truancy). It is applied in cases of disruptive/aggressive behaviours to staff or pupils, bullying, vandalism, truancy.

The aim of the Family Group Conference Service is to protect the well being of children and young people “in need” and “at risk” by harnessing the strengths within the extended family/community to support, care for and protect the child/young person.

Services provided are:

- facilitation of Family Group Conferences in child welfare cases
- facilitation of School Restorative Conferences in education cases.

Following a successful 3 year pilot (2000 – 2003) funding was gained from the Children’s Fund to develop the service further within the Trust areas in the SHSSB. School Restorative Conferencing is to be developed across 9 post primary schools and introduced to the primary sector.

During the pilot period, 91 families were engaged, leading to 55 conferences and directly impacting on 117 children/young people.

Recommendations for future development include:

- Development of Family Group Conferencing – working with children with a disability, young people leaving the care system, young carers, teenage parents.
- Development of School Restorative Conferencing in primary sector.

Child Diversion Scheme/Child and Parent Support Programme

The Child and Parent Support Programme was set up in October 2003. It is supported by the Children’s Services Planning Group, funded by the Executive Children’s Fund until October 2006 and managed through NIACRO. The project is based in Armagh.

The programme aims to provide intensive support services to families whose children (aged 8 – 11 years) are at risk of engaging in anti-social/offending behaviour in accordance with the principles of the Children (NI) Order, Criminal Justice Review 1998 and the Justice (NI) Act 2002.

The programme works with young children and their families with the following objectives:

- To provide early planned interventions to young people at risk of offending.
- Support young people in need.
- To prepare young people for responsible citizenship.
- To provide family support.
- Help build positive lives and life experiences for young people and their families.
- To promote social inclusion.
- To work in partnership with relevant agencies to provide a holistic service for young people and their families.

Services provided include:

- Provision of tailored individual programmes for the young people.
- Family work.
- Group work programmes for parents and young people.
- Education/social education programmes.

Armagh and Dungannon Adolescent Partnership

The partnership is a collaborative project comprising of both statutory and voluntary agencies namely Youth Justice Agency, Barnardo's (NI), A&DHSS Trust, SELB and NIACRO. The project's current service provision is extended to provide community based services to young people at risk of entering care or custody responding to the principles and objectives of the Juvenile (NI) Act 2002, Criminal Justice (Children) (NI) Order 1998 and the Children (NI) Order 1995.

The project operates a systemic approach in offering a wide range of services to young people and their families and is committed to developing in ways which meet the changing challenges faced by and presented by young people in our community. The inter disciplinary staff team affirm 'a young people first' philosophy and strive to provide practice in an adventurous and innovative manner. They recognise that it is essential for the project to advance and cultivate programmes of work which are 'needs directed' and provide interventions of a focused and defined nature and are committed to enabling young people to recognise their potential irrespective of life circumstances.

The project works with young people aged between 10 and 17 years and their families with the following objectives:

- prevention of offending
- facilitating re-integration from custody
- facilitating family and community integration
- providing family support services
- supporting children in need and at risk
- helping to build positive lives and life experiences
- promoting social inclusion
- promoting good citizenship.

A referral based service operates across the Trust area providing a range of preventative and diversionary services which seek to enhance the strengths and positive attributes of the young person and his/her family. The work programme is tailored to meet the needs of the individual referred and may include individual work, systemic family work (formal and informal) issue based and activity based groupwork, parenting skills programmes, social education, education support (general subjects and design and technology), advocacy and networking.

During the year 1 April 2002 – 31 March 2003 the project worked with 56 young people and their families. All young people received individual programmes of work with support services on offer to their families.

Gaps in provision and recommendations for future development as identified by Family Support Services

DELTA

- Need for more ethnic minority programmes to be provided.
- Need to continue targeting areas of need and monitoring of DELTA outcomes.
- Overall evaluation of the project in order to consolidate the programmes on offer.

Children's Disability Team

- Need for one-to-one support for children with disability in afterschool provision.
- Existing budget does not fully meet supported placements for children in their pre-school year.

Mencap Play Advisors

Need for more funding for provision of play sessions and play workshops on the Wraparound service – less sessions per child are now being allocated and there is a waiting list for these services.

Clogher Sure-Start

Need for an accessible venue for holding workshops, parenting programmes etc with on-site crèche facilities.

Home Start

Need for more permanent funding of the outreach project.

Community Development Team

- Baseline research on ethnic minority communities in the Trust area.
- Need for ongoing work to address identified needs of the Traveller community eg out of school/homework club in the Armagh area, parent and toddler groups in Armagh and Coalisland.
- Inclusion of Traveller culture awareness training in Trust's induction programme for new staff.
- Development of more in-depth training on Traveller culture.
- Development of ethnic minority training for other minority ethnic cultures in Trust area.

An Tearmann

Difficult to formulate long term plans as the service is subject to funding remaining available.

Barnardos – Diamond House Family Resource Centre

- Need for greater resources to deal with consistent high demand for assessment, preventative and therapeutic services.
- Need for further expansion of parenting education programmes.
- Development of preventative/educative work with the Traveller community.

Family Group Conference Service

- Development of School Restorative Conferencing in the primary sector.
- Development of Family Group Conferencing – working with children with a disability, young people leaving the care system, young carers, teenage parents.

Craigavon & Banbridge
Health & Social Services Trust

Article 20 Review 2004

Executive Summary

The Article 20 review presents the level, pattern and provision of Early Years services available at local level throughout the trust area.

The process reflects the development of information on the relevant Early Years and Family Support Services highlighting the gaps in provision.

Issues Highlighted from the 2004 Review

- **Childminders and Playgroups**

The numbers of childminders and playgroups have remained relatively static since the last Review; there was a high level of registered childminders three years ago and the capacity for increasing was low.

However the Trust would wish to expand these services into rural areas and intends to achieve at least 5 – 10% increase over the next three years within these areas.

- **Day Nursery Provision**

There has been an increase in Day Nurseries from 13 to 17 representing an increase of 28% since the previous review. However this remains a progressive sector and we would expect to see further increases over the next three years.

- **Out of School / Afterschool Care**

The number of these places has increased by over 25% since the previous Review. This remains an area of need both in terms of quantity and quality of provision. The Trust would wish to increase provision over the next three years and also deal with sustainability and training issues.

- **Children with Disabilities**

Children with Disabilities have benefited over the past three years mostly due to the all inclusive Wraparound Scheme.

Early Years Services were targeted so as to allow disabled children to access pre-school and Afterschool funding – a childminding scheme has been developed with 15 childminders receiving extensive training to allow them to offer quality service to children with disabilities.

The issue of equality of access for children with disabilities will continue to be a priority for the Trust over the next three years.

- **Ethnic Minority Groups**

With a relatively high number of people belonging to a range of ethnic minority groups and numbers continuing to increase issues need to be addressed. Progress has been made in some areas for example twelve people from the Chinese Community have completed formal training within the childminding process.

The Travellers' Support Group continues to expand and offer pre-school provision to all Travelling families. There has been both an education and lay health worker employed to help, support and develop services for Traveller children and families.

There has been a major increase in both Portuguese speaking and Eastern European populations within the Trust area over the previous year. The Trust are assessing the needs of these communities at present and will be developing both Early Years and Family Support systems to assist these communities over the coming three years.

The research to be carried out this year to assess the health and social needs of people from ethnic minority groups when completed will assist in planning a range of services as appropriate.

- **Sustainability**

With demographic information suggesting a reduction in the Trust population the issue of sustainability of Early Years and Family Support Groups throughout the area needs to be assessed and strategies developed to deal with this trend.

Added to this we have decreasing funding opportunities which will add to the urgency of the sustainability issue.

- **Training**

There has been a major training programme within the Early Years sector over the past three years and this will continue as the quality of provision increases within the sector. Areas such as Out of School provision, parent and toddler groups and specialist provision will be targeted.

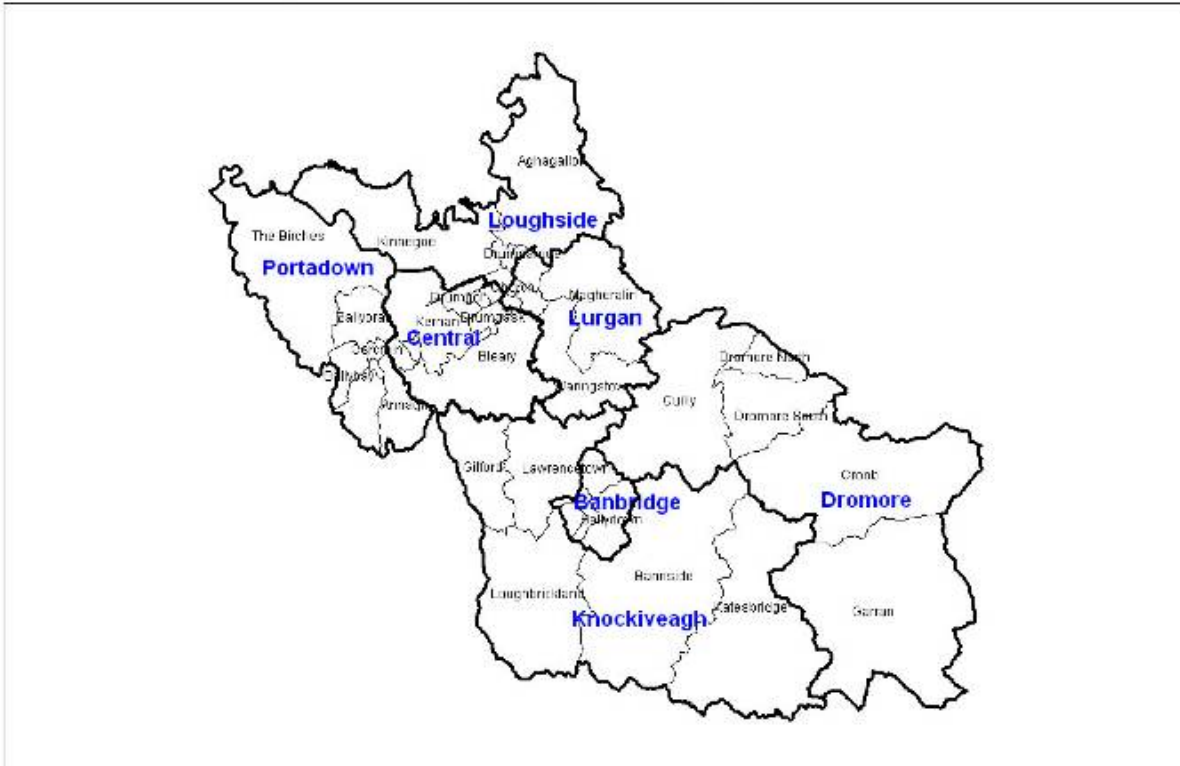
- **Pre-School Expansion Programme**

Craigavon and Banbridge Trust continues to have a very high level of statutory nursery places available throughout the Trust area. There has also been an increase in the number of pre-school children availing of free places within the voluntary, community and private sector. The Trust will examine the recommendations coming from the Review of Pre-School Education and assess how these will affect the sector.

Overall the Trust will continue to develop Early Years and Family Support Services within the area. Parental / community involvement and communication will be a priority over the next three years. The increase in provision within rural areas and sustainability issues will also remain a priority as will equality of access for children with disabilities and ethnic minority groups.

Profile of Craigavon & Banbridge Health & Social Services Trust

Craigavon & Banbridge Community HSS Trust by Electoral Districts



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Geography

The Craigavon and Banbridge Trust comprises of the local government areas of Craigavon Borough Council and Banbridge District Council.

There are 4 main urban centres Craigavon; Lurgan; Portadown and Banbridge with a series of towns and villages.

The Craigavon Borough is situated South East of Lough Neagh and borders Armagh, Banbridge and Dungannon District Council as well as Lisburn City Council on the north east covering an area of approximately 379 square km.

With a population of approximately 81,500 people it is the most densely populated local government area within the Southern Board area and equates to 4.8% of the total N Ireland population.

The Banbridge District borders Craigavon Borough Council to the north west as well as Newry and Mourne and Armagh and District Councils. It also borders Lisburn City and Down District Councils to the east and covers an area of approximately 445 square km.

With a population of approximately 42400 people residing in the Banbridge District the area equates to 2.5% of the total Northern Ireland population. Approximately 50% of the Banbridge population live in rural areas and small villages and the statistics indicate a higher level of isolation.

Local Provision

The aim of this section is to present the level, pattern and provision of Early Years Services within the Trust area.

It is important that this process reflects the development of information on the relevant Early Years and Family Support Services available.

A comprehensive mapping exercise was carried out to ensure that local knowledge is used to inform and reference the details contained within the maps.

Wards within the Craigavon and Banbridge District Council areas (43 in total) have been grouped into the 7 Electoral Districts for mapping purposes.

The Early Years and Family Support Services are included and the information was sourced from numerous agencies including:

- Provision within the Trust (includes childminders, playgroups, day nurseries, crèches, parent and toddler groups)
- Southern Education and Library Board nursery schools, nursery and reception classes and special schools

Information is provided regarding the numbers of children in age categories:

0 – 4 years

5 – 9 years

10 – 14 years

divided into both Craigavon and Banbridge District Council areas and ward area within each Council area.

- Sourced from – CBCT 2001 Census by Ward and Age and NI Statistics and Research Agency, Census Office
- Social Needs Economic indices was used in order to target and highlight wards and areas in need of additional resources
- Youth services registered with Southern Education and Library Board Youth Services division
- District and Borough Council provision
- NICMA
- NIPPA
- DELTA
- Barnardos Parenting Matters
- Sure Start and Home-Start
- District Council play parks
- Children with special needs / disabilities
- Ethnic minority families

The following responses from Statutory, Voluntary and Community bodies highlight Gaps in Provision, Issues Arising, Recommendations for Future Development

<p>Banbridge District Council Leisure Services</p>	<p>Rural Areas Massford / Finnis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These areas suffer from lack of facilities. However now has a Community Centre – arts provision is available in the area
<p>Banbridge District Childcare Programme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified staff in playwork for Afterschool provision. • Staff qualified in management • Setting with recognised quality accredited certificates.
<p>NICMA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs more childminders in Trust especially Ballyoran, Corcrair, Church, Kinnego, Teghnavan and Garron Wards. • Trustwide publicity / promotion campaign to increase numbers of childminders and to raise awareness for parents seeking to use childminders.
<p>Springwell</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for support for families in Banbridge • Family centres and services needed • Transport issues
<p>Barnardos / Parenting Matters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular and ongoing child care for parents attending groups • Travel costs for parents attending groups
<p>Sure Start</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early years provision generally poorer in Corcrair/ Brownstown area • Closer working relationship between Sure Start and local community organisations to assist in local provision
<p>Chrysalis Women's Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding to help aid development of work • Outdoor play facilities for local children • Focus must be placed on the needs of teenagers

Travellers Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation (serviced sites) • Health (i.e. toilets and basic amenities) • Poor community infrastructure • Lack of cultural and community awareness • Stigmatisation
DELTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More ethnic minority programmes planned • Recommendation that the DELTA project continues to provide quality parents programmes
Craigavon Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmes and resources do exist in rural areas • Continue efforts to target resources towards areas of social need
NIPPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute difficulties in accessing / funding for 3 year olds • Support for parents and toddlers is limited • Support for afterschools is limited • Financial support for children with special needs
MENCAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of play sessions and play workshops (Wraparound Service) – demand for more sessions per child
Home-Start	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To offer a Certificate in Community Volunteering to all volunteers
Health Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase fruit provided to children at break time • To increase water or milk consumption as a healthy option and fizzy drinks and squashes • To improve the level of physical activity in our schools • To improve dental care for all young children

These are the Electoral Districts and Wards within the Districts

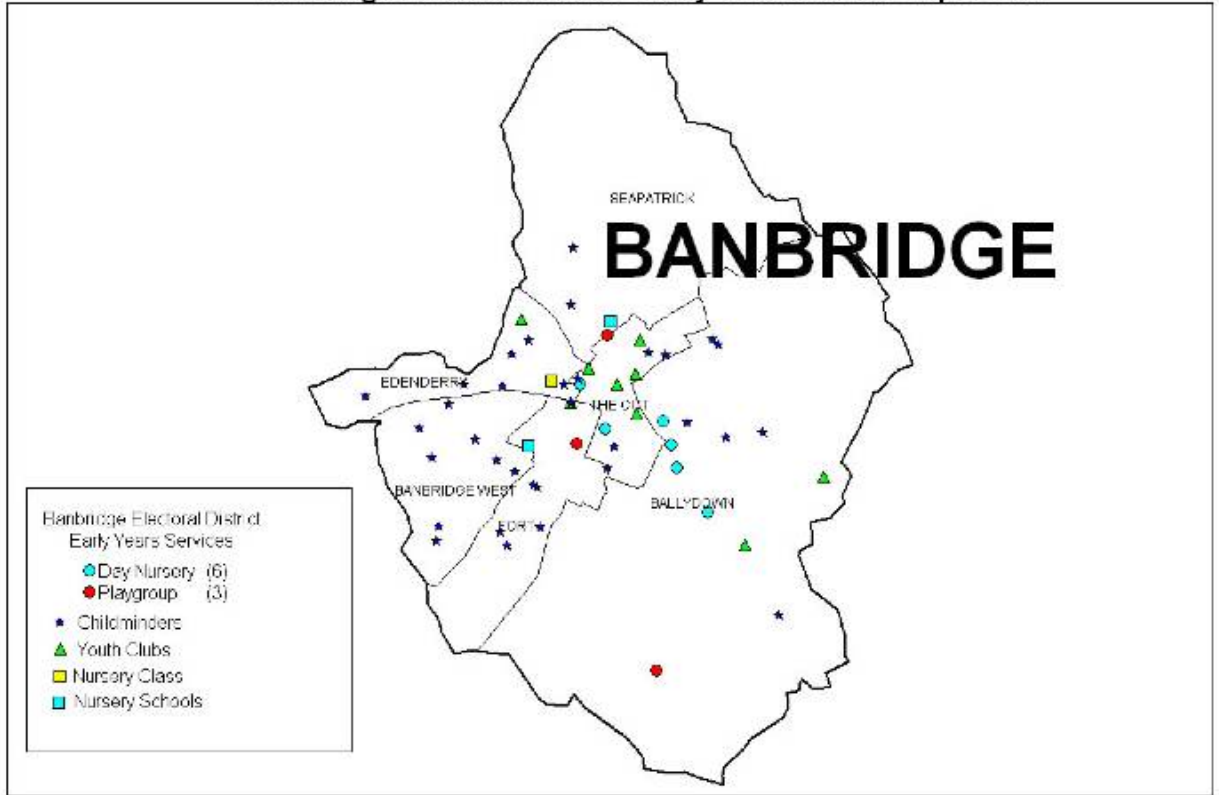
Electoral District	Ward
Banbridge	Ballydown, Seapatrick, Fort, Banbridge West, Edenderry, The Cut
Dromore	Dromore North, Dromore South, Quilly, Ballyward, Gransha
Knockiveagh	Katesbridge, Bannside, Loughbrickland, Laurencetown, Gilford
Portadown	Annagh, Brownstown, Ballybay, Ballyoran, The Birches, Corcrair, Tavanagh
Lurgan	Waringstown, Magheralin, Knocknashane, Mourneview, Church, Parklake, Donaghcloney
Central	Bleary, Drumgask, Taghnevan, Drumgor, Kernan, Killicomaine, Edenderry
Loughside	Aghagallon, Woodville, Court, Kinnegoe, Drumnamoe, Derrytrasna

The seven Electoral Districts within the Trust area are examined individually within this section.

Each Ward has been examined in relation to Demography, Deprivation and Services available and New Opportunity Fund projects.

A short summary of the more significant issues is also included for each Electoral District.

Banbridge Electoral District - Early Years Servies - April 2004



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This section is relating to provision within the Electoral Districts

Banbridge Electoral District

Service	2001	2004	Places Available
Childminders	45	46	188
Day Nurseries	4	6	316
Playgroups	3	3	94
Afterschools / Out of Schools	3	6	122
Holiday Schemes			
Parent & Toddler	1	3	25
Nursery School / Units	4	4	130
Youth Groups	9	17	*
DELTA		24	*
Special Schools	1	1	46 (0-19 years)
Play Parks	6	8	
Out of School Hours Learning		2	290

* Figures unavailable

Banbridge Electoral District

Banbridge Electoral District comprises of 6 wards with a total population of 12671.

The breakdown of the children age 0 – 14 living in this district is illustrated in the table below (source – CBCT 2001 Census by Ward and Age).

Ward	Numbers of Children aged 0 – 4 years	Numbers of Children aged 5 – 9 years	Numbers of Children aged 10 – 14 years
Ballydown	289	328	305
Seapatrick	126	143	160
Fort	183	192	215
Banbridge West	225	246	218
Edenderry	183	212	219
The Cut	96	76	106
	1102	1197	1223

Deprivation

The latest study of deprivation according to the 'Noble Multiple Deprivation Measures' gives a picture of Wards in this district with Edenderry showing the 'highest' score with Seapatrick the 'lowest'.

Ward	Score	Rank
Ballydown	9.97	100
Seapatrick	8.59	106
Fort	13.34	88
Banbridge West	11.37	95
Edenderry	24.39	39

NB: when reading the deprivation score within the above table, the Higher the score the more deprived the area.

Service Provision

Points worthy of note in relation to service provision in the District.

- Day Care provision has increased due to two additional Day Nurseries offering 37 additional places.
- Playgroup provision has remained static since the previous Review.
- Since the previous Review one playgroup has come into the Pre School Expansion Programme and is offering 24 funded PEAG places.
- Childminders – numbers again remain static with childminders offering full time and part time care.

This District includes areas with high levels of childminders such as Ballydown.

- This is possibly due to more people in employment in one area than the other – or more child care facilities available adjacent to Edenderry and others with low numbers such as Edenderry.

- Afterschool care is currently providing 122 places in 6 facilities which shows an increase of 100% since the previous Review. These facilities are well located to provide service throughout the Ward areas.
- Youth group dates / provision figures are not entirely accurate due to the fact that not all groups are registered by the Youth Service. However a 50% increase is shown since 2001 Review.

Pre-School Expansion Programme

- Provision within this Electoral District has been allocated to 2 locations offering a total of 40 places for the year 2004 – 2005.
- Statutory provision – 4 Nursery Schools / Units have been allocated 182 places for the same year.

DELTA

- Since the previous Review DELTA continue to expand their range of programmes. Groups within this Electoral District have been covering Early Years, Upper Primary and Post Primary Baby Programmes and a Facts and Fun Day.

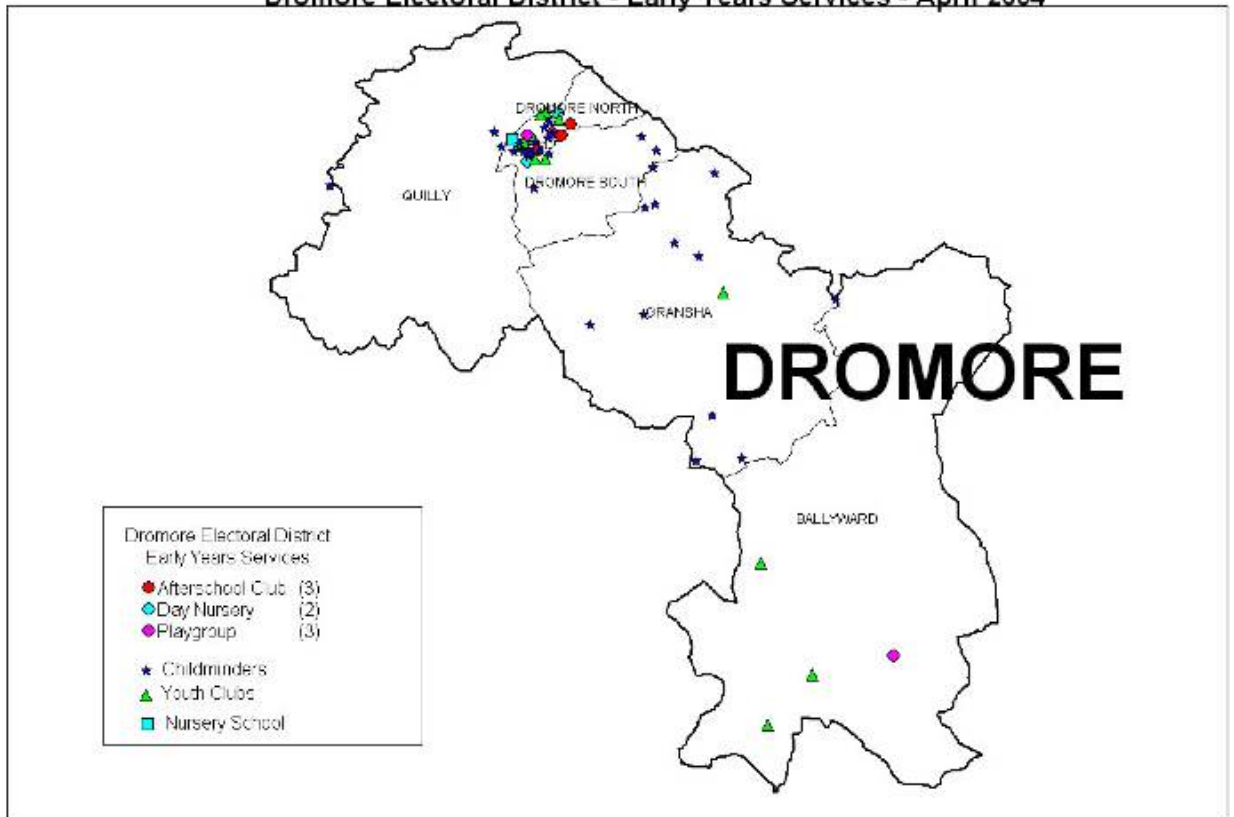
Out of School Hours Learning

- Fundraising has been made available to 2 schools in this Electoral District to offer various Afterschool activities including a Homework Club in St Patrick's College.

Gaps in Provision

- Gaps in provision include low numbers of childminders in the Edenderry Ward, although childminding could be increased throughout the District.
- Although there has been a significant increase in Afterschool provision since the previous Review there is still a significant need for more within this area.

Dromore Electoral District - Early Years Services - April 2004



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Dromore Electoral District

Service	2001	2004	Places Available
Childminders	43	45	129
Day Nurseries	2	2	191
Playgroups	3	3	70
Afterschools / Out of School	2	3	56
Holiday Schemes	1	3	
Parent & Toddler	1	4	85
Nursery School Units	0	1	78
Youth Groups	5	19	*
DELTA	*	14	*
Special Schools	0	0	
Play Parks	*	9	
Out of School Hours Learning		1	30

* figures unavailable

Dromore Electoral District

Dromore Electoral District comprises 5 wards, Dromore North and South being a densely populated area with remainder of district predominantly rural.

Table illustrating population shows a total of 10713 living in the district and a table shows a breakdown of children 0 – 14 years.

(Source CBCT Census)

Ward	Numbers of Children aged 0 – 4 years	Numbers of Children aged 5 – 9 years	Numbers of Children aged 10 – 14 years
Ballyward	193	167	185
Dromore North	147	228	306
Dromore South	315	257	206
Quilly	127	146	157
Gransha	190	184	207
	972	982	1061

Deprivation

The Garran and Croob Wards are identified as having the highest scores in the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measures – in this area playgroup provision is in place.

- Identified need for an increased number of Registered Childminders in the electoral district.

Ward	Score	Rank
Garran	16.02	75
Croob	12.00	93
Dromore North	12.92	89
Dromore South	8.52	107
Quilly	7.99	108

NB: When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the Higher the score the more deprived the area.

Service Provision

Points worthy of noting in relation to service provision in the district:

- Day Nursery Provision
 - Nursery registration is as before with 2 well established nurseries operating full day care.
 - PEAG places are available in the playgroup section of the 2 day nurseries.
 - Since the previous Review Dromore Nursery School has opened with provision for 78 children. This has been very welcome within the electoral ward.
- Playgroup Provision

The number of playgroups operating in this electoral district remains unchanged with 2 of the playgroups offering 2 sessions per day.
- Childminding Provision
 - The number of registered childminders is slightly reduced but nothing significant.

Pre-school Expansion Programme

- Provision within the 3 pre-school playgroups located in Dromore town – total of 51 places have been allocated for the year 2004 – 2005.
- Leitrim Pre-school Playgroup located in the identified area of deprivation has been allocated 20 places matching the number of 1st preference places requested.
- Statutory Nursery provision – a total of 78 part-time and full-time places have been allocated to Dromore Nursery School.

DELTA

- DELTA programmes included the Baby, Early Years, Upper and Post-primary within a range of groups within schools, churches, playgroups and Health Clinic settings.

- A total of 8 programmes were held in a range of facilities located in the identified 'Noble Measures' wards of Garran and Croob.

Out of School Hours Learning

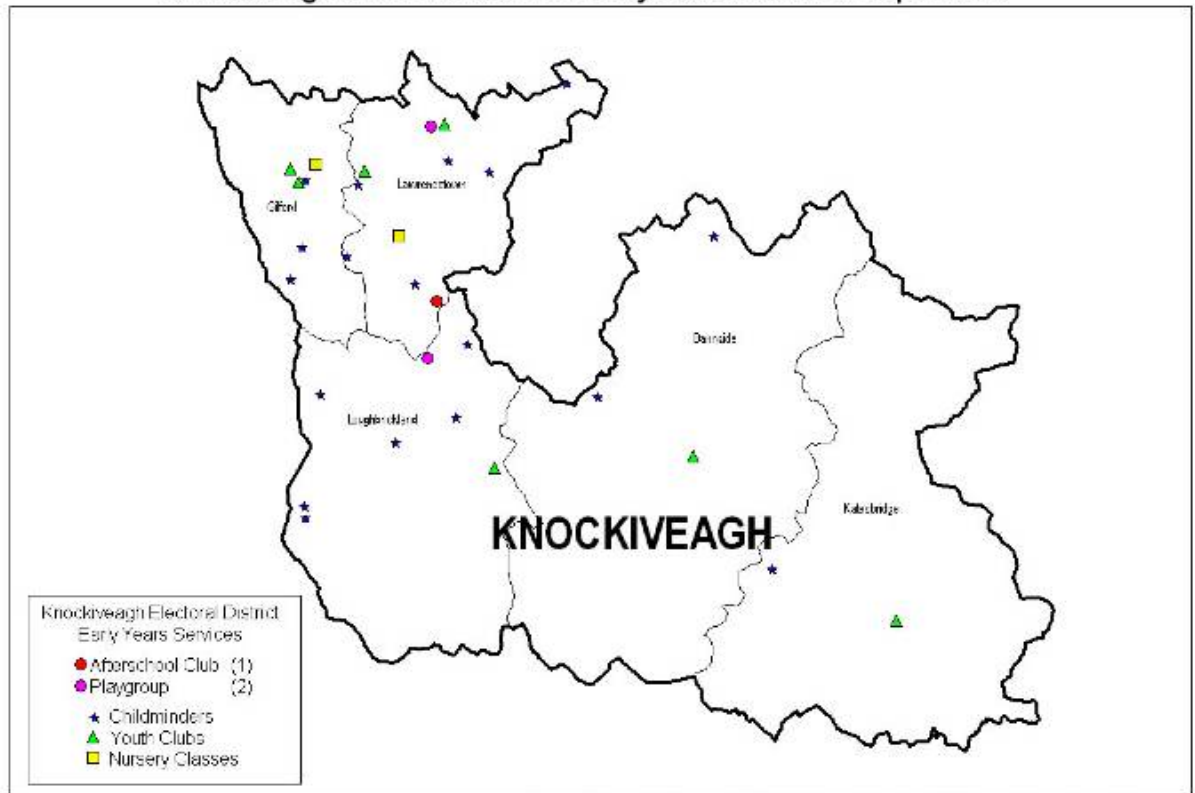
One Primary School received funding to expand the Afterschool activities in sport, art and musical subjects.

Leitrim playgroup have been successful in their application to fund a new development adjacent to their present accommodation which was not very suitable.

Gaps in Provision

- As this District is perhaps the most rural within the Craigavon and Banbridge area, the need for a transport strategy is very apparent.
- Although there are 45 registered childminders in the District there is a need to develop this service within the rural areas.
- The pending new development in Leitrim will help with child care and pre-school provision in the area although this needs to be developed within a cross-community ethos.
- The Pre-School Education Expansion Programme has entered the first year of Single Application Form and this caused some confusion. In general terms there would appear to be a need for more Pre-school Education places in the Dromore area.

Knockiveagh Electoral District - Early Years Services - April 2004



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Knockiveagh Electoral District

Service	2001	2004	Places Available
Childminders	18	19	93
Day Nurseries	0	0	
Playgroups	3	2	52
Afterschools	1	1	24
Holiday Schemes	*	*	*
Parent & Toddler	1	1	24
Nursery School Units	1	1	26
Youth Groups	8	5	*
DELTA	*	6	*
Special Schools			
Play Parks	*	5	
Out of School Hours Learning		1	38

*figures unavailable

Knockiveagh Electoral District

Knockiveagh comprises of 5 Wards including the villages of Laurencetown, Loughbrickland and rural area surrounding.

Table illustrates a population of 10098 people living in the district with a breakdown of children aged 0 – 14 years.

(Source CBCT 2001 Census by ward and range)

Ward	Numbers of Children aged 0 – 4 years	Numbers of Children aged 5 – 9 years	Numbers of Children aged 10 – 14 years
Katesbridge	118	138	149
Bannside	126	179	198
Loughbrickland	159	156	149
Laurencetown	130	165	180
Gilford	163	163	159
	696	801	835

Deprivation

In the latest study of deprivation according to the ‘Noble Multiple Deprivation Measures’ Gilford Ward scores the ‘highest’ with Loughbrickland being the ‘lowest’ in the Electoral District.

Ward	Score	Rank
Katesbridge	14.44	83
Loughbrickland	13.47	87
Bannside	13.49	86
Laurencetown	15.75	76
Gilford	22.91	47

NB: When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the Higher the score the more deprived the area.

Service Provision

Points worthy of noting in relation to service provision in the district

- Day Nursery Provision
 - No full day care nurseries available in the district but all Ward areas are located close to Banbridge where provision is available.

- Playgroup Provision

Playgroup facilities now number 2 with one located in Laurencetown and another in Loughbrickland.

Unfortunately the Gilford based playgroup ceased to function in 2001 despite increased funding from the Trust and despite considerable support and effort by Early Years and NIPPA personnel.

- Location of the playgroup on Church property was a constant problem whilst the wider community were welcomed the uptake of places remained low.
 - Lack of funding due to low numbers of children attending.
 - Constant staff changes combined with staff training difficulties.
- Childminding Provision
 - Registration of childminders in Gilford and Laurencetown has increased since the previous Review.
- Afterschool Provision
 - Afterschool provision is available in the Laurencetown area.
- Youth Groups
 - Youth groups – 5 groups are registered over the various Ward areas.

Pre-school Expansion Programme

- Pre-school playgroups located in Laurencetown and Loughbrickland are providing a total of 41 places during the year 2004 – 2005.

- Statutory provision – Craigavon Primary School located in Gilford has been allocated 26 places for the same period.

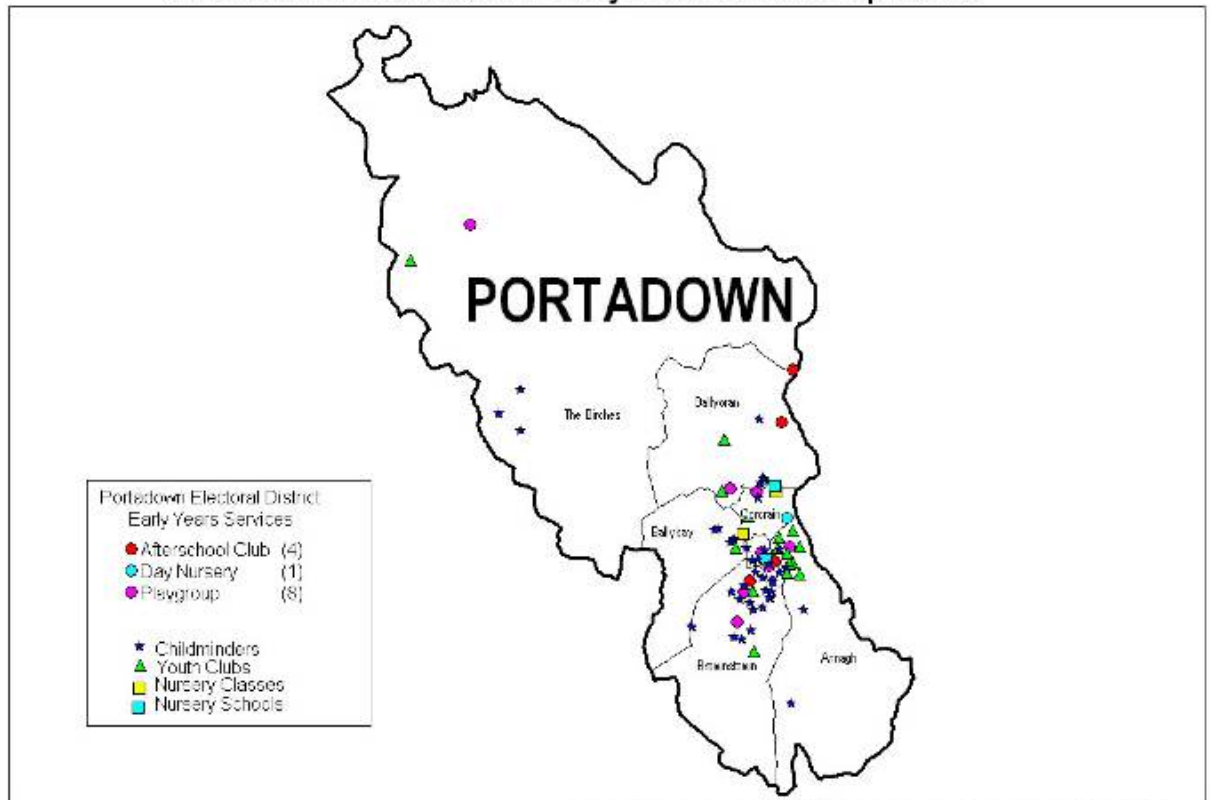
DELTA

- Since the previous Review Early Years Upper, Primary Programmes have been completed by Craigavon Primary, St John's schools in Gilford.
- Lawrencetown Primary School and the local parent / toddler group also participated an Early Years programmes during this period.

Gaps in Provision

- A need for playgroup provision in the Gilford area but located in a 'community' facility as opposed to a Church owned building – there are several new housing developments being built so it would follow that more children are in the area – will require playgroup provision in the future.
- Aim for more registration of childminders in all Ward areas.
- Afterschool provision remains low and will need to be increased during the period of this present review.
- Parent and Toddler groups will need to be encouraged and supports as there is low provision at present.

Portadown Electoral District - Early Years Services - April 2004



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This Section is Relating to Provision within Electoral Districts

Portadown Electoral District

Service	2001	2004	Places Available
Childminders	42	36	170
Day Nurseries	1	1	38
Playgroups	7	8	180
Afterschools	2	5	120
Holiday Schemes	*	*	*
Parent & Toddler	7	7	134
Nursery School Units	2	3	156
Youth Groups	21	35	*
DELTA	*	26	*
Play Parks	*	12	
Out of School Hours Learning		2	363

Portadown Electoral District

Portadown Electoral District comprises of 7 wards the majority within the town boundary area with Birches being the only rural area in the district.

Table illustrates population of some 19209, people living in the district.

Ward	Numbers of Children aged 0 – 4 years	Numbers of Children aged 5 – 9 years	Numbers of Children aged 10 – 14 years
Annagh	315	257	206
Brownstown	262	223	226
Ballybay	172	143	148
Ballyoran	162	187	253
The Birches	170	235	286
Corcrain	216	273	314
Tavanagh	140	117	139
	1437	1435	1572

Deprivation

In the last study of relative deprivation in Northern Ireland Corcrain Ward within the Electoral District of Portadown emerges as the 'Highest' Ranking with the 'lowest' ranking being the Brownstown Ward. The rural area of Birches is not amongst the most deprived wards in the district.

- Corcrain - 'highest' ranked at 11th place.
- The Birches - rural area ranked 90th place
- Brownstown - 'lowest' ranked 102nd place

Provision of Early Years Service in Corcrain has increased due to the active Sure Start project and this will develop further.

Ward	Score	Rank
Annagh	21.04	52
Brownstown	9.28	102
Ballybay	31.06	23
Ballyoran	25.08	37
The Birches	12.86	90
Corcrain	39.64	11
Tavanagh	28.78	28

NB: When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the Higher the score the more deprived the area.

Service Provision

Points worthy of noting in relation to service provision in this district

- Day Nursery Provision
 - Day Nursery provision remains static.
- Playgroup Provision
 - One Playgroup has been registered for 24 places since the previous Review.
- Childminding Provision
 - The number of childminders had decreased by 6 in total providing 30 places less.

Reasons for reduction in registering is not apparent.

NICMA have identified a need for additional registered childminders within the Ballyoran and Corcrair Ward areas.
- Afterschool Provision
 - Afterschool places have trebled since the previous Review and this provision of 3 additional facilities has been welcomed.
- Youth Groups
 - 14 additional groups have been registered since the previous Review providing increased memberships.

Pre-school Expansion Programme

There are 4 pre-school provisions within the District offering pre-school education.

Three locations are within the Portadown town boundaries with the fourth in a rural area which serves a wide community.

- Statutory provision – 208 places allocated to 4 Nursery Schools / Units for the year 2004 – 2005.

DELTA

- A range of programmes in schools, playgroups, clinics, special schools, churches since the previous Review. Programmes included are the Speech and Language, Baby and Baby sitting.

Blossom Sure Start were involved in 14 programmes over 2003 – 2004 period to date.

Out of School Hours Learning

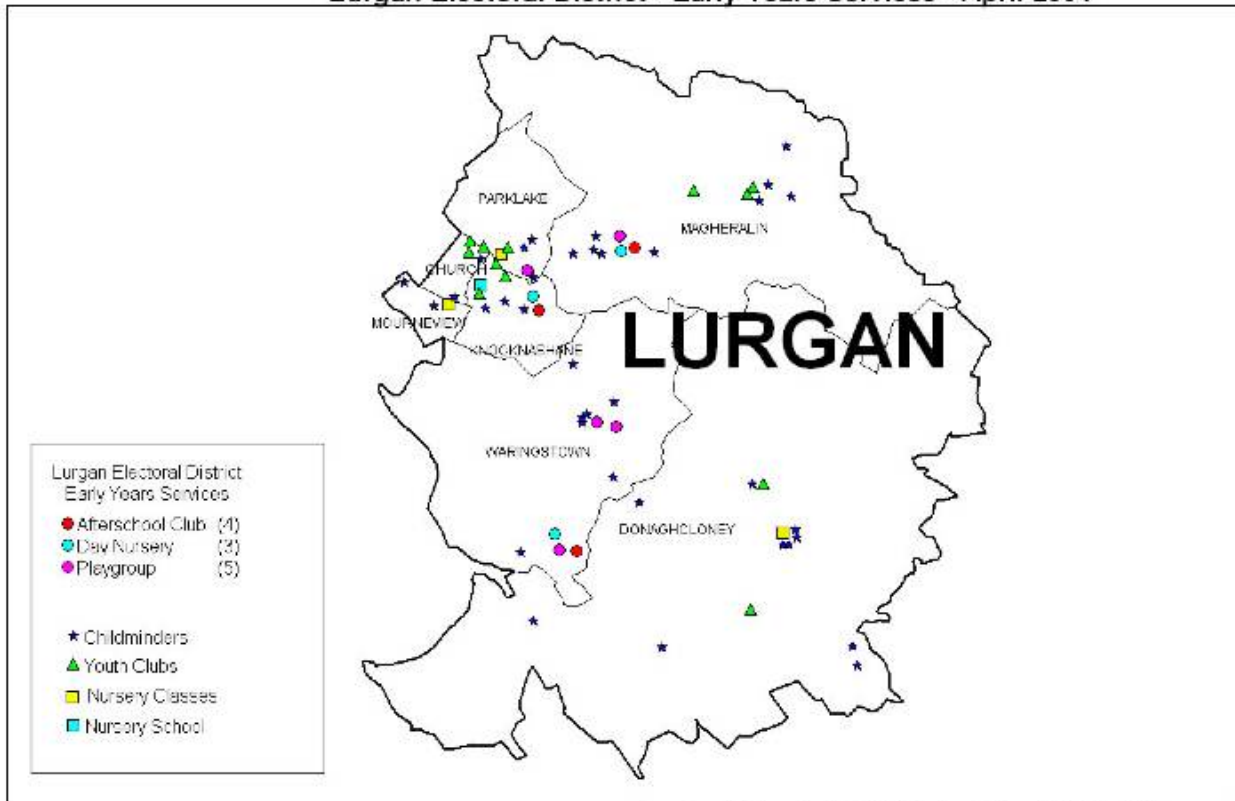
2 schools, Primary and Post-primary have been awarded funding to provide a range of activities, including homework and coursework clubs.

Orchard Training in Park Road, Portadown which provides accommodation for Cots and Tots Day Centre and the Sure Start project are in the process of developing a new building due to a successful bid for finance from New Opportunities Fund. This will potentially offer major improvements for both Cots and Tots and the Sure Start Project which is contributing to the financial package for this new development.

Gaps in Provision

- NICMA audit identified the need for additional registered childminders in Ballyoran and Corcrair wards – this issue needs to be addressed.
- Sure Start identifies the need for more Community based Early Years provision in the Corcrair / Brownstown wards.
- The major change in this area involves the movement of people (mostly, but not exclusively) from Portuguese speaking countries to live and work in this area. The task is to establish baseline population levels and then to develop, in partnership with this community, child care and family support strategies.
- Childminders numbers have decreased and this would need to be increased.
- Afterschool provision will need to be increased.

Lurgan Electoral District - Early Years Services - April 2004



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Lurgan Electoral District

Service	2001	2004	Places Available
Childminders	59	38	151
Day Nurseries	3	3	129
Playgroups	3	4	94
Afterschools	3	4	97
Holiday Schemes	1	1	*
Parent & Toddler	2	3	65
Nursery School Units	4	4	156
Youth Groups	17	22	*
DELTA	*	22	*
Special Schools	1	1	81
Play Parks	8	13	
Out of School Hours Learning		1	32

* figures unavailable

Lurgan Electoral District

Lurgan Electoral District comprises of 7 wards, mixture of Lurgan town area and village areas.

Table illustrating population shows 16130 people living in the district.

Ward	Numbers of Children aged 0 – 4 years	Numbers of Children aged 5 – 9 years	Numbers of Children aged 10 – 14 years
Magheralin	290	334	286
Waringstown	228	260	295
Knocknashane	159	164	194
Mourneview	202	238	295
Church	249	264	264
Parklane	130	134	140
Donaghcloney	179	226	250
	1437	1620	1724

Deprivation

In the last study of relative deprivation in Northern Ireland wards within this Electoral District have emerged with very different status.

‘Highest’ ranking is Church ward – ranked at 12th place.

Lowest ranking within the Lurgan Electoral District are Magheralin – ranked 111th place – Knocknashane – 113th place with Waringstown being lowest at 115th place.

Ward	Score	Rank
Waringstown	5.69	115
Magheralin	7.19	111
Knocknashane	6.20	113
Mourneview	19.74	57
Church	38.50	12
Parklane	18.41	64

NB: When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the Higher the score the more deprived the area.

Service Provision

Points worthy of noting in relation to service provision in this district

- Day Nursery Provision
 - Day Nursery provision remains static.
- Playgroup Provision
 - Playgroup provision has increased since the previous Review with an additional registered playgroup offering 24 places.
- Childminding Provision
 - Childminding provision is reduced from 59 – 38 registered childminders reducing the number of registered places.
- Afterschool Provision
 - Afterschool provision has an additional facility registered since the previous Review.
- Youth Groups
 - An increased number of youth groups now registered but more facilities operating but not registered with the youth service.

Pre-school Expansion Programme

- A pre-school playgroup located in Magheralin has been allocated 8 places for the year 2004 – 2005.
- Statutory provision has an allocation of 156 places within 4 Nursery School / Units for the same period of time.

DELTA

A range of programmes including Baby, Early Years, Primary, etc have been completed in various settings including schools, playgroups, health clinics and the Special School. Delta actively target the wards most in need (Noble Indicators) and all have had programmes.

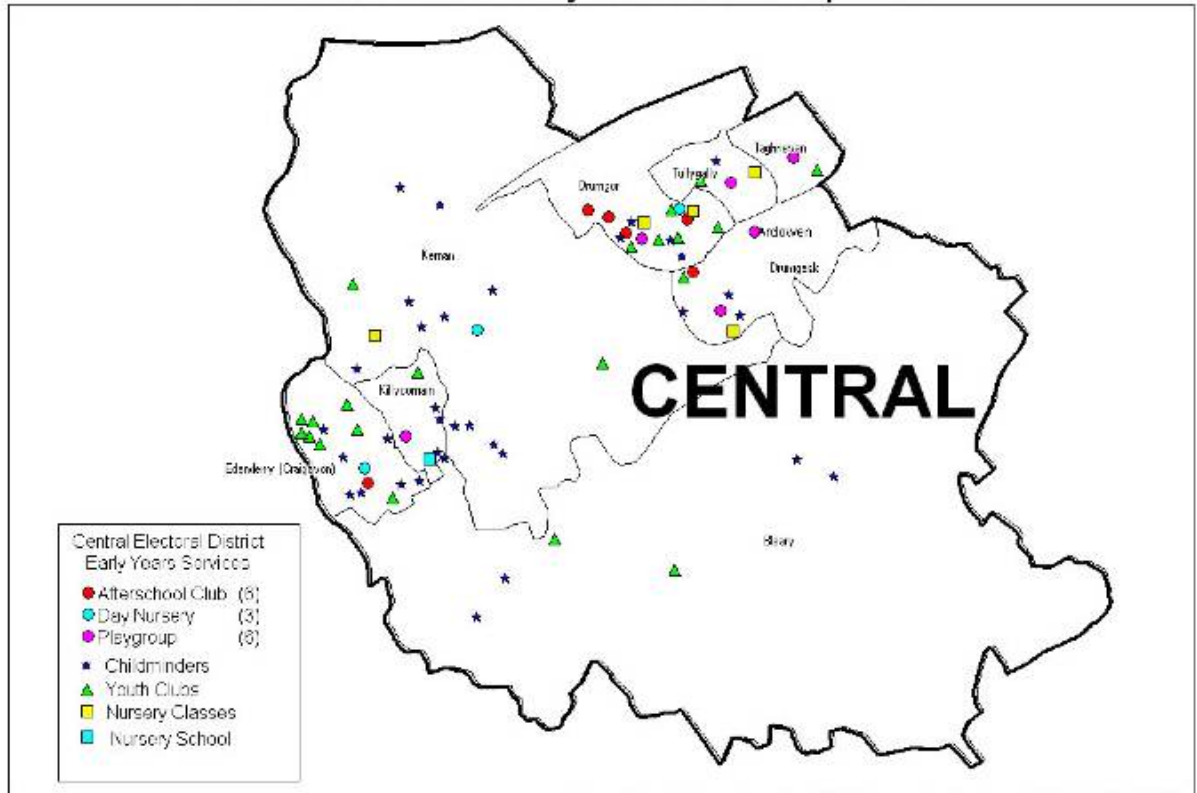
Out of School Hours Learning

- St Patrick's Primary School located in Magheralin have been awarded funding for a range of activities physical and cultural.

Gaps in Provision

- NICMA have identified a need for additional registered childminders in the 'highest' ranking Church ward.
- Afterschool provision, although increased from previous review, needs to be further developed and increased.
- There appears to be an increase in the ethnic population, mostly Eastern European and the New European Community members within the area. Again we need to have baselines indicating population levels so as to develop services.
- Parent and Toddler groups need to be further developed and increased.

Central Electoral District - Early Years Services - April 2004



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Central Electoral District

Service	2001	2004	Places Available
Childminders	61	46	145
Day Nurseries	1	3	90
Playgroups	6	6	154
Afterschools	3	6	162
Holiday Schemes	*	8	*
Parent & Toddler	5	2	50
Nursery School Units	4	6	312
Youth Groups	24	22	*
DELTA	*	15	*
Play Parks	*	12	
Out of School Hours Learning		4	552

* figures unknown / unavailable

Central Electoral District

Central Electoral District comprises of 8 wards all in well populated areas extending from Lurgan to Portadown and including Craigavon area.

Table illustrating population shows 23456 people living in the district

Ward	Numbers of Children aged 0 – 4 years	Numbers of Children aged 5 – 9 years	Numbers of Children aged 10 – 14 years
Bleary	291	264	253
Drumgask	285	350	375
Taghnevan	184	235	236
Drumgor	234	231	248
Kernan	250	257	298
Killicomaine	129	234	184
Edenderry	216	187	196
	1589	1758	1790

Deprivation

In the latest study of relative deprivation in Northern Ireland 2 ward areas in the Central Electoral District have been placed as the two 'highest' ranking wards within the Craigavon and Banbridge Trust areas.

'Highest' – Drumgask ranking 4th place in the Northern Ireland study, closely followed by Drumgor ranked in 6th place.

'Lowest' ranking was Killicomiane in 105th place.

This Electoral District is home to relatively high number of people belonging to a range of ethnic minority groups i.e. Chinese, Irish Travellers, Portuguese speaking population and Asian Eastern European's, etc.

The identified wards of particular deprivation need, Drumgor and Drumgask, have a high level of provision within playgroups, a Day Nursery and summer schemes which are available to the wider community.

Ward	Score	Rank
Bleary	6.79	112
Drumgask	45.62	4
Tullygally	35.52	15
Taghnevan	29.72	26
Drumgor	44.24	6
Kernan	10.09	99
Killicomaine	8.71	105
Edenderry	16.26	74

NB: When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the Higher the score the more deprived the area.

Service Provision

Points worthy of noting in relation to service provision in this district

- Day Nursery Provision
 - A new Day Nursery is currently completing the Registration process and will provide 26 additional places (included in statistics).
- Playgroup Provision
 - The original 6 playgroups are still operating offering a total of 154 places.
- Childminding Provision
 - Childminder provision has a reduced number of places available due to a decline in childminding registration from 61 – 46 in total.
 - There has been a major drive to include Chinese women in the formal childminding system and 12 have completed an intensive training course.
- Afterschool Provision
 - Afterschool provision has increased by 100% with the additional 3 registered facilities operating.

- Youth Groups
 - The number of registered youth groups is similar.

Pre-school Expansion Programme

- Pre-school provision – 1 playgroup located in the Edenderry ward has been allocated 8 places during the year 2004 – 2005.
- Statutory Nursery provision – 4 Nursery Schools / Units located in Craigavon area have been allocated a total of 208 places for the same period.
- 3 Nursery Schools / Units located within the Portadown town boundary have been allocated a total of 104 places.

DELTA

A range of DELTA programmes have been completed within different settings.

Out of School Hours Learning

Funding has been awarded to 4 schools within the Central Electoral District for a wide range of activities including a Breakfast Club and Homework Clubs.

Summer Schemes

Provision

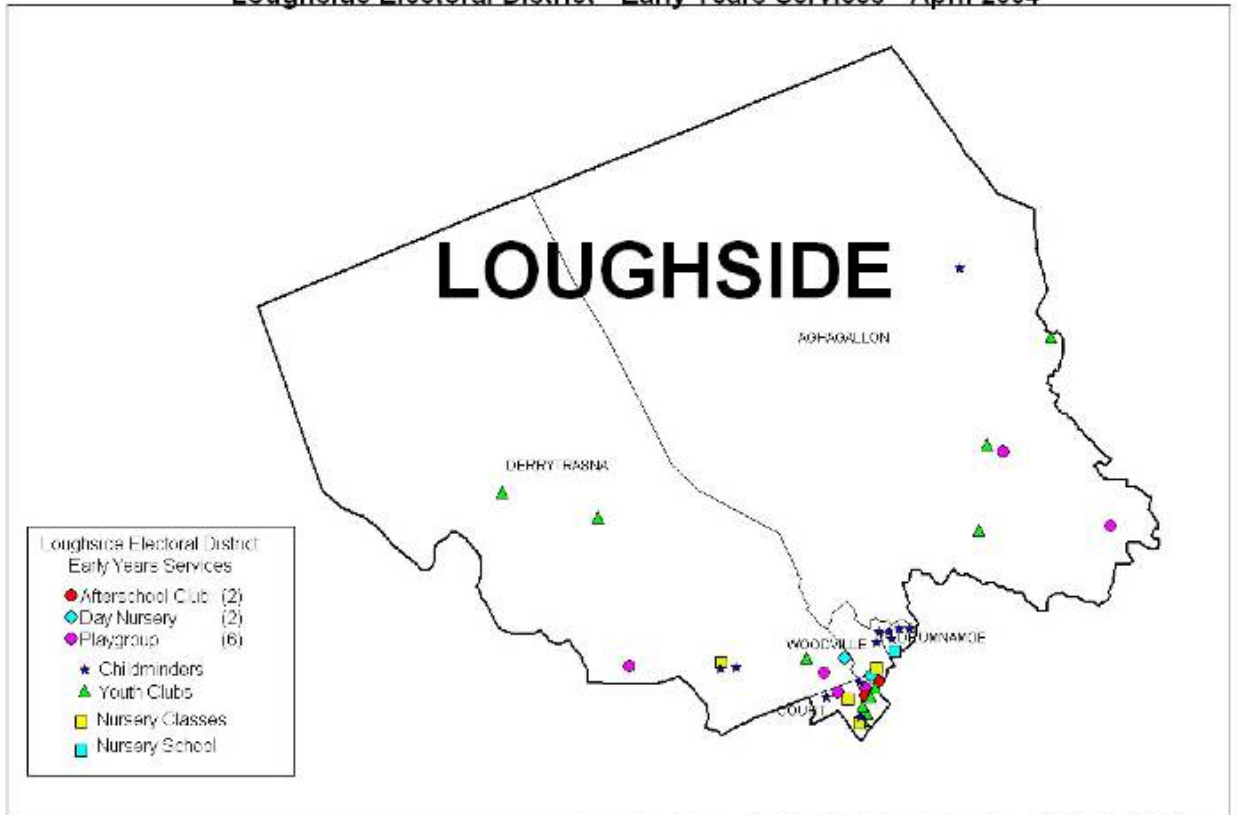
- Craigavon and Banbridge Community Trust are operating a Summer Scheme aimed at children 4 years 2 months – 14 years. This scheme is located at Moylinn House and is to facilitate 24 children for a period of 6 weeks.
- Craigavon and Banbridge Hospital Trust are organising a similar scheme located in Drumgor Primary School.

- Summer schemes also arranged based in Moyraverty, Monbrief, Tullygally and Chrysalis Centres.

Gaps in Provision

- With the very significant expansion since the previous Review, of private housing developments in this area, there needs to be a 'marketing' of childminding in the area.
- Day Nursery Provision would also appear to be a future need and as such this needs to be supported and developed.
- Parent and Toddler groups have, very disappointingly, decreased and this needs to be dealt with especially within an area of high social deprivation.
- The large ethnic groupings of Chinese / Vietnamese, the Travelling Community and the Asian population continues to be disadvantaged. We have improved since last Review but this needs to continue.

Loughside Electoral District - Early Years Services - April 2004



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Loughside Electoral District

Service	2001	2004	Places Available
Childminders	12	12	
Day Nurseries	1	2	119
Playgroups	6	6	130
Afterschools	2	1	40
Holiday Schemes	*	*	*
Parent & Toddler	2	2	*
Nursery School Units		5	234
Youth Groups	13	14	*
DELTA		9	*
Play Parks	4	6	

* figures unavailable

Loughside Electoral District

Loughside Electoral District comprises of 5 rural areas.

Table illustrating population of 16191, living in the district.

Ward	Numbers of Children aged 0 – 4 years	Numbers of Children aged 5 – 9 years	Numbers of Children aged 10 – 14 years
Aghagallon	346	341	350
Woodville	338	368	446
Court	249	264	264
Drumnamoe	252	278	338
Derrytrasna	391	402	446
	1576	1653	1844

Deprivation

The last study of relative deprivation in Northern Ireland shows the Court ward within this Electoral District emerging as the 'highest' ranking with Kinnegoe as the 'lowest' ranking.

'Highest' ranking ward - 3rd place

'Lowest' ranking ward - 91st places

Provision in pre-school / Nursery Schools / Units within the Pre-school Expansion Programme is high with a total of 120 places for the year 2004 – 2005 allocated to the identified Court Ward.

Ward	Score	Rank
Aghagallon	13.82	85
Woodville	7.52	67
Court	46.23	3
Kinnegoe	12.60	91
Drumnamoe	35.24	16

NB: When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the Higher the score the more deprived the area.

Service Provision

Points worthy of noting in relation to service provision in this district

- Day Nursery Provision
 - Since the previous Review a second Day Nursery has been registered doubling the provision.
- Playgroup Provision
 - Playgroup provision remains static.
- Childminding Provision
 - Provision of childminders and registered places remain similar. However NICMA audit identified a need for more childminders in the Kinnego ward.
- Youth Groups
 - Youth Clubs – a similar number to the previous Review.

Pre-school Expansion Programme

- Pre-school playgroups have been allocated 44 places in the year 2004 – 2005.
- Statutory Nursery provision – a total of 234 places have been allocated to 4 Nursery Schools / Units located in 4 wards, different wards within the Electoral District.

DELTA

Since the previous Review 9 programmes have been completed within the Early Years, Primary and Post-primary settings.

Gaps in Provision

- An identified need for more registered childminders in the Kinnego ward.

- This is a predominantly rural district and as such transport remains a difficulty which should be addressed over the period of this Review.
- There are only 12 registered childminders in the entire district area and this needs to be increased.
- Afterschool provision is another area where provision has decreased and again we need to reverse this decline.
- There is an increasingly Ethnic Minority population within this area, perhaps not as pronounced as Portadown District area but nevertheless we need to have baseline measurements.

Summary of Current Service Provision Trust Wide

Service	2001	2004	Places Available	Numbers Attending
Childminders	280	240	975	796
Day Nurseries	15	17	883	1010
Playgroups	37	32	796	699
Afterschool / Out of School	16	26	625	*
Holiday Schemes	*	7	*	*
Parents & Toddlers	21	27	*	*
Nursery Schools/Units	22	25	1196	*
Youth Groups	88	121	*	*
DELTA	32	48	823+	832
Special Schools	2	2	127	*
Play Parks	32	80	*	*
Crèches	2	7	98	*
Out of School Hours Learning	*	11	*	1305

* Figure unavailable

Currently children with disabilities are facilitated Trustwide as follows:

- Playgroups - on Register 14 children
- Day Nurseries - on Register 30 children
- Specialist childminders - 15 currently Registered offering service as required.

There are also numerous localised provision which may not be included in the above table.

NB: DELTA programmes completed within January – December 2003 year are recorded in this table.

Early Years Support Services

The various support organisations have continued to develop their services within the Trust area.

It is generally recognised that support organisations play an increasing significant role in the overall development of the Early Years Services.

This section illustrates the continuing progress within the support organisations.

Craigavon and Banbridge Trust Early Years Team

Main Purpose

Craigavon and Banbridge Trust employ four Early Years Social Workers who provide a service for all those who are already registered and also for those who wish to become registered. The Early Years Social Workers also have an inspection role and they will visit each registered facility or person (in the case of a childminder) at least once every year.

At present there is an Early Years Social Worker based in Portadown, Banbridge, Lurgan and Brownlow offices. The Trust would wish to centralise Early Years services in one location and there is the possibility of the old hospital site in Banbridge becoming available for this process to begin.

The Early Years Team are 'involved in strategies for identifying the Training Needs of those providing services and working in partnership with those who provide training so as to develop training programmes. The Early Years Team is also involved in the process of encouraging and facilitating new services, helping and supporting those who either wish to expand or indeed new providers.

The Early Years Team continues to encourage registration by working in conjunction with NICMA (Northern Ireland Childminding Association) and others, promoting the benefits of registration.

Service Provided

Early Years Social Workers continue to work in partnership with providers, with training organisations and with the Child Care Partnership to increase the quality of Early Years provision.

Early Years matters continue to be managed by the Team manager for Early Years and Family Support who is based at the Child and Family Care Office, Bocombra, Portadown.

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

All registered Early Years provision is in the process of acquiring 'standards' so as the DHSS&PS can monitor the Trust's performance against these standards (standards are presently in draft form). This process will have a legal remit under the Quality, Improvement and Registration Order 2003.

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

- Need to target rural areas which tend to have low early years provision.
- Issues of sustainability within the sector needs to be addressed.
- Lack of crèche provision needs to be addressed.
- Early Years Teams capacity remains an issue.
- Need for development worker within Team.

Family and Childcare Services

Craigavon and Banbridge Health and Social Services Trust continues to offer a range of services, some of which are universal and others more targeted. Social Work Teams within the Trust are presently organised in the following way.

Locality Child and Family Care Teams based in:

Portadown	}	including
Banbridge		Family Support
Brownlow		Child Protection
Lurgan		Early Years

Looked After Children Team based in Brownlow

Family Placement Team based in Bocombra, Portadown

Aftercare / Leaving Care Team based in Moylinn, Craigavon

Parenting / Assessment Services based in Bocombra, Portadown

Young Persons Project based in Bocombra, Portadown

The locality Child and Family Care Teams offer a universal service open to everyone within the Trust area who may be experiencing social care difficulties. The remainder of these services are not directly available to everyone and are accessed by way of referrals from Social Workers or Health Visitors.

Craigavon and Banbridge District Nursing

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

- **Behaviour – Families with Children with ADHD/Autism**

Poor provision of family support services for these families. These are children in need, however, if all of these families were identified as children in need, there would be insufficient levels of family support workers to provide this service. These families require a high level of support from Health Visitors and Specialist ADHD/Autism Health Visitors. If this support was provided early, parents would feel more competent in dealing with the difficulties within the family. The service for children with behavioural difficulties needs to be a holistic process as it affects the whole family. Should be a multi-disciplinary approach.

- **Children's Nursing**

There is an increasing number of children with complex health care needs. Children are being discharged from hospital who require 24 hour care. Presently there is not enough 24 hour care or not enough Children's Nurses to provide this service. District Nurses do not feel competent to provide this highly specialist service at weekends. We need more Children's Nurses to develop and expand this service beyond 9am-5pm Monday to Friday, which is the current service. Also families with children with complex needs require adequate respite. There is only a limited budget through the Disability Team. This is a priority which needs to be addressed.

In addition children under 18 year old who have special needs/disabilities require family support at an early stage. Health Visitors are striving to support these families, however, because of increased pressures within health visiting, this is not always possible.

Recommendations for Future Development

- Audit of children identified who require early intervention for specialised advice and support.
- Develop signposting to specialist services for parents/carers.
- Business case to develop Paediatric Nursing services including respite.
- There are families who do not attend appointments for various reasons. These children have a right to avail of these services. There is scope to develop a multi-disciplinary/agency approach to meeting the needs of these children, e.g. an inclusive community development approach.

NICMA

Main Purpose

NICMA is a charity and membership organisation which works to support childminders, parents and children. Our main purpose is to promote the development of children by providing quality childcare and education in a registered home based setting.

Service Provided

- Locally based NICMA Development Officer
- Promotion of the provision of high quality childcare and education within registered, home based settings
- Provision of training in childcare and education
- Provide support, information and advice to new and established registered childminders
- Provide information and advice to parents seeking or currently using a registered childminder
- Provide and promote a support network for childminders
- Promote registered childminding, and encourage registration
- Promote NICMA membership and insurance

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

- Increase in parental enquiries regarding childminding placements
- Increase in the number of childminders availing of wide range of training. This through the Childcare Partnership funding and training strategy

- Start up grants available to new childminders in areas identified with no or low provision to help cover the cost incurred in registration
- 53% of registered childminders hold NICMA membership and insurance (Southern Board average is 62%)

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

- Need for more registered childminders throughout the Trust especially in Ballyoran, Corcrain, Church, Kinnego, Taghnevan and Garren electoral wards
- There is a need for a Trustwide publicity / promotion campaign to increase the numbers of registered childminders throughout the area and to raise the awareness of registration to parents seeking or using childminders
- The childminding support groups need support and encouragement to continue
- Encouragement to all newly registered childminders to attend training sessions on the business side of childminding
- Need to identify ways to retain those childminders already registered

NIPPA

Main Purpose

To provide support, advice and training to Early Years Providers and assist the establishment of new services.

Service Provided

- Advice and support to Parent and Toddler, Daycare, Playgroups re: recruitment and selection
- Training in child protection, policy implementation, early years curriculum.
- Support groups within PEEP – cluster particularly effective
- Assist with funding applications
- Branch activities (4 times per year) provides a forum for all providers

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

- Increased number of groups receiving PEAG funding
- Increased membership
- Number of groups undertaking accreditation
- Rolling programme on child protection
- Facts 'n Fun events
- Secured funding for Quality Development worker (Craigavon)
- Renewed funding for Quality Development Worker (Banbridge)

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

- Acute difficulties in accessing funding for 3 year olds
- Support for parents and toddlers is limited
- Support for groups outside the PEEP is diminished
- Support for after school clubs is limited
- Financial support for children with special needs
- Some of the above issues may be alleviated when new workers appointed

Banbridge District Childcare Programme

Main Purpose

The Banbridge District Childcare Programme is a project managed between the UBIFHE and NIPPA. It has ESF funding and aims to deliver training, support and information services in line with Banbridge LSP Childcare Programme outputs. Training will bring about career opportunities for those returning to work and for those in current employment who wish to progress. It will encourage good working relationships across community divides and provide peer support opportunities. Children will benefit from an improved quality service and cross-community opportunities. Women and their families (particularly in rural areas) will have more informed choices about their future and community infrastructure will be improved.

Service Provided

- Training
 - NVQ 3 Early Years Care and Education
 - Playwork level 2

- First Line Management
- Short course (5 per year) to include topics such as First Aid, Child Protection, Basic Food Hygiene, Curriculum Planning, Special Needs, etc.
- Direct Mentoring Support /Raising Quality Standards
 - The Programme Co-ordinator is to work with all early years settings in the district to develop quality standards and bring a minimum of 3 settings through to recognised accreditation.
- Information Packs
 - The programme will design, deliver and evaluate childcare and community information to 500 families across the district.

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

The Article 20 report 2001 identified areas of need in the Banbridge District area including training, after school provision, rural provision and information access. The programme aims to address these developmental areas as an extension of the previous Banbridge District Childcare Programme.

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

- Qualified staff in Playwork for After School Provision
- Staff qualified in Management
- Settings with recognised quality accreditation certificates

We are addressing these needs currently.

Recommendations

By the end of year 1 we will have exceeded our training target for the 3 year plan. This illustrates the need for training in the district, more funding necessary to fully address the needs identified in the previous review.

Banbridge District Council

Main Purpose

Not applicable.

Service Provided

In accordance with The Recreation and Youth Service (NI) Order 1986; "Each district council shall secure the provision for its area of adequate facilities for recreational, social, physical and cultural activities."

- Play provision – Council provide and maintain 9 'open' play areas and 18 estate based play areas
- Leisure / Community Centre;
- *Banbridge*: a crèche is provided Monday – Friday 9.30 – 1.30, beginning swimming lessons 4 years upwards
- *Rathfriland*: a crèche is provided Monday – Friday 10.00 – 12.00, the centre 'facilitates' Tumble Tots Class Thursdays 10.00 – 12.00.
- *Dromore*: a crèche for 0 – 5 years is provided on Thursday morning 10.00 – 12.00.
- Summer schemes – each of the above centres run summer schemes for 8 years plus in the months of July and August
- Youth Sports Programme – seasonal sports courses offered throughout year for 8 – 12 years, soccer 5 – 7 years. Also After School sports during term times at selected primary and secondary schools
- Youth Arts Provision – diverse arts programme of activity during Easter, Summer and Halloween for under 5 years – 14 years.

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

Unclear as to provision listed in 2001 – but council now employs a full-time Sports Development Officer – which has increased sporting activities for youth sector.

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

Rural areas of the district – i.e. Massford / Finnis area largely due to lack of venue / facilities. However, community centre at Massford is now used as a base to host arts provision – again on a seasonal basis.

Craigavon Borough Council

Main Purpose

The 1973 Recreation and Youth Service (NI) instructed the 26 District Councils to take responsibility for the provision of recreation, social, physical and cultural activities.

Service Provided

Craigavon Borough Council carries out its duties through the provision of indoor and outdoor leisure facilities, arts and museum programmes, conservation projects, community resources (such as provision of Town Hall and Community Centres) and outdoor play areas. The range of provision for children / young people and their families is therefore both extensive and varied.

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

The majority of Council facilities, including 11 Community Centre and 2 Town Halls, have been upgraded in order to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act which will enable customers with special needs to freely participate in programmes taking place at the facilities.

Leisure Services have recently undertaken a programme of upgrading the outdoor play areas throughout the Borough.

All of Council Policies are subject to Equality Screening to ensure that none of the groups under Section 75 suffer any adverse impact.

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

Programmes and resources are mainly based in areas of greatest population and therefore gaps do exist for those living in rural areas.

Continuing efforts are being made to target resources towards areas of greatest social need.

Southern Education and Library Board – Youth Service

Main Purpose

To secure adequate youth provision within the SELB area, through controlled youth provision and support to the voluntary sector.

Service Provided

- Direct delivery of youth work programmes
- Financial assistance to registered youth groups
- Training courses
- Advice and support
- Outdoor education / residential services

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

- A targeted approach to increasing the involvement of marginalized young people (section 75 groups, etc)
- Capital investment in controlled youth provision

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

- Some rural areas require enhanced provision
- Difficulties in recruiting volunteers
- Low take-up of training in some areas
- Need to continue work involving marginalized young people

Family Support Services

This Review details the extent of which provision in family support services has developed within the past three years in the various organisations. Their aims are to provide services throughout the Trust area and in particular to target those areas and families most in need.

Parenting Services & Family Support Services

The Trust continues to offer the above two interlinking services. The Parenting Service and the Family Support Worker Scheme.

The Parenting Service had operated with one full-time Social Worker and one part-time Social Worker. We now have one full time Social Worker and two part-time Social Workers. These Social Workers work with parents and families who have been referred through the Child and Family Care Social Work Teams within the Trust area.

The work is focused on those families who are most in need and is carried out on an individual family basis. The service employs a range of professional interventions that are aimed at:

- Improving family functioning
- Developing parent's skills and knowledge
- Creating an appropriate environment for children
- Developing parents' abilities and capabilities to provide consistent good quality parenting, particularly in terms of motivation, self esteem, emotional and psychological needs and identifying blocks that exist to consistent parenting.

Families Attending Parenting Service 2001 - 2004	
Number of Families	84
Number of Children	104

The Family Support Worker Scheme employs three workers to engage directly with parents and families in their homes. Families may be referred to the scheme through the Child and Family Care Social Work Teams and the Health Visiting Team in Banbridge.

The aims of the scheme are to:

- Develop a caring relationship with families based on open and honest communication.

- Improving parenting skills through practical support, education and skill development.
- Facilitate parents to work towards building their self esteem and develop confidence within the family to function more positively.
- Assist parents to enhance and develop their social and community links.

The workers visit families for set hours during the week and work with them towards goals and targets that are agreed by the family and the referrer. While the scheme is designed to be flexible and often works with families who have different levels of need, priority will always be given to those who are most in need.

Numbers in Receipt of Family Support 2001 - 2004	
Number of Families	101
Number of Children	120

MENCAP

Main Purpose

To facilitate inclusive play and promote the importance of play for children with a disability / developmental delay.

Service Provided

- The service offers children with a disability / developmental delay the opportunity to be included in their local pre or afterschool play provision
- Support is offered to the family and play staff during the settling in period
- Support advice and guidance is available during the child's time in the play provision.
- Advice is given an appropriate play and play equipment.
- Disability Awareness Raising and Inclusive Play Workshops are offered to families, play staff, etc.

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

The Wraparound Service has been added which includes one-to-one play sessions in the home and the play workshops offered to parents / carers / respite staff, etc.

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

Provision of play sessions and play workshops (Wraparound Service) is limited as only 4 hours have been allocated to each Trust area per week. As demand has increased less sessions are allocated per child and a waiting list is being drawn up.

DELTA

Main Purpose

The main purpose of the DELTA Project is to promote partnership with parents within the SELB area by carrying out educare / multi-agency programmes for parents, through parent information and advice sessions. The aim is to promote the development of children and youths from birth to sixteen years old, raising parents' self-esteem and enhancing the parent / carer child relationship.

Service Provided

Parents' Programmes are set up in a variety of venues with approximately 34 Early Years programmes (572 parents), 8 Post Primary (147) and 6 Primary (104) annually in the Craigavon and Banbridge Trust area.

The programmes include healthy lifestyles, language, literacy and sharing books, learning through play, maths, creativity, safety, risk taking behaviours, positive parenting, use of IT and thinking skills. Other topics can be arranged at parents request. Programmes can be tailor-made to the groups' requirements e.g. ASD programme, ethnic minority groups or special needs groups.

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

Baby sitting groups have developed as a result of non-recurrent funding from the DHSS&PS to target elements outlined in the Myths and Reality report.

Links with young mothers and school age mothers groups have been made. DELTA has participated in a summer project for school age mothers. DELTA is also working with Speech and Language Department in the area, parents have been invited to DELTA programmes with the focus on Speech and Language development however there has been very low parent attendance (4 per session).

The project staff have participated in Facts and Fun Days in the Trust Area and have been involved in the Early Years Newsletter. Staff have also been involved in Educational developments such as Enriched Curriculum and Creativity.

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

Although the Project has aimed to have an equitable spread throughout the Trust for a number of reasons fewer than planned Ethnic Minority Programmes have run.

However all Electoral Districts have had programmes, the wards in most need (Noble Indicators) have been actively targeted.

The Blossom Sure Start Project has developed with the DELTA Project Officer working in groups and on a one to one basis with both mothers and fathers.

Recommendations: That DELTA Project continues to provide quality parents programmes. In order to maintain the universality of the programme and Craigavon and Banbridge Parenting Committee must continue to target the areas of need and monitor the DELTA outcomes. The DELTA Project must work with other providers of parenting programmes to avoid duplication.

The Project must undergo an overall evaluation in order to consolidate the programmes on offer.

Minority Ethnic Groups

The Craigavon area is home to a relatively high number of people belonging to a range of minority ethnic groups. 0.3% of the population of Craigavon are Chinese (including Vietnam and Hong Kong), 0.2 are Irish Travellers, 0.1 are Indian, 0.1 are Pakistani and 0.3% belong to other ethnic groups. These numbers are higher than the Southern Board average and in some cases, higher than the Northern Ireland average.

A large exercise has commenced by the Craigavon and Banbridge Community HSS Trust to assess the health and social needs of people belonging to minority groups who reside within the Craigavon and Banbridge area. It is known that there are a range of issues which impact on the ability of people from minority ethnic groups to adequately access the health and social services which they require.

This work will therefore be of great importance and Lay Health Workers are being appointed to undertake this research. It is anticipated that further information will be available during 2004.

A needs assessment conducted within the Travelling community in 2000 / 2001 identified 34 adults (aged 18+) and 46 children within Craigavon area. The following information was highlighted:

- Only 45% of Traveller children living in the Craigavon Borough attended school. This was a much lower percentage compared to school attendance levels for Traveller children in Coalisland and in Newry.
- 54% were not registered with a GP and 62% did not have a dentist. However 92% did have a health visitor.
- Craigavon had a particularly low uptake rate of screening services, with none of the females questioned having attended for breast screening, 62% had not attended for cervical screening and 69% had not received a post-natal check-up.
- 31% of Traveller children suffered from serious or ongoing health problems, the most common of which were asthma and chest infections.
- 6% of Traveller children had a disability, which is twice the rate of children in Northern Ireland who have a disability (3%).

Springwell Centre

Main Purpose

- To provide support for vulnerable families.
- To provide opportunities for family enrichment.
- To provide opportunities for enhancing self-esteem and self confidence by deepening awareness, understanding and appreciation of one's own resources.
- To empower individuals and communities to address issues of concern to them in their physical / social environment.

Service Provided

- Personal development
- Counselling and psychotherapy (family therapy)
- Adult education (literacy, numeracy, computers)
- Family support / parenting programmes – young person's project parent support group, Delta, Barnardos parenting programmes

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

- Trained 5 women to facilitate the Rainbow's Bereavement Programme to help children to cope with grief and loss.
- Consultancy service to Craigavon & Banbridge Health & Social Services Trust – family therapy
- Crèche registered with the Trust
- Clients coming by public transport from Banbridge

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

- Clear need for support for families in Banbridge
 - some centre and services needed

Springwell would like to meet the need, in the short term, by providing transport, but would need financial assistance to do this. Long term, we would support development of an outreach centre (would require substantial funding)

Parenting Matters / Barnardos

Main Purpose

Promotion and development of parent support to disadvantaged parents and carers in the Craigavon and Banbridge area, using a groupwork approach.

Service Provided

- A range of parenting programmes for carers of newborns to teenagers
- Support groups as required

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

- Provision of programmes to parents in the Chinese community
- Provision of programmes for parents involved with local CAMHs Team who are dealing with difficult behaviour

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

- Regular and ongoing child care for parents attending groups
- Travel costs for parents attending groups

Sure Start

Main Purpose

The role of Sure Start is to provide a co-ordinated range of services to families with pre-school children who live in the Sure Start area.

Service Provided

- Health Visiting
- Home based and group based support
- Speech and language
- Home based Family Support
- Creative Arts and Play
- Support to Early Years Providers – training, role modelling
- Parenting programmes
- Mobile crèche facilities
- Baby massage
- Ante-natal / post-natal support groups

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

- Main development has been establishment of the project itself which became operational in October 2001
- Boundary has been extended in recent months to include Brownstown / Rectory West areas.
- Areas covered includes Drumcree / Corcrain / Redmanville, Edgarstown / Brownstown / Rectory and adjoining streets and housing developments.

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

Within Sure Start area community based early years provision is generally poorer in Corcrain / Brownstown area. Sure Start support the development of new Parent and Toddlers in Corcrain Community Centre. Closer working relationship between Sure Start and local community organisations should assist the development of provision in Corcrain / Brownstown areas.

Local playgroups are struggling for numbers due to nursery schools taking children from younger age range.

Chrysalis Women's Centre

Main Purpose

Service level agreement currently under negotiation to provide

- Crèche, Monday – Friday am for up to 24 children
- Afterschools programme Monday – Thursday – up to 26 places
4 – 16 years
- Access to pre-vocational and vocational training for adults
- Educational guidance and advice
- Health information
- Support for local groups

Service Provided

We work with children drawn from the local community. Over the past years we have developed programmes specifically for ethnic communities such as Chinese, Asian and Travellers. These programmes have concentrated on the development of personal and social skills, English as a second language and vocational training. The Children's Project has also focused on facilitating children with homework support, citizenship skills, essential skills, environmental awareness and creativity in arts and crafts.

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

The Children's Project, after changes in management processes and refurbishment of premises is now fully registered with Craigavon and Banbridge Health & Social Services Trust. Funding for key posts has been consolidated until January 2005. Staff have increased range of qualifications and most now have Level 3 certificates or are working to attain these. Policies and processes have been developed and refined. These are all fully operational. Partnerships with local groups have been developed to ensure non duplication of work and resources.

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

A sustainable source of funding would enable us to develop our work with confidence. It is essential that development of childcare services locally continues to happen in a co-ordinated way which places value on the unique contributions of various local childcare projects.

Inter-agency partnerships which welcome representation from community childcare projects are needed to develop and evaluate children's work in the area. There is a gap in outdoor play facilities for local children. Particular focus must be placed on the needs of teenagers, both male and female.

Traveller's Support

Main Purpose

The overall purpose of this project is to improve the quality of life of Travellers in the Craigavon area. To advance the social inclusion of Travellers through responding to policy, delivering anti-racism and anti-discriminatory training and working with other groups. To advance the levels of co-operation between the Project Travellers and the statutory / voluntary sector to identify and address health and social needs in the Craigavon area. To strengthen existing relationships within the Committee by joint identification and development of objectives annually and to establish new positive relationships with key individuals in range of statutory, voluntary and community agencies particularly Craigavon Borough Council, SELB and DSD Special Programmes Branch. To improve the health of the Traveller population by adopting a community development approach which will strengthen partnerships and health alliances between health, housing and environmental professionals, the Travellers and the Project.

To enhance the educational opportunities of young Travellers by encouraging increased school attendance. To provide individual Travellers with advice and support on the range of services available in the area and to support them in accessing service. In partnership with Travellers and key statutory and voluntary agencies develop interim facilities for Travellers with the aim of improving their environmental living conditions.

Service Provided

- Parent and toddler
- Afterschool provision
- Essential skills
- EOTS (Education other than School)
- Maternity support
- Ante and post natal
- Liaise with school / SELB
- Summer schemes
- Workshops

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

- More developments with statutory organisations
- Youth (working on integration to existing youth services)
- Provision of supporting the Travelling community in their personal development, training and practical support

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

- Accommodation (service site)
- Health (i.e. toilets, basic amenities)
- Poor community infrastructure
- Lack of knowledge / understanding of Government organisations protocol that results in high levels of anxiety and stress

Home-Start

Main Purpose

- Focus on children 0 – 5 years

Home-Start supports parents during their children's formative years to give them a good start in life. It has been proven that these first formative years are essential for the child's welfare and future development.

Service Provided

The main focus of Home-Start is to offer volunteer support to families in their own homes. By doing so Home-Start respects each family's dignity and identity and can respond to individual needs, working together to build confidence, strengthen relationships and have fun, for the ultimate benefit of the children.

Home-Start volunteers, who are usually parents themselves or have had parenting experience, choose to share their time, friendship, parenting skills and experience because they understand the demands and stresses of a young family. All volunteers are carefully selected, prepared and supported for their work with families.

People managing the service for local families, thus helping to strengthen local communities. The national organisation is there to help and offers to ensure a consistent quality of support for parents and children wherever they live.

Home-Start offers support where it is needed in a way that parents find helpful. The relationship between the Home-Start volunteer and the family is established by choice. It is not influenced by power or money.

Home-Start recognises the diversity in families and in all work respects the special cultural, racial, ethnic and religions traditions that make them distinct.

In all external and internal dealings Home-Start schemes and Home-Start work within and demonstrate the essential ethos of:

- choice
- openness
- flexibility
- partnership
- encouragement
- responsiveness and enjoyment

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

Certificate in community volunteering

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

Home Start will offer a Certificate in Community Volunteering to its active volunteers.

Chinese Community

Main Purpose

Wah Hep is the Community Development association which represents and provides services for the Chinese Community in County Armagh. Wah Hep itself means 'Chinese Self Help' which reflects in the fundamental philosophy of the group. Wah Hep has been established as an independent organisation since 1999.

Service Provided

An estimated population of 1000 Chinese and Vietnamese origin people who live in County Armagh (the majority in the in the Greater Craigavon area) make this the largest ethnic minority grouping outside Belfast. Services provided for the 120 families include:

- Afterschool Club for 3 different age groups offer homework support and provides children with opportunity to develop abilities to integrate in the local school and to become aware of their own cultural background.
- Chinese Language School – successful programme for a total of 22.
- Children teaching reading and writing skills in the Chinese language.
- English classes have been set up in conjunction with Upper Bann Institute and Community Learning Centre helping the understanding and communication of the everyday English language.
- Summer schemes for the past 5 years – includes family outings, sports and other activities for young children. In 2003 45 participants attend this summer scheme.
- Youth group established since 1998 now attended by 21 members – learning to understand other people’s cultures and build confidence and skills
- Drop in centre and Chinese Library Services.

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

Continues to facilitate and support already established activities.

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

- Early Years 0 – 4 – no facilities or funding
- Childminding training courses
- Chinese School and Afterschool Club – currently disbanded due to financial constraints – hopefully to recommence the club in 2004 – attempting to make this a long-term and permanent service.
- Provision of a Sessional Youth Worker – long-term.
- An Anti-racial Bullying Policy is needed.
- Transport necessary for all services in place to allow greater number to attend.

Young Person’s Project

Main Purpose

The Young Person’s project is a Craigavon and Banbridge Community health and Social Services social work initiative, which engages, marginalized youth and supports and empowers young people at risk.

Created in 1995 the YPP actively embraces the core principle of partnership within the NI Children's Order and has developed a value base, service ethos and practice methodology that is unique within both the Northern Ireland and United Kingdom context.

Service Provided

Mission Statement: Promotion of Services to Support and Empower Young People and Their Families.

The YPP delivers an intensive and expansive range of social work support services to young people and parents who are recognised by statutory authorities as being:

- at risk of family breakdown
- at risk of entering the Juvenile Justice System
- involved in behaviours / activities that place them at risk or in danger
- young people experiencing significant emotional well being difficulties
- young homeless people

The project offers a new and dynamic response in supporting these young people (12 – 18 years) who are encountering a diverse range of personal issues or life style difficulties.

Developments since Article 20 Review 2001

In 2002 – 2003 group work has become a fundamental aspect of our service with 19 programmes completed and 258 young people and parents attending.

These figures are exceptional when consideration is given to the significant difficulties of those young people who attend. Many are experiencing significant emotional issues and family crisis and are suspended from statutory education and excluded from youth service provision, etc. and yet they consistently choose to use the services.

Gaps in Provision, issues arising and recommendations for future development

Community Development: The YPP, in keeping with the Craigavon and Banbridge Health and Social Services Trust has a clearly defined and active community development policy. This community development role incorporates direct consultation with local communities on matters relating to young people, supporting local communities to develop youth strategies, formal project partnerships

and development of independent forums of young people and parents who are directly engaged with the YPP. In addition to Project continues to respond to areas of newly identified need amongst our young people and as a consequence develops specialist projects e.g. MAPs Mentoring Project and Supported Lodgings.

Children with Disabilities

The potential for children with disabilities to access early years services has received a huge boost over the last three years through the all Inclusive Wraparound Scheme for Children with Disabilities. The successful bid in 2001 by the SHSSB and its statutory and voluntary partners to the Executive Programme Fund resulted in a three year programme of funding for this marginalized group of children. Wraparound has successfully built on the existing foundation of inter-agency and multi-disciplinary working for disabled children and their families, and has sought to address key issues regarding the range of respite service; co-ordination of services; assessment and treatment services; inclusion of disabled children in mainstream social and leisure activities.

Early Years services were targeted, with funding to allow disabled children to access pre-school and Afterschool places; funding for additional staff for individual children if required; funding for particular equipment and toys. A sponsored childminding scheme has also been developed, with disability-specific training for childminders, enhanced rates of pay, additional professional support and specialist toys and equipment.

Wraparound has therefore provided funding and focus for the Trust and its various statutory and voluntary partners in the provision of mainstream early years services, which only small numbers of disabled children had previously accessed. Since Wraparound's inception, the following successful placements have been made:

Sponsored childminding	23
Pre-school	12
Afterschools	24

The feedback from children, parents, providers and professionals about these placements and about the Wraparound ethos has been extremely positive. The whole Wraparound Scheme in the SHSSB area has been so successful that funding from Department is to be mainstreamed and recurring. This will follow further development of this exciting and timely initiative for children with disabilities.

Community Development Role

Span of Responsibility

Key issues for next 3 years:

- Participation
 - Partnership Working with voluntary and community sectors
 - User Involvement / Self help
 - Lobbying
- 1 Implications of SHSSB – Children’s Service Planning – needs assessment of Minority and Ethnic Children.
 - 2 Specifically, support for minority children especially Travellers accessing pre-school provision and primary education.
 - 3 Inclusion of children and young people with disabilities into mainstream play, leisure, educational provision.
 - 4 Implication of Mental Health Strategy on children and young people.
 - 5 Inclusion of children with complex needs – access to services.

Newry & Mourne
Health & Social Services Trust

Article 20 Review 2004

Executive Summary

This element of the Article 20 review represents the views of agencies and service users across the Early Years and Family Support services sectors. It also includes basic data which is held by the Trust and the Southern Childcare Partnership and is the third such triennial review which has been carried out (as required by the Children (NI) Order 1995).

Key Themes and Key Messages

These are not listed in priority nor in rating of importance. They are identified in bullet-point form and described in more detail in the key messages section.

The key themes and messages will, of necessity, focus the thinking and strategic planning of all the agencies involved and will be reflected in the area action plan.

- Low numbers of registered childminders
- Shortfall in out of school provision
- Inadequate supply of full day care places
- Anticipated loss of out of school support services which were offered by NOF development worker will impact on long term sustainability and quality issues within the out of school sector
- Support services for children with additional / special needs in the voluntary sector
- Identification of the needs of the ethnic minority groupings resident in the area
- General lack of family support services
- Development of play areas in the communities.

Key Messages

- **Childminders**

The numbers of registered childminders needs to be raised and new and innovative recruitment strategies require to be put in place and targeted at specific ward areas.

- **Out of School Provision**

The shortfall in out of school provision was a recurring theme in the 2001 review report and, despite development, it continues to be an identified issue across all electoral districts. The input by the development officer has gone some way to address shortfall, sustainability and quality issues. However, the anticipated demise of this post and no clear future funding strategy has served to cause concern in this sector. The shortfall, which has been highlighted by the general public and by agency feedback, highlights the need for urgent action to be taken.

- **Full Day Care**

The length of waiting lists and the reported impact of parents being unable to return to work is a recurrent feature in this area. The cost of development of full day care schemes, the lack of government funding and the difficulty in obtaining set-up grants and awards have all been cited as issues and action will need to be taken to address this at business and enterprise levels.

- **Children With Additional / Special Needs**

While there are minimal Trust supported schemes there is not adequate funding in the system to support all those children who wish to avail of mainstream placements in Early Years settings. There continues to be inequity of support opportunities between children accessing statutory and voluntary settings and this requires to be urgently addressed.

- **Ethnic Minority Groupings**

There is an increasing awareness of the range of ethnic minority groupings which are entering the early years workforce and whose families and children are accessing family and early years services. However, there is no clarity as to where families and children are located nor whether the services are accessible or meeting need appropriately.

- **Family Support Services**

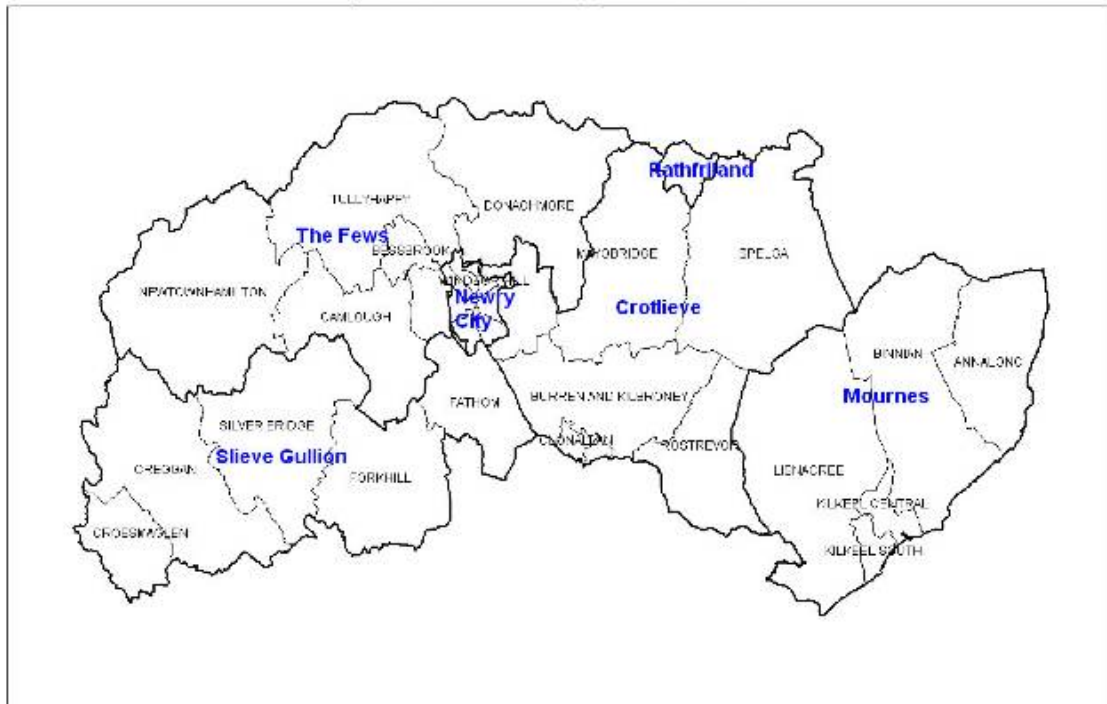
There continues to be recorded unmet need in relation to the availability of both voluntary and statutory family support services and a need to clearly define this in terms of more specific targeting of community development initiatives and future funding opportunities.

- **Play Areas in the Community**

This relates to lack of green play areas in large public and private sector housing developments. It is an issue that has been recorded by every agency which has given feedback to this reportage process. This was also an issue in the Article 20 review report in 2001 and it remains a priority matter for parents who live in these large developments.

Profile of Newry & Mourne Health & Social Services Trust

Newry & Mourne HSS Trust by Electoral District



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Local Provision

This chapter provides information on the early years services, which are available in the Newry and Mourne Health and Social Services Trust area. These have been mapped by ward and commented upon within an Electoral District context as the Trust area encompasses 31 wards.

The information refers to childminding, playgroups, day nurseries and out of school provision. It also includes detail relating to parent and toddler groups, youth groups (those which are registered with the Southern Education and Library Board) church groups and District Council owned play areas.

Also included is information about nursery places and pre-school places which are funded by the Pre-school Education Expansion Programme.

In an attempt to contextualise this information in relation to need a reference has been inserted which profiles the child population and includes Electoral District sectional references to pre-school cohort and out of school groupings.

The Electoral Districts are:

Electoral District	Wards
Slieve Gullion	Creggan Crossmaglen Silverbridge Forkhill Fathom
Mournes	Annalong Binnian Kilkeel Central Kilkeel South Lisnacree
The Fews	Donaghmore Derrymore Bessbrook Tullyhappy Camlough Newtownhamilton
Newry City	Windsor Hill St Patrick's St Mary's Drumgullion Ballybot Daisy Hill Drumalane
Crotlieve	Derryleckagh Seaview Clonallon Rostrevor Mayobridge Spelga Burren and Kilbroney
Rathfriland	Rathfriland

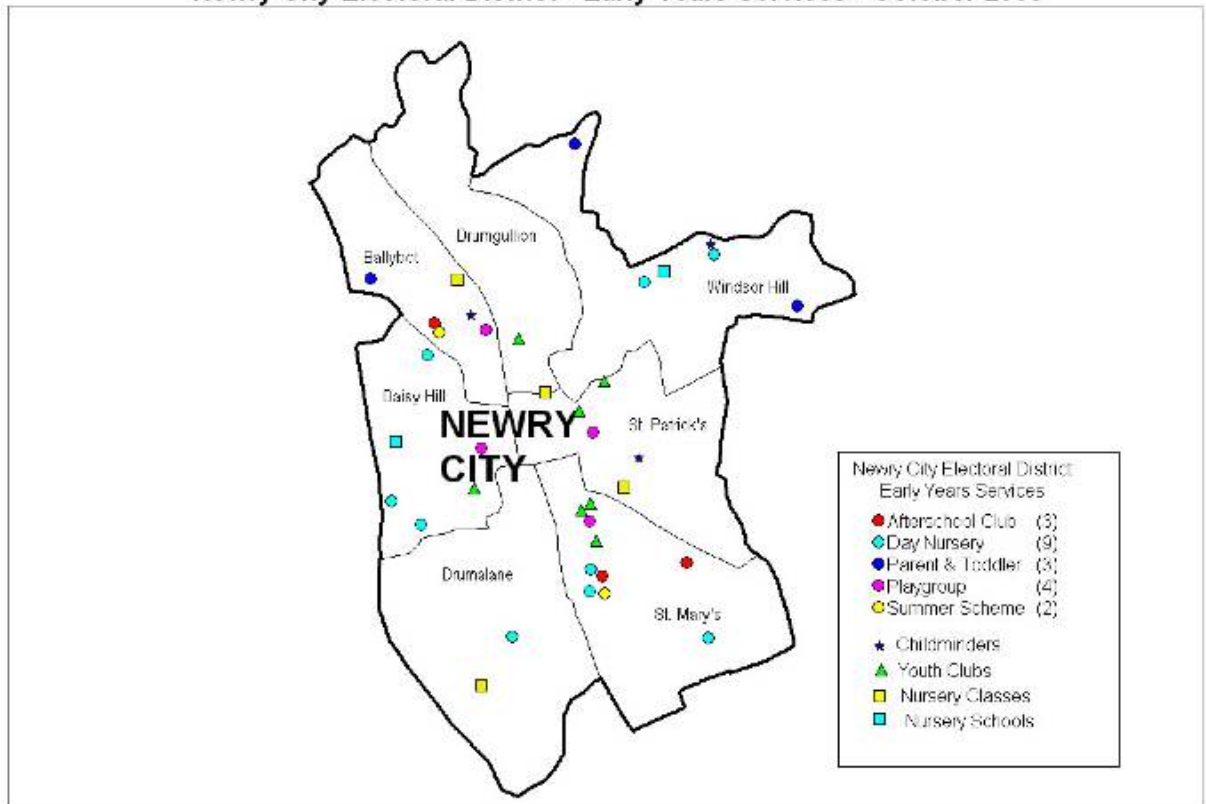
**Population Profile for Newry and Mourne Trust Area –appendices
1 to refer..**

*

0 – 4 years	5 – 7 years	8 – 9 years	10 – 14 years
6827	4283	2942	7941

*Population source information – Census 2001

Newry City Electoral District - Early Years Services - October 2003



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(Insert Newry Map)

Newry City Electoral District

Newry City Electoral District comprises seven wards and the Census population source 2001 gives the following breakdown of children living in these wards:

Ward	0 – 4 years	5 – 9 years	10 – 14 years
Windsor Hill	189	118	101
St Patrick's	258	136	103
St Mary's	153	61	59
Drumgullion	234	170	120
Ballybot	137	104	58
Daisy Hill	274	181	123
Drumalane	195	130	81
Totals	1440	900	645

Newry has received city status since the last Article 20 Review Report was penned and it has seen major cultural growth and an increase in private housing sector development particularly on the outskirts of the city. The main areas of this development are situated in the Windsor Hill, Drumalane and St Mary's wards.

Deprivation

In the last study of relative deprivation in Northern Ireland, the Newry and Mourne area emerged as the fourth highest in degree of deprivation. Within the city area and via referencing Noble Multiple Deprivation Measures, the following ward picture is realised:

Daisy Hill	(ranks 1 – “highest” – score of 50.5)
Ballybot	(ranks 2 – “highest” – score of 46.29)
St Patrick's	(ranks 8 – “highest” – score of 42.94)
Drumgullion	(ranks 14 – “highest” – score of 35.83)
St Mary's	(ranks 19 – “highest” – score of 33.99)
Drumalane	(ranks 53 – “highest” – score of 20.81)
Windsor Hill	(ranks 103 – “highest” – score of 13.59)

NB: When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score the higher is the deprivation in the ward area. Appendix 6 shows the 25% most deprived wards according to the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure and the Robson Measure of Deprivation. The full deprivation picture can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

Newry City area also reflects high poverty and disability levels as can be seen by referring to the SCCP website with large numbers of income support claimants, job seekers allowance claimants and persons under 18 in receipt of Disability Living allowances.

The population profile demonstrates the spread of the age range in this Electoral District and, in particular, across clusters of age in ward areas. In looking at the pre-school and out of school population the following picture emerges:

Pre-school population - i.e. children aged 3 – 5 years is an estimated 576 with an approximation of 392 children who would be in the cohort grouping entitled to funded pre-school places or nursery places.

At December 2003, 347 places were available for 392 cohort children i.e. 92% (approximate number), so need is met.

Out of school population - i.e. children aged 4 years 2 months - 14 years is an estimated 1295 children.

At December 2003, 112 places were available during term time and 232 places during school holidays. It is estimated, therefore, that if all the children in this age range required out of school care then provision would be meeting 11.5% of demand. There are, however, no definitive records available to assess demand and unmet need returns held by the Early Years team do not indicate a high level of demand, despite parental feedback indicators of need in consultation.

The table below indicates the spread of early years service provision set against 2001 figures and is visually represented on page 183.

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
Childminders	4	3	7	Rises to 11 given part-time places
Day Nurseries	6	10	235	Rises to 275 given split attendance

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
Playgroups	6	4	152	Rises to 185 given split attendance
After-school Clubs (free standing)	2	3	56	Rises to 90 given split attendance
Schemes funded by NOF / OSHL Project (primary and post – primary school provision)	-	2	N/A	257
After-school Clubs (Linked to nurseries)	3	3	32	32
Out of school summer schemes	2	4	88	Rises to 150 given split attendance
Parent and Toddler Groups	5	6	187**	**The Parent and Toddler Groups at Orana Family Support Centre vary with attendance
Nursery Schools	2	2	104	52 Full-time places 52 Part-time places
Nursery Units / Classes	4	4	208	156 full-time 52 part-time
Reception composite classes	78	-	-	2****
*PEAG funded voluntary / private facilities	1	5	65	65
Supported placements (disability)	2	3 facilities	In all registered provision	(Occupied at Dec 03) 5

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
** Youth groups	14	11	Approx 27	N/A
Special School	1	1	52	52 (up to 17 years)
*** Church Groups	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

- * Already numerically logged under playgroup and day nursery figures
- ** Registered with the SELB
- *** All the Church groups contacted – only 33⅓% response so complete detail is not available
- ***** These figures are as at October 2002

The following points are worth noting in relation to service provision:

1. The number of registered childminders remains very low in the Newry City area. There are a number of reasons for this and these range from families using extended family members as carers (cultural trait) to fear of engaging with Inland Revenue requirements combined with acquisition of self-employment status to loss of welfare benefits. Lone parents who have availability to childmind and who have self acquired childcare skills have reported having received advice from welfare agencies, which militated against coming forward for registration. Additionally, registration requirements such as the need for PSNI checks have militated against applications. There is strong anecdotal evidence to suggest the existence of a high level of unregistered childminding in the city area.

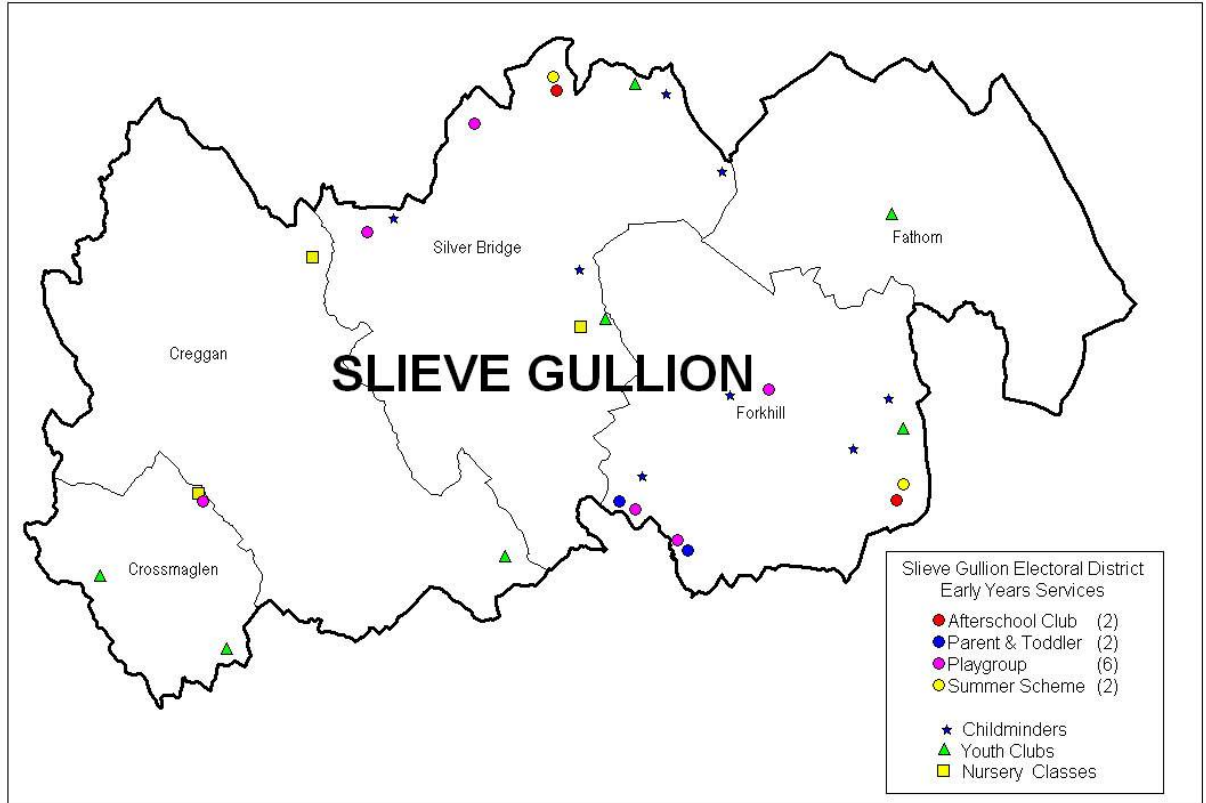
Despite the inclusion of a childminding development officer in the local Sure Start project for a two-year period, no registrations were forthcoming. However, a steering group has now been formed which comprises Early Years social work personnel, a NICMA Development officer, health visitors and a community development unit worker to put together a promotion and recruitment strategy.

2. Playgroup places have decreased with the closure of two playgroups and the loss of 48 places. The children who previously accessed these playgroups have been able to secure places in other settings, particularly in afternoon sessions.
3. Statutory nursery provision has remained static in this area since 2001 but the number of underage children accessing this provision appears to have decreased.
4. The number of registered out of school care schemes has increased as a result of New Opportunities funding with a new 24 place after-school club/summer scheme scheduled to be operational by summer 2004.
5. There has been a reduction in the number of youth clubs but the reasons for this are not clear.
6. Current private full day care provision is not meeting need with waiting lists averaging 30 – 40 children in some instances with emphasis on the 0 – 3 years age range. There are three new sets of nursery provision which became operational since 2001 i.e. drop-in nursery at Womens' Aid Resource Centre, drop-in Sure Start nursery at Orana Family Support Centre and Rainbow Den Nursery at Orana which offers care for children with special needs or profound disabilities. All these nurseries offer sessional care.
7. Additionally, the Orana Sure Start programme is in the process of developing a further drop-in nursery which offers an outreach service in the community.
8. Playgroup waiting lists vary in the city area. The number of children on waiting lists currently is 22 and the majority are 3 years old.
9. Two breakfast clubs, with associated transport to school, were opened and closed due to a lack of demand. Both these settings offered school holiday care along with after school club and summer scheme provision. The wraparound childcare component of these services did not seem to be as attractive, as anticipated, to parents and carers despite consultative evidence, to the contrary.

10. The Sure Start programme animated new parent and toddler provision with three parent and toddler groups meeting weekly and catering for approximately 40 children.
11. Recreational opportunities provided by Newry and Mourne District Council are as represented on page 184 with the exception of the play areas at Kilbroney Park and Carlingford Park which have been closed. This map has been reproduced with kind permission of Newry and Mourne District Council.
12. The proposed development of a major leisure facility for Newry City is still a council priority.
13. An outreach worker (Youth Service) is now supporting provision in four local group settings.

There is a vibrant Sure Start programme which is available across the entire seven wards and which comprises ten partners. There is a great range of services available both in-house (Orana Centre) and outreach into the wards. There were 595 children and 468 families registered at December 2003 with additional services planned e.g. midwifery. Partners in the scheme have extended and reshaped their services over the three-year period during which the programme has been operational and the linkages which exist between Orana Family Support Centre, Wraparound Project (services to disabled children) and Sure Start programme are well developed and seamless services are being delivered as a result.

Slieve Gullion Electoral District - Early Years Services - October 2003



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(Slieve Gullion Map to be inserted)

Slieve Gullion Electoral District

Slieve Gullion Electoral District comprises five wards and the Census population source 2001 gives the following breakdown of children living in those wards as follows:

Ward	0 – 4 years	5 – 9 years	10 – 14 years
Creggan	216	216	232
Crossmaglen	172	207	237
Silverbridge	292	252	252
Forkhill	247	230	296
Fathom	205	260	271
Totals	1132	1165	1288

The town of Crossmaglen is the only town in this Electoral District and there are a number of villages:

- Cullyhanna
- Forkhill
- Jonesborough
- Meigh
- Mullaghbawn

There are also a number of small settlements in the district:

- Creggan
- Culloville
- Killeen
- Lislea
- Silverbridge
- Whitecross
- Belleeks

Deprivation

In the last study of relative deprivation in Northern Ireland, the Newry and Mourne area emerged as the 4th highest in degree of deprivation.

Within the Slieve Gullion Electoral District and via referencing Noble Multiple Deprivation measures the following ward picture is realised:

Crossmaglen	(ranks 5 – “highest” – score of 45.19)
Creggan	(ranks 9 – “highest” – score of 40.54)
Silverbridge	(ranks 24 – “highest” – score of 30.59)
Forkhill	(ranks 35 – “highest” – score of 25.40)
Fathom	(ranks 51 – “highest” – score of 21.63)

NB: When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score the higher is the deprivation in the ward area. Appendix 6 shows the 25% most deprived wards according to the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure and the Robson Measure of Deprivation. The full deprivation picture can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

The Creggan, Silverbridge, Forkhill and Crossmaglen wards in this Electoral District have high numbers of job seekers allowance claimants while there is evidence of a concentration of disability living allowance and lone parent claimants on income support in the neighbouring wards of Creggan and Crossmaglen as can be seen by referring to the SCCP website.

The population profile of the Slieve Gullion Electoral District area demonstrates the high numbers of school-aged children who live in this rural area. The numbers of pre-school children is also significantly high. Examination of these figures elicits the following information:

Pre-school population - i.e. children aged 3 – 5 years is an estimated 452 with an approximation of 208 children who could be in the cohort grouping entitled to funded pre-school or nursery places. At December 2003 188 funded pre-school places were available for 208 children i.e. 90%, so need is met.

Out of school population - i.e. children aged 4years 2 months – 14 years is an estimated 2453. At December 2003 there were 40 registered out of school places available in term time and 40 during school holidays. There had been a 24-place after school club and a 24-place summer scheme operational in the Silverbridge ward but this closed when funding ended and the group had not engaged in exit strategy planning.

Slieve Gullion is an area with outstanding scenery and is promoted as a rural area of intrinsic character and rural diversity with great potential for promotion of tourist development and recreational growth. It is also an area with a rich cultural heritage and it is steeped in tradition.

The table below indicates the spread of early years provision set against 2001 figures and is visually represented on page 191.

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
Childminders	8	8	20	Rises to 26 given part-time places
Day Nurseries	-	-	-	-
Playgroups	6	6	125	Rises to 150 given split attendance and afternoon session
Afterschool Clubs (Free Standing)	1	2	40	24 – one club closed
Schemes funded by NOF / OSHL Project (primary and post primary school provision)	-	2	N/A	60
Afterschool Clubs (linked to nurseries)	-	-	-	-
Out of school summer schemes	1	2	40	Summer scheme closed in 2003
Parent and Toddler Groups	2	4	77	Varies with attendance
Nursery Schools	-	-	-	-
Nursery units / classes	3	3	104 full-time places	104
Reception / composite classes	50+	-	-	31****
*PEAG funded facilities	3	3	53	53

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
Supported placements (disability)	2	3	In all registered provision	6 (occupied at Dec 2003)
** Youth Groups	6	10	782	N/A
*** Church Groups	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Already numerically logged under playgroup figures

** Youth Groups registered with the SELB

*** All the church groups contacted = only 33¹/₃% response so complete detail is not available

**** Based on October 2002 figures

The following points are worth noting in relation to service provision:

1. There appears to have been a significant growth in youth groups and an increase in parent and toddler places. There is also a growing interest in parent and toddler and day nursery development in the area since consultation took place in relation to a new Sure Start programme for two of the wards in the Electoral District.
2. The number of childminders remains static and development is slow, although there is the same number of childminders as depicted in the 2001 Article 20 Review Report, they now offer an additional 5 places.

Following a recent public consultation with the local communities on foot of a proposed Sure Start programme, 27 persons indicated an interest in registration. A new “more user friendly” childminding leaflet was designed and forwarded to over 60 potential applicants along with a letter offering further information in November 2003. To date there has not been any response.

3. Funded pre-school provision has increased slightly with 15% more places for 12¹/₂% more children than in 2001.

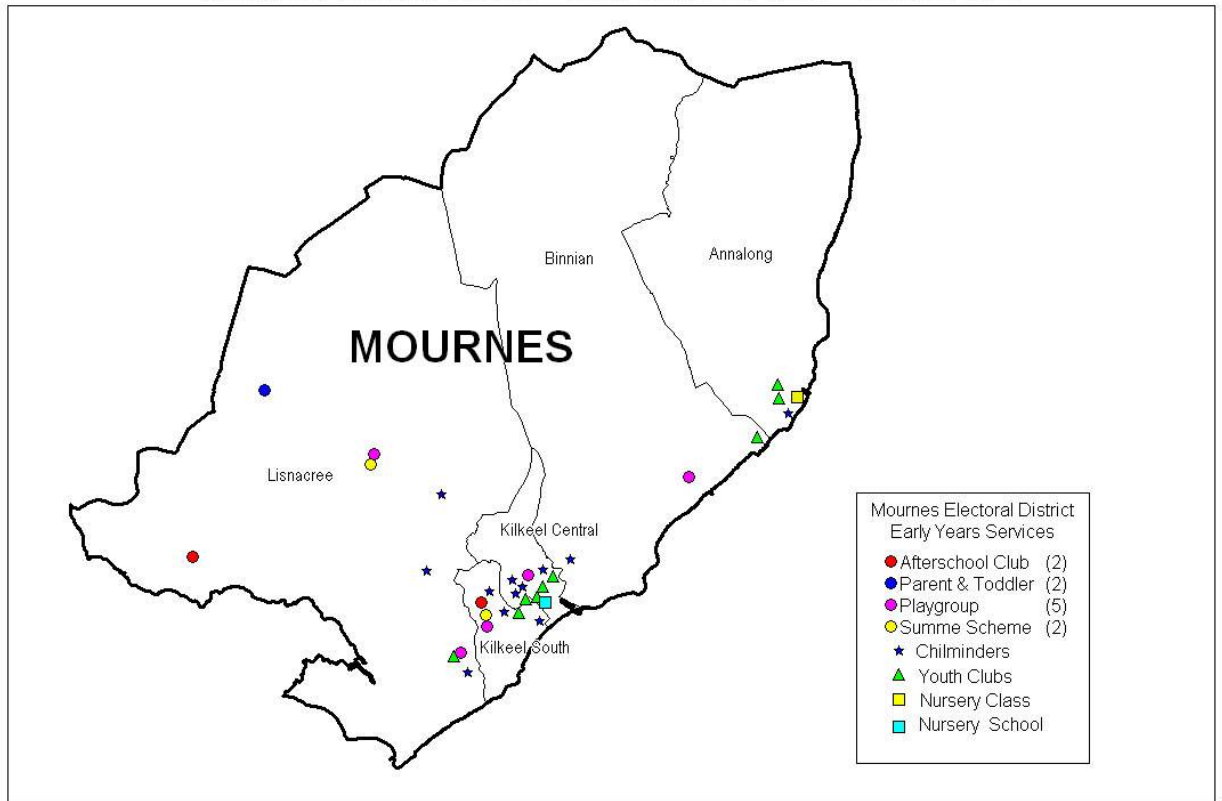
4. The number of children on waiting lists for playgroup places is 24. The majority are younger children and while some places are available in afternoon sessions, parents are opting to have their children remain on a waiting list for an available morning session. The number of playgroups remains static since 2001 with one additional place i.e. 125 places.
5. There is no registered full day care provision in this Electoral District, although a potential provider in Culloville ward may consider offering sessional day care.
6. There has been an increase in afterschool provision in the Silverbridge and Forkhill wards. A previously funded afterschool club / summer scheme closed when funding finished and no exit strategy had been put in place. However, despite the increase there continues to be a need for out of school care, particularly registered summer schemes in Crossmaglen, Cullyhanna, Culloville, Creggan and Meigh.

There was some steering group activity in Lislea with input from the NOF development worker in 2002 when an application for funding was being considered in respect of out of school provision. Unfortunately, the application did not proceed to submission stage.

7. Recreational opportunities provided by Newry and Mourne District Council are as represented on page 192. This map has been reproduced with the kind permission of Newry and Mourne District Council.
8. Parent and Toddler development has been variable with new groups opening and others closing abruptly.

There will be a new Sure Start programme operationalised in two wards in this area in the near future. While this will not address the shortfall in either full day or out of school care, it will provide drop-in sessional care for children aged 0 – 3 years in local community facilities. It is also hoped that the introduction of the programme to the area combined with the community development approach which underpins it, will result in capacity building and local community empowerment and this might lead to other development.

Mournes Electoral District - Early Years Services - October 2003



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(Mourne Map to be inserted)

The Mourne Electoral District

The Mourne district comprises five wards and the Census population source 2001 gives the following breakdown of children living in these wards:

Ward	0 – 4 years	5 – 9 years	10 – 14 years
Annalong	223	210	271
Binnian	206	225	273
Kilkeel Central	276	309	320
Kilkeel South	179	210	273
Lisnacree	177	201	244
Totals	1061	1164	1381

The fishing port of Kilkeel is the only town in the district and there are a number of villages:

- Atticall
- Annalong
- Ballymartin

There are also a number of settlements in the district area:

- Cranfield
- Glasdrumman
- Greencastle
- Longstone

Deprivation

In the last study of relative deprivation in Northern Ireland, the Newry and Mourne area emerged as the 4th highest in degree of deprivation. Within the Mourne Electoral District and via referencing Noble Multiple Deprivation measures the following ward picture is realised:

Kilkeel South	(ranks 38 – “highest” – score of 24.66)
Kilkeel Central	(ranks 48 – “highest” – score of 22.79)
Lisnacree	(ranks 49 – “highest” – score of 22.74)
Annalong	(ranks 54 – “highest” – score of 20.76)
Binnian	(ranks 70 – “highest” – score of 17.23)

NB: When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score the higher is the deprivation in the ward area. Appendix 6 shows the 25% most deprived wards according to the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure and the Robson Measure of Deprivation. The full deprivation picture can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

There is a concentration of income support claimants in both Kilkeel Central and Kilkeel South wards with a significant number of claimants in receipt of disability living allowances in Kilkeel South ward as can be seen by referring to the SCCP website.

The population profile indicates a smaller pre-school population than has been seen in other Electoral Districts. However, the school age population is quite high by comparison and is spread across a rural area.

Pre-school population – i.e. children aged 3 – 5 years is estimated at 424 children with an approximation of 216 children who would be in the cohort grouping entitled to funded pre-school or nursery places. At December 2003, 175 funded pre-school places were available for 216 children i.e. 81% so need is almost met.

Out of school population – i.e. children aged 4 years 2 months – 14 years is an estimated 2545. At December 2003 there were 28 registered out of school places available in term time and up to 40 places available on registered summer schemes. Clearly, need is not being met in this Electoral District.

The Mourne area is one of natural beauty with the Mourne Mountains playing an important role in attracting tourism to the area.

Kilkeel is one of the largest fishing ports in Northern Ireland and there has been significant growth in and around the town. The employment losses in share fishing have appeared to have slowed down.

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
Childminders	18	12	33	Rises to 36 given part-time attendance
Day Nurseries	0	1	9	9 per day – rises to 45 per week with split attendance

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
Playgroups	5	5	114 Inclusive of one group offering afternoon sessions	Rises to 130 given split attendance
Afterschool Clubs (Free Standing)	2	2	28	Rises to 40 given split attendance
NOF/OHSL projects (primary and post-primary provision)	-	1	N/A	60
Afterschool Clubs (linked to nurseries)	-	-	-	-
Out of school summer schemes	1	2	36	Rises to 56 with split attendance
Parent and Toddler Groups	3	2	70	Varies with attendance
Nursery Schools	1	1	26 full-time 52 part-time places	78
Nursery units / classes	1	1	26 full-time places	26
Reception / composite classes	18	-	-	10****
*PEAG funded facilities	4	5	74	74
Supported placements (disability)	1	2	In all registered provision	2 (occupied at Dec 2003)

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
** Youth Groups	9	9	1925	N/A
*** Church Groups	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Already numerically logged under playgroup figures

** Youth groups registered with the SELB

*** All the church groups contacted - only 33¹/₃% response so complete details not available

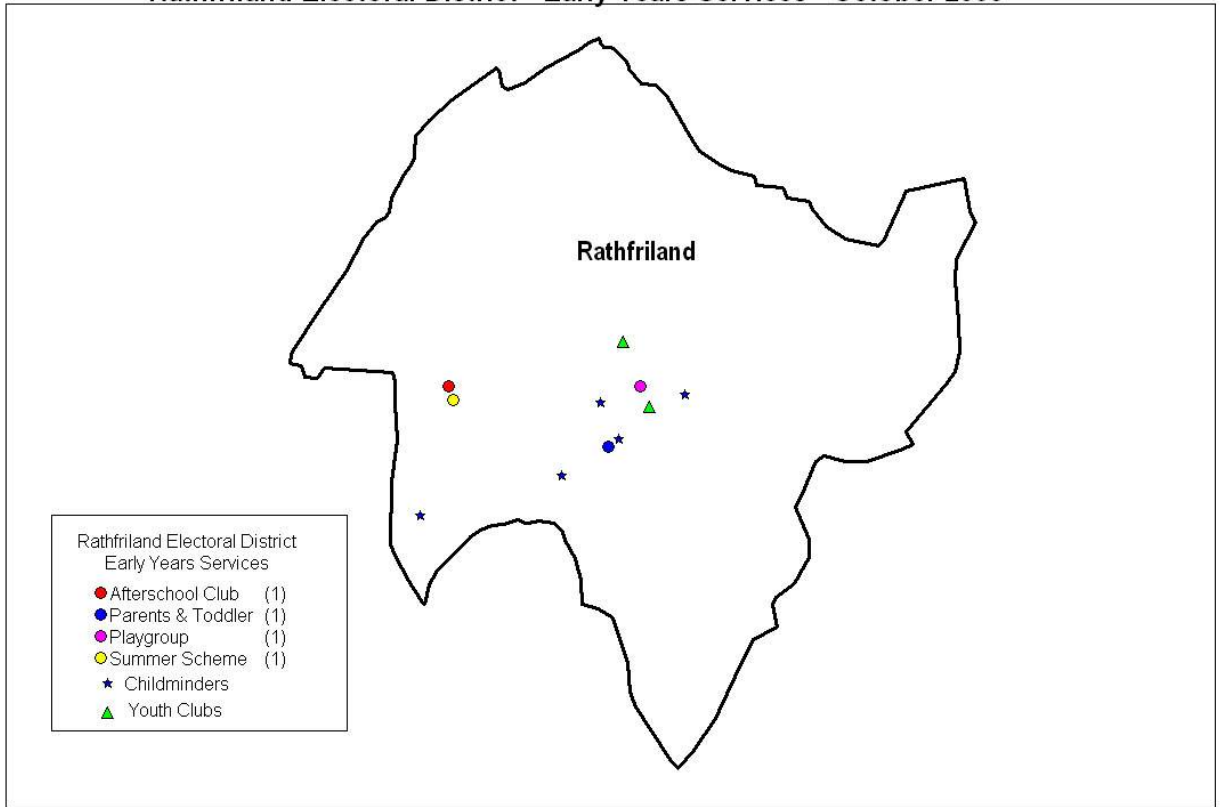
**** Based on October 2002 figures

The following points are worth noting in relation to service provision:

1. The level of early years provision has remained relatively static since 2001 with a decrease in childminding and parent and toddler provision. There is no generalised reason for this although a number of childminders have obtained alternative employment and a number returned certificates upon receiving a letter from the Inland Revenue Department.
2. Funded pre-school provision has increased with 49 more places than were available in 2001.
3. While there has been a decrease in parent and toddler provision there has been a successful bid made to provide a mobile outreach service across a number of villages and settlements. This provision is currently at almost operational stage and the provider is seeking recurring funding to cover rental / hire costs to pay for the use of community settings and this is likely to be facilitated by Newry and Mourne Health and Social Services Trust.
4. While there has been a new drop-in sessional nursery established at Dunnaman Children's Centre, there still exists huge demand in the area for a full day nursery. There is a prospective provider who has purchased a property, is in the process of refurbishing this property and who has applied for registration for up to 31 places.

5. The number of children on waiting lists for playgroup places is approximately 40. While the majority of these children are three years old, there is a significant number who are almost four years of age. This does not indicate a shortfall in availability of places but rather is partially attributable to parents selecting a specific playgroup which because of its location or composition of its committee / work force, is seen to represent a particular section of the community.
6. There is an active childminding support group in this area.
7. The out of school provision is sited in locations which are either rural or are not acceptable geographically / politically, so need continues not to be met. There is potential, in terms of venue, to operate a summer scheme / out of school club in Kilkeel town / Annalong, but so far no interest has been expressed by voluntary groupings in developing this service.
8. Recreational opportunities provided by Newry and Mourne District Council are as represented on page 199. This map has been reproduced with the kind permission of Newry and Mourne District Council.

Rathfriland Electoral District - Early Years Services - October 2003



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Banbridge Electoral District

Rathfriland is situated within the Banbridge Electoral District but is included in this report as it lies within the Newry and Mourne Health and Social Services Trust boundary.

The Census population source 2001 gives the following breakdown of children living in this ward:

Ward	0 – 4 years	5 – 9 years	10 – 14 years
Rathfriland	175	150	170
Total	175	150	170

The population profile indicates a fairly even spread across all the age ranges and it is important to keep in mind the fact that a high percentage of these children will also live in the Craigavon and Banbridge Trust area as the ward area, which is commensurate with the Newry and Mourne Trust area, lies in and around the town of Rathfriland only.

Deprivation

In the last study of relative deprivation in Northern Ireland, the Newry and Mourne area emerged as the 4th highest in degree of deprivation. Within the Banbridge Electoral District and via referencing Noble Multiple Deprivation measures the following ward picture is realised:

Rathfriland (ranks 34 – “highest” – score of 25.50)

NB: When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score the higher is the deprivation in the ward area. Appendix 6 shows the 25% most deprived wards according to the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure and the Robson Measure of Deprivation. The full deprivation picture can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

There is a significant number of the population claiming income support given the size of this ward as can be seen by referring to the SCCP website.

Pre-school population - i.e. children aged 3 – 5 years is estimated at 70 with an approximation of 47 children who would be in the cohort grouping entitled to funded pre-school or nursery places. At December 2003 40 funded places were available i.e. 85% so need has almost been met.

Out of school population – i.e. children aged 4 years 2 months – 14 years is an estimated 320. At December 2003 there were 16 registered places available during term time and 16 during school holidays.

Rathfriland, lying as it does within the Banbridge hinterland acts as a local service centre for its town population and the surrounding rural area. The townspeople would appear to hold split affiliations to the two closest towns of Banbridge and Newry for shopping, education and employment. On a cultural referential basis, the town would tend to be more closely affiliated with Banbridge.

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
Childminders	6	6	19	Rises to 23 given part-time attendance
Day Nurseries	-	-	-	-
Playgroups	1	1	48	Rises to 56 given split attendance
Afterschool Clubs (Free Standing)	-	1	16	16
Afterschool Clubs (linked to nurseries)	-	-	-	-
Out of school summer schemes	-	1	16	Could rise to 30 if accessed
Parent and Toddler Groups	1	2	60	Varies with attendance
Nursery Schools	-	-	-	-
Nursery units / classes	-	-	-	-
Reception / composite classes	18	-	-	8****

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
NOF / OHSL Project (primary and post-primary provision)	-	-	-	-
*PEAG funded facilities	1	1	40	40
Supported placements (disability)	-	-	In all registered provision	-
** Youth Groups	6	6	489	N/A
*** Church Groups	N/A	3	N/A	N/A

* Already numerically logged under playgroup figures

** Youth groups registered with the SELB

*** A parent and toddler group included here is also listed in the main table. The other two groups are a youth club which caters for children at P4 age and upwards. There is also a kid's club, which caters for primary school children and 1st and 2nd year secondary school children.

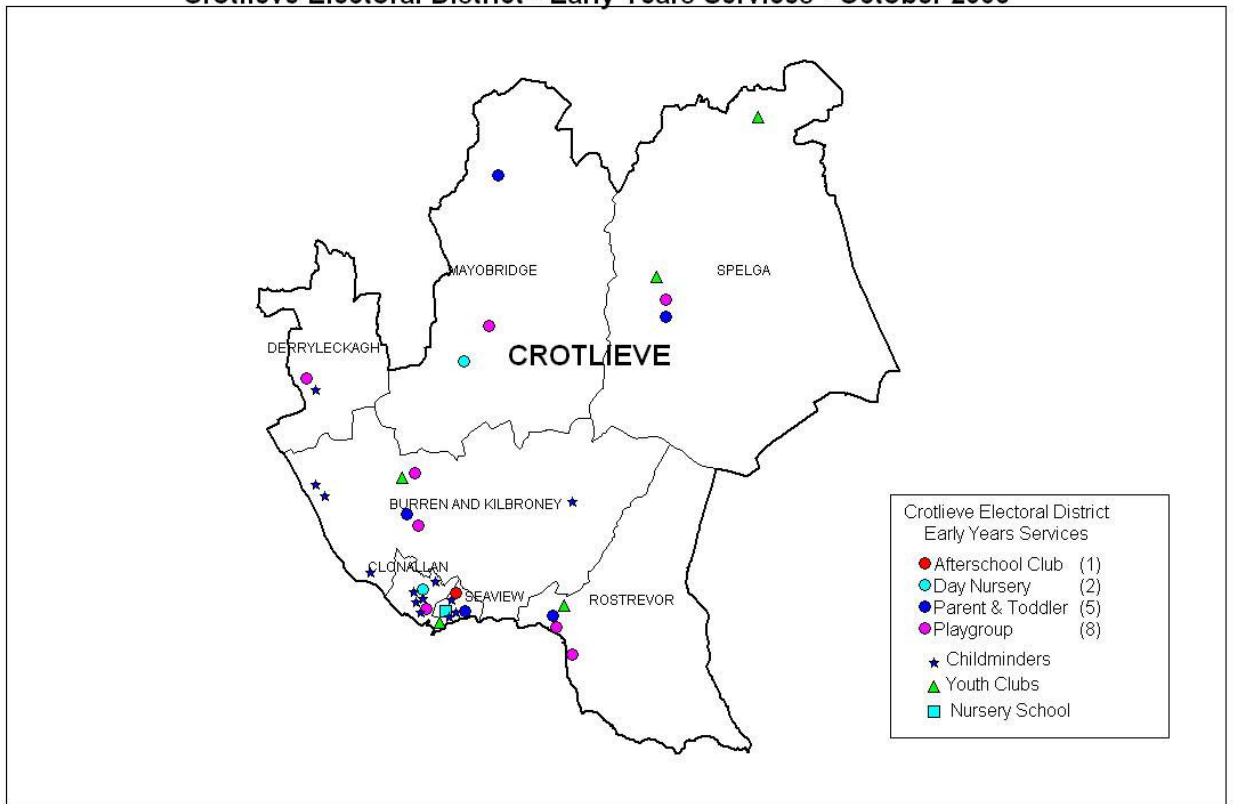
**** Based on October 2002 figures.

The following points are worth noting in relation to service provision:

1. Provision has remained very static with out of school provision funded by the New Opportunities Fund. However, numbers in attendance are low as the out of school group is sited in a rural part of the ward and there is no transport available to assist with access. Additionally, there is little evidence of exit strategy planning so this facility may close in June 2004.
2. The number of funded pre-school places has almost doubled since 2001.

3. There has been growth in the parent and toddler provision with high demand in the area.
4. While the number of childminders has appeared to be static, there has been some growth in that new registrations were approved and some longer-term childminders ceased to provide a service. Attempts to set up a childminding support group in this area were not successful.
5. There are no children on a waiting list for places other than those who are not yet three years old and the playgroup has indicated that those 14 children will be placed in the group before Easter 2004.
6. There continues to be no full day care nursery provision in this area. Locally held information indicates that Newry nurseries are accessed by working parents with a number having recently accessed a new nursery in Banbridge town.

Crotlieve Electoral District - Early Years Services - October 2003



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(Crotlieve map to be inserted)

Crotlieve Electoral District

Crotlieve Electoral District comprises seven wards and the Census population source 2001 gives the following breakdown of children living in these wards as follows:

Ward	0 – 4 years	5 – 9 years	10 – 14 years
Derryleckagh	319	360	364
Seaview	225	222	245
Clonallon	361	363	356
Rostrevor	166	166	253
Mayobridge	238	360	270
Spelga	235	220	253
Burren & Kilbroney	296	310	293
Totals	1840	1901	2034

As can be seen from this profile, there is a high concentration of children across all age groupings in Derryleckagh, Clonallon and Burren and Kilbroney wards.

Deprivation

In the last study of relative deprivation in Northern Ireland, the Newry and Mourne area emerged as the 4th highest in degree of deprivation. Within the Crotlieve Electoral District and via referencing Noble Multiple Deprivation measures the following ward picture is realised:

Derryleckagh	(ranks 66 – included in Burren & Kilbroney)
Seaview	(ranks 80 – “highest” – score of 15.02)
Clonallon	(ranks 43 – “highest” – score of 23.74)
Rostrevor	(ranks 65 – “highest” – score of 18.40)
Mayobridge	(ranks 72 – “highest” – score of 16.98)
Spelga	(ranks 29 – “highest” – score of 28.43)
Burren & Kilbroney	(ranks 66 – “highest” – score of 18.18)

NB: When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score the higher is the deprivation in the ward area. Appendix 6 shows the 25% most deprived wards according to the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure and the Robson Measure of Deprivation. The full deprivation picture can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

The ward of Clonallon rates consistently highly in respect of income support lone parent claimants, income support claimants, job seekers allowance claimants and persons under 18 years in receipt of disability living allowance as can be seen by referring to the SCCP website.

When the other areas of high dependence on benefits e.g. Burren & Kilbroney and Rostrevor are set alongside Clonallon and the age spread of the child population, these areas appear to require particular targeting for family support and early years development.

Pre-school population – i.e. children aged 3 – 5 years is estimated at 736 with an approximation of 361 who would be in the cohort grouping entitled to funded pre-school or nursery places. At December 2003, 212 places were available so there would appear to be a significant shortfall here with only 58.7% of need met.

Out of school population – i.e. children aged 4 years 2 months – 14 years is an estimated 3935. At December 2003 there were 16 registered places available during term time and none during school holidays (there is an afterschool club which is unregistered in the Mayobridge ward).

Crotlieve comprises a mainly rural area, which includes one large town, three villages and two small settlements. Warrenpoint town has experienced significant growth, as have the villages of Rostrevor and Hilltown. Burren, which is not yet designated as a village, has experienced recent expansion.

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
Childminders	19	14	38	Rises to 46 given part-time attendance
Day Nurseries	1	2	83	Rises to 100 given split attendance

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
Playgroups	6	8	188	Rises to 250 given split attendance and afternoon session
Afterschool Clubs (Free Standing)	1	1	16	16
Afterschool Clubs (linked to nurseries)	1	-	-	-
NOF / OHSL Projects (primary and post-primary provision)	-	3	N/A	250
Out of school summer schemes	-	-	-	-
Parent and Toddler Groups	-	5	141	Varies with attendance
Nursery Schools	-	1	78	26 full-time 52 part-time
Nursery units / classes	-	-	-	-
Reception / composite classes	93	-	-	38****
*PEAG funded facilities	5	5	96	96
Supported placements (disability)	1	1	In all registered provision	1 (occupied at Dec 2003)
** Youth Groups	10	4	601	Varies with attendance
*** Church Groups	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

- * Already numerically logged in playgroup figures
- ** Registered with the SELB
- *** All the church groups contacted = only 33¹/₀% response so complete details not available
- **** Based on October 2002 figures

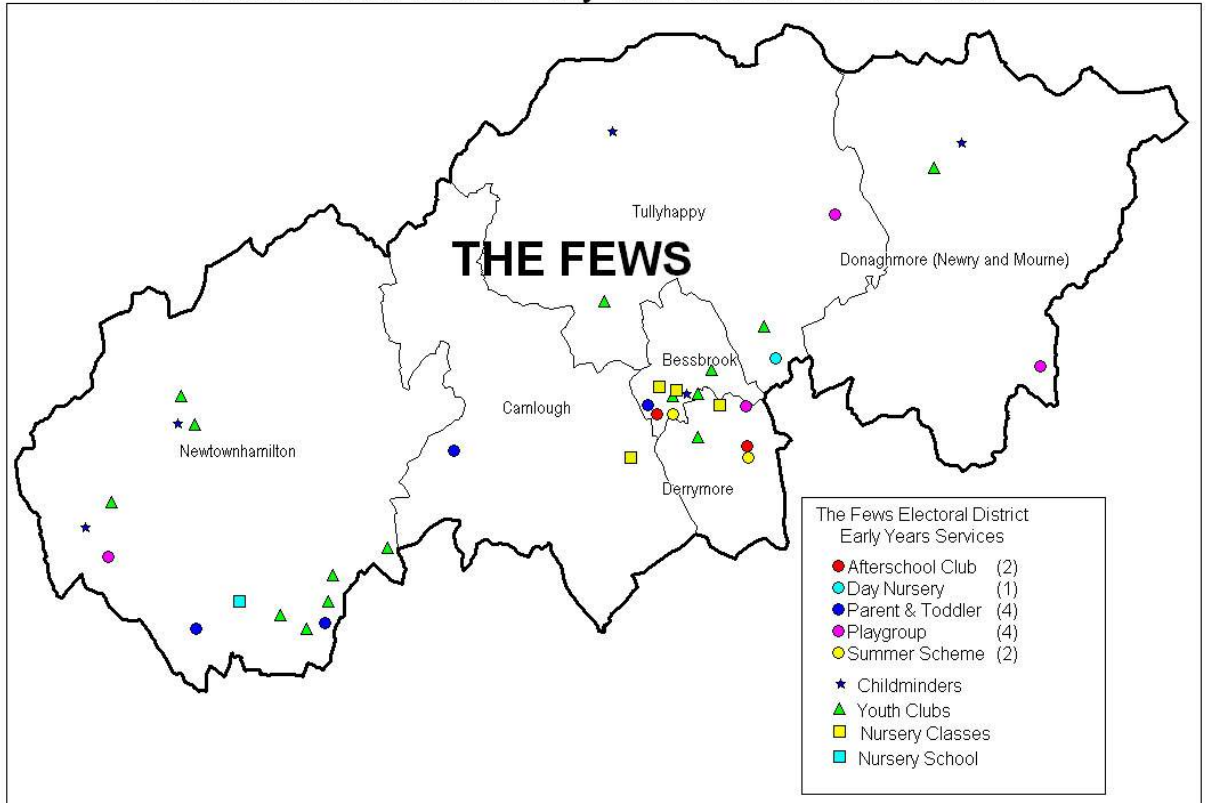
The following points are worth noting in relation to service provision:

1. There has been a significant decrease in childminders since 2001 and a very low application rate. A number of childminders returned their certificates on foot of Inland Revenue Department contact and a number became unavailable due to increase in their own family size.
2. One sessional day nursery closed in Warrenpoint and a new one opened in Mayobridge, thus reflecting the change in places available.
3. Although the 2003 figures represent an increase in playgroups, only one new playgroup opened since 2001, so the original figure in the Article 20 Review Report 2001 may have been incorrect. One is also due to close in June 2004 with a loss of 20 places. The number of children on waiting lists is an estimated figure only as not all providers responded (this may have been occasioned by having been subject to review on a number of occasions "without a result"). Given the fact that the non-respondents totalled 50% it is startling to note that 55 children are on waiting lists in the groups who did respond. Approximately 44% are 3½ – 4 years old with the remainder 3 years old.
4. There has been an increase of 23 funded pre-school places plus an additional 78 nursery places since 2001, when only 25% of need, in the cohort group was being met. Despite this increase, the current funded provision is still only meeting 58% of need. A number of reviews in the area have highlighted this fact and the Pre-school Education Advisory Group is currently addressing this matter.

5. There has been a 500% increase in parent and toddler provision and this has been facilitated by the appointment of a NIPPA development officer whose post was funded, for the first year, by Newry and Mourne Trust and latterly by the Childhood Fund. This growth is significant as it was highlighted, as a need, by the local communities in 2001. However, the funding for this post is due to end in 2005 and Trust application for future Board funding may not be successful.
6. There continues to be a major shortfall in out of school provision and none is planned. The need for this provision continues to be identified by the communities in Warrenpoint and Rostrevor. There is no registered out of school provision available during school holidays.
7. The number of youth groups registered with the SELB has fallen despite need for growth in the youth sector identified in the 2001 review. The reason for this is not known.
8. The location of registered childminders continues to highlight shortfall and unmet need in the following wards:

Spelga	-	none
Derryleckagh	-	two, one of whom is potentially no longer available
Seaview	-	one
Rostrevor	-	one
Mayobridge	-	one who may no longer be available
Hilltown	-	none
9. Recreational opportunities provided by Newry and Mourne District Council are as represented on page 211 with the exception of the closure of two play areas at Newtown Villas, Rostrevor and St Jude's Park, Rostrevor. This map has been reproduced with the kind permission of Newry and Mourne District Council.

The Fews Electoral District - Early Years Services - October 2003



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(Fews map to be inserted)

The Fews Electoral District

The Fews Electoral District comprises 6 wards and the Census population source 2001 gives the following breakdown of children living in those wards as follows:

Ward	0 – 4 years	5 – 9 years	10 – 14 years
Donaghmore	251	238	250
Derrymore	268	227	292
Bessbrook	180	186	206
Tullyhappy	194	202	209
Camlough	209	244	254
Newtownhamilton	177	203	227
Totals	1279	1300	1438

As can be seen from this profile the numbers in each age range are all within the same banding with Derrymore and Donaghmore having the highest totals of pre-school and school age children.

Deprivation

In the last study of relative deprivation in Northern Ireland, the Newry and Mourne area emerged as the 4th highest in degree of deprivation. Within the Fews Electoral District and via referencing Noble Multiple Deprivation measures the following ward picture is realised:

Derrymore	(ranks 13 – “highest” – score of 37.37)
Camlough	(ranks 17 – “highest” – score of 34.64)
Newtownhamilton	(ranks 22 – “highest” – score of 32.86)
Bessbrook	(ranks 25 – “highest” – score of 29.87)
Donaghmore	(ranks 55 – “highest” – score of 20.45)
Tullyhappy	(ranks 68 – “highest” – score of 17.37)

NB: When reading the deprivation score within the above table, the higher the score the higher is the deprivation in the ward area. Appendix 6 shows the 25% most deprived wards according to the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure and the Robson Measure of Deprivation. The full deprivation picture can be seen by referring to the SCCP website on www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org.

The Camlough and Bessbrook wards reflect high numbers of lone parents dependant on income support, and a significant number of job seekers allowance and income support claimants are also to be located in Camlough ward as can be seen by referring to the SCCP website. This information should be considered in the context of there being only minimal day care services available in these wards and little in the way of family support services, although a small transgenerational project is at developmental stage.

Pre-school population – i.e. children aged 3 – 5 years is estimated at 571 with an approximation of 242 who would be in the cohort grouping entitled to funded pre-school or nursery places. At December 2003, 212 places were available so 87.6% of need is being met.

Out of school population – i.e. children aged 4 years 2 months – 14 years is an estimated 2738. At December 2003 there were 49 registered out of school places in term time and 97 registered places during the summer holidays.

The Fews District is essentially a rural area with one town, Newrownhamilton, one village, Camlough, and the four settlements of Besbrook, Mullaghglass, Lurganare and Jerrettzpass. There is no central focal point in this district as towns, villages and settlements are largely “self contained” and serving their own community.

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
Childminders	5	5	11	Rises to 13 given part-time attendance
Day Nurseries	-	-	-	-
Playgroups	4	4	96	Rises to 106 given split attendance
After-school Clubs (free standing)	1	2	49	Rises to 65 given split attendance
After-school Clubs (Linked to nurseries)	-	-	-	-
Schemes funded by NOF / OSHL Project (primary and post – primary school provision)	-	4	N/A	359

Service	2001	2003	Places Available	Places Occupied
Out of school summer schemes	1	3	97	Rises to 120 given split attendance
Parent and Toddler Groups	3	3	100	Varies with attendance
Nursery Schools	-	-	-	-
Nursery Units / Classes	3	4	156	104 full-time 52 part-time
Reception / composite classes	47	-	-	24****
*PEAG funded voluntary / private facilities	3	3	60	60
Supported placements (disability)	1	2	In all registered provision	3 (occupied at Dec 2003)
** Youth groups	9	11	805	Varies with attendance
*** Church Groups	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Already numerically logged in playgroup figures

** Registered with the SELB

*** All the church groups contacted = only 33¹/₃% response so complete details not available

**** Based on October 2002 figures

The following points are worth noting in relation to service provision:

1. There continues to be a lack of childminders in this Electoral District with none in Camlough ward. There had been anticipation of a small number of applications for registration following Sure Start consultative activity in the village but none has been forthcoming.

2. There continues to be no day nursery provision in this area although one had been at planning stage in 2001. There is some interest being demonstrated in a property in Camlough ward but it is not clear if this will proceed.
3. The number of PEAG funded places has increased since 2001.
4. There are approximately 14 children on waiting lists across the four playgroups who are aged 3+ years.
5. There has been an increase in out of school provision in this district since 2001 with the opening of a new afterschool club, which offers a summer scheme and which was funded by the New Opportunity Fund. The Southern Health and Social Services Board out of school consortium developed out of school provision across the three Trusts with a 48-place summer scheme for Trust employees' children sited in this same ward.
6. The increase in nursery provision includes the additional 26 full-time places at St Peter's Primary School, Cloughreagh in Derrymore ward. However, there were 40 under age children accessing nursery provision in the electoral district area.
7. It is worth noting that there continues to be no afterschool provision in the Newtownhamilton ward despite an estimated figure of 430 school age children, the existence of vibrant and active community groups and a large community centre.
8. Recreational opportunities provided by Newry and Mourne District Council are as represented on page 218 with the following noted changes:

A decision was made by Newry and Mourne District Council, following the recommendations of the Development Plan 2002 / 03 to close Altnamacken play area, Dungormley Park, Newtownhamilton play area, St Michael's Newtownhamilton play area, Bleary Bungalows, Newry play area and Latt Villas Newry play area. However, due to the lack of play facilities in the Newtownhamilton area the Altnamacken site was refurbished and a new play area provided at Dungormley Park, Newtownhamilton. This map has been reproduced with the kind permission of Newry and Mourne District Council.

Summary of Current Service Provision Trust Wide

Registered Provision in Newry and Mourne Trust

Provider	Numbers 2001	Places 2001	Numbers 2003	Places 2003
Childminders	60	147	48	128
Playgroups	28	744	28	877
Day Nurseries	9	303	13	384
After / Out of school care	11	190	18	435
Crèches	0	0	1	12
Trust Holiday Schemes	0	0	1	48
Breakfast Club	1	16	0	0

SELB Provision

Provider	Numbers 2001	Places 2001	Numbers 2003	Places 2003
Nursery schools and classes / units	14	598	16	754
Reception places	N/A	269	N/A	113
Out of school hours learning schemes	0	0	12	986

Early Years Support Services

Northern Ireland Childminding Association

The Northern Ireland Childminding Association is a charity and membership organisation, which works to support childminders, parents and children. NICMA's main purpose is to promote the development of children by providing quality childcare and education in a registered home based setting.

The services which NICMA provides range across the promotion of high quality childcare and education within registered childminding settings by the Development Officer to the provision of training backed up by support and information. The Development Officer also helps to set up and maintain support-networking groups for registered childminders and encourages the taking up of relevant insurance cover through an available scheme.

Since the completion of the Article 20 Review Report in 2001, there has been a noted increase in parental enquiries about availability of placements. The number of start up grants for childminders has increased in the Newry and Mourne Trust area and all childminders in Newry City and Rathfriland ward areas have been contacted with the offer of the establishment of a support group.

DELTA Project – Developing Everyone's Learning and Thinking Abilities

The DELTA Project has, as its main purpose, the promotion of partnership with parents, within the Southern Education and Library Board area, by offering educare / multi-agency programmes for parents. The aim of these programmes is to promote the development of children and young people, to raise parents' self-esteem and to enhance the parent / carer: child relationships.

The DELTA workers achieve this aim by providing a diversity of programmes across a variety of venues. These include programmes on healthy lifestyles, language and literacy, learning through play, creativity, positive parenting, use of IT and a host of others. Many programmes are tailored to meet parents' and carers' expressed needs e.g. programmes which address special / additional needs, disability, ethnic issues etc.

Since the completion of the Article 20 Review Report in 2001, there have been a number of developments:

- Baby-sitting training groups have developed
- Links with young / school-age mothers groups have been established
- Workers participated in a summer project
- The programme for babies has been actively promoted
- The areas where programmes had not been run and which had been identified in the 2001 report have now all been targeted
- The Newry and Mourne Parenting Sub-committee (formerly the DELTA sub-committee) membership has been increased to include other agency and discipline representation so as to ensure wider cover across the early years sector.
- Partnership formed with Barnardos Parenting Matters Project and the South Armagh Women's Health Initiative to offer service provision in the new South Armagh Sure Start programme.

Newry & Mourne Health & Social Services Trust Early Years Team

Newry and Mourne Health and Social Services Trust has an Early Years team which comprises a senior social worker, two part-time and two full-time social workers along with two full-time social work assistants who are working on a pilot scheme basis. The team also includes a social worker who manages the family support worker and contact services. Working in the team alongside the early years social workers are four voluntary sector workers; NIPPA Development Officer, NIPPA Early Years Adviser, Mencap Integrated Play Advisor and the Barnardos Parenting Project worker. The team also has a Sure Start toy library worker.

The team is very proud of its mix of voluntary and statutory sector staff and of its current skill mix, all of which works extremely efficiently in areas of co-working, cross fertilization of skills and knowledge base, co-training and promotion of sound community development approaches in Early Years working.

The team's main areas of work centres around registration, inspection, training and development of new provision. The staff team also offers a consultative service to prospective providers and consciously engages in identifying gaps in service provision as these present themselves during their work.

The workload additionally created by Children's Services planning, Sure Start programme involvement, accreditation and training inputs, updating of specific knowledge base and subsequent inspectorial activity, training (e.g. risk assessment / curriculum planning and evaluation / new standards) and demand for engagement in service animation alongside activity which focuses on actively seeking out user feedback has required a reshaping of the teams' aims and objectives. Also, the recent inclusion of a clearly defined team role in the area of service provision (to include family support worker services / contact services) has meant a refocusing of Early Years family support services within the team.

All of the registration and inspection work including some policy decision making is supported by the Early Years Panel which is chaired by the Programme Manager and which includes representation from the independent and disability sectors. This panel is, in turn, set alongside an Appeals panel.

Information on Early Years services is available in health centres, GP surgeries, community centres and in social services offices. A detailed Directory of Early Years services is available across all agencies and disciplines engaged in the early years sector and a providers booklet is also available from the team's office at Butterfield House, 24 Monaghan Street, Newry; telephone 028 302 50808.

Family and Childcare Services

This programme of services offered by Newry and Mourne Health and Social Services Trust comprises:

- An Initial Assessment Team,
- Family Support Teams,
- Aftercare Team,
- Adoption / Intercountry Adoption Service
- Permanency Team,
- Family Placement Team
- Early Years Team
- Residential Childcare Team

The teams offer a range of services both preventive and caring in nature and work across the residential and fieldwork sectors.

Newry and Mourne Mencap Play Advisor Service

The Mencap Play Advisor service has as its main aim the inclusion of children with a disability / developmental delay in mainstream pre-school and out of school provision. The service also aims to empower parents, by training and support, to understand the importance of play for their children.

The Advisor achieves this by supporting parents and carers in locating the most appropriate setting for their child and by supporting the workers, in that setting, in providing age / stage appropriate experiences. The Advisor also facilitates home and locality based opportunities for parents and children to experience multi-sensory sessions.

Another way in which inclusion is promoted is via training and awareness raising activity which is carried out by the Advisor in a range of settings and in her work in relation to advice and guidance on play materials and equipment.

Since the completion of the Article 20 Review Report in 2001 the Advisor has established home-based play work services for parents and carers. Workshops have also been developed for the Wraparound service.

Play Specialist – Daisy Hill Hospital, Newry

Daisy Hill Hospital, Newry offers a Play Specialist service for the paediatric ward and is available for children up to the age of 13 years.

The service operates from Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 12.30pm and from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. The Play Specialist's role is to encourage the continuing development of the child by using play as an aid to minimise the effects of hospitalisation.

The Play Specialist joins in with the play and plans different programmes as part of the total care. The main thrust of the Play Specialist's role is to familiarise children with the equipment and procedures which they are likely to encounter during their stay, in order to reduce stress and anxiety. This approach is also underpinned by an approach where the Play Specialist creates an environment, on the ward, in which play occurs naturally.

Newry & Mourne Health & Social Services Trust / Sure Start Toy Library

The main purpose of the toy library is to provide age and stage appropriate toys for children aged 0 - 4 years who live in the Sure Start area. The toy library service has a number of aims which range across encouragement of parent and child bonding through play experiences to the enhancement of social, emotional, intellectual, physical and language development.

Other aims involve raising of parental awareness of the importance of play in child development to the acknowledgement of how play promotes independence and raises self-esteem in young children.

The service is on offer across the seven wards which form Newry City and it offers a toy and book loan service as well as providing information and sign posting to other health and family support services.

Since the production of the Article 20 Review Report in 2001, the Sure Start Toy Library has developed a range of additional services, these include:

- Story sack service
- Training for use of story sacks
- Play-talk bags
- Safety equipment loan service and
- Story telling sessions in community house and parent and toddler settings.

NIPPA – The Early Years Organisation

The main aim of NIPPA, the Early Years Organisation is to promote high quality pre-school care and education through the medium of play.

The services which are provided by the two NIPPA officers (Development Officer and the Early Years Advisor) include Early Years Advisor support to the pre-school groups who are engaged in the Pre-school Education Expansion programme to peer group support to those groups who are not included on the programme.

The NIPPA officers also work with all day care providers in encouraging the promotion of high quality kite-marked services via the accreditation process. Both the Early Years Advisor and the Development Officer provide and facilitate a range of training opportunities.

Since completion of the Article 20 report in 2001 the Early Years Advisor post is now concentrated on advisory input to PEAG providers and a new development officer post has been funded (initially by the Trust and laterally by the Childhood Fund). This development post has been highly successful with the animation of 17 new parent and toddler groups, the provision of peer cluster support groups and specific 0 – 3 years training and celebration events.

PlayBoard

PlayBoard is the lead agency for promoting and developing children's play in Northern Ireland. PlayBoard's ethos and remit is grounded in a commitment to meet the needs of children, adults and local communities. One of PlayBoard's objectives is to develop sustainable and affordable quality out of school hours PlayCare provision.

Since completion of 2001's Article 20 Review Report

PlayBoard has established the PlayCare Sustainable Support Project. This project consisting of 1 full time project leader and 2 part-time development officers, provides a support network for all peace projects funded under measure 1.5 Positive Action for Women. The aim of the team is to develop and consolidate existing networks to ensure Playworkers and Management committees deliver quality accessible and sustainable out-of school services. PlayCare staff work closely with local trusts and Partnership development staff in particular the Partnership Out-of-School hour's development officer.

The Partnership development officer based with PlayBoard supports those afterschool projects funded under the New Opportunities Fund for Out of School Hour's Childcare.

Gaps in Provision – Early Years Support services

Northern Ireland Childminding Association

- Need for promotion of registered childminding across the Trust area, but particularly in Newry City and the South Armagh area
- Increased support to the Kilkeel based support group
- More publicity and promotion of training, which informs childminders of the business side of their career
- Identification of strategies which will promote retention of registered childminders.

DELTA

- Need for more ethnic minority programmes to be made available
- Need for funding to be made available, on a recurring basis, to fund crèche provision, which is available alongside programmes and events
- Transport costs require to be funded to facilitate programme attendance

Mencap Play Advisor

- Need for development of a more extensive and varied range of afterschool and leisure opportunities for children with additional needs or with a disability

Newry and Mourne Health and Social Services Early Years Team

The workers in this team have identified the following gaps in services and have based this identification upon unmet need returns, consultation from Facts and Fun days and through day-to-day work in the sector:

- Need for a significant increase in registered childminding provision and a decrease in unregistered activity
- Need for an increase in quality registered out of school care in Newry City, Crossmaglen, Cullough, Cullyhanna, Creggan, Meigh, Kilkeel, Mourne rural area north of Kilkeel, Rathfriland (small club), Derryleckagh, Mayobridge, Spelga, Burren, Newtownhamilton, Camlough and Bessbrook
- Development of a strategy which enables childcare providers to offer “unsocial hours” care. This need has been highlighted by parents who work in the medical and nursing professions and in leisure services e.g. clubs

- Development of a closer working relationship with the Trusts' Community Development Unit
- Reactivation of the sponsored childminding scheme
- Identification of the need for support services to children with additional / special needs
- Examination of the location and range of needs of children and families from ethnic minority groupings in the area
- Continuous examination of the training needs of providers and workers across the Early Years sector.

Play Specialist – Daisy Hill Hospital

- Need to continue to promote a Play Specialist service and develop one at Accident and Emergency and at out patient service levels.

Family Support Services

Orana Family Support Centre

Orana Family Support Centre has, as its main aim, the support of families by providing a comprehensive range of services. These services range across early years day care provision, to residential respite services; from management of the Orana Sure Start programme through to the Wraparound project.

On site there are a number of core services, which cross the areas of family support, early years, and disability services. These comprise a full day nursery, out of school club, summer scheme, sessional nurseries for Sure Start and disabled children, overnight and day respite in a residential setting, parent and toddler groups, parent groups, outreach services to families and multi-sensory experiential service provision.

Since the completion of the Article 20 Review Report in 2001, there have been a number of developments e.g. sessional nursery has been extended to full day care, Sure Start crèche developed, parents group developed and a sessional nursery opened for children with special needs or a disability.

Both the Sure Start and Wraparound programmes are reaching an increased number of children along with core service developments.

In 2003 the respite unit which provides for children with learning disabilities provided respite for 35 children; the day nursery provided care for 46 children; the out of school club offered service to 69 children and the summer scheme reached 92 children.

The core elements of the Sure Start programme, which is based in the centre, enabled 67 parents to access life long learning opportunities; 88 families to have parent and toddler group experience; 13 parents to form a parent group; 74 families to avail of transport services to attend the centre; 82 children to avail of the crèche facility; 12 families to benefit from the holiday scheme and 200 parents and children to attend a Christmas pantomime.

The Wraparound scheme was developed to introduce new and distinctive ways of multi-agency, multi-professional working which is designed to make a difference to the lives of children with disabilities

and their families. In so doing the sessional nursery during 2003, offered care to 38 children; 22 families (24 children) availed of outreach services; 5 children attended the out of school club on a weekly basis; 14 children were introduced to respite care and 20 children availed of PAPA club attendance. This development also enabled the siting of specialist services on one site e.g. localised diagnostic clinic for autism, child development clinic appointments, occupational therapy and physiotherapy appointments, and development of a low vision clinic.

Newry & Mourne Health & Social Services Community Development Unit

Newry and Mourne Community Development unit's main aim is to create and strengthen links and partnerships between Newry and Mourne Health and Social Services Trust and the voluntary, community and independent sectors.

The Development Unit achieves this by providing help and advice to staff in the Trust and to the voluntary, community and independent sectors. This help and advice crosses a range of areas from support to training, from community needs assessment to funding and from evaluation and strategic planning to policy development.

Since the completion of the Article 20 Review Report in 2001, the Community Development Unit has been established at John Mitchel Place, Newry and comprises a manager, two community workers, a volunteer co-ordinator, three sessional community workers and a clerical officer.

The Community Development Unit is actively involved in providing direct community work and promoting policy development. At the present time the unit is involved on the South Armagh Sure Start programme steering group.

Mencap Family Advisor Service

The Family Advisor provides an information, advice and support service for persons with a learning disability and their families.

The service was developed as a direct response to the identification by parents and carers of difficulties which they were experiencing in obtaining information, locating services and manoeuvring around the benefits systems.

The service operates across the three Trusts in the Southern Area Health and Social Services Board area, including Newry and Mourne.

In addition to the services noted above the advisor is directly involved with the giving of information seminars, addressing carers groups and training in schools and colleges. An advocacy service is also on offer as is a promotional approach to developing self-advocacy skills.

Newry and Mourne Home Start

Newry and Mourne Home Start's main aim is to offer support, friendship and practical help to parents with young children, in local communities. The programme achieves this via recruitment and training of volunteers who are parents themselves and who offer home visits to families.

Home Start also operates a family group on three mornings each week when parents can experience a "friendly ear" and encouragement while their children can access a range of play activities. Home Start offers information sessions and provides courses for parents on such varied topics as DELTA, drugs awareness, basic skills and healthy living.

Newry and Mourne Home Start is funded by Newry and Mourne Health and Social Services Trust and the Childhood Fund. The Orana Sure Start programme also funds part of the work of the agency.

The core business of Home Start is to offer informal, friendly and confidential support.

There are a minimum of 45 families supported per year in the localised city area with 20 further families supported in the Mourne and Crotlieve district areas. A further 20 families per year are supported via the Orana Sure Start scheme in Newry city district.

Since completion of the Article 20 Review Report in 2001, an additional 60 families have been supported through the Sure Start scheme and family group mornings have trebled.

Newry & Mourne Health & Social Services Trust's Contact Service

The contact service has, as its main aim, the facilitation of children (who are Looked After by Newry and Mourne Trust) in maintaining relationships with their family when they are not living at home.

This service, which is offered by Newry and Mourne Health and Social Services Trust, is currently operating on a pilot basis and was initially set up in June 2003.

A Co-ordinator and two social work assistants provide this service by transporting children and their families to venues where they can meet parents and siblings, supervise this meeting where appropriate and assist parents and relatives to meet their children's needs during this period of contact. The workers provide factual reports of these meetings and these are professionally analysed and used in planning future care arrangements.

Since the development of this service in June 2003, 35 children who are Looked After, have had contact visits facilitated per week. These workers are supported and supervised by the Co-ordinator for family support services who is a member of the Early Years team.

Newry & Mourne Health & Social Services Trust Family Support Worker Scheme

Newry and Mourne Health and Social Services Trust Family Support Scheme has, as its main aim, the safeguarding of children alongside promotion of their welfare within their families.

The scheme achieves this by employing four family support workers who engage with approximately six families each, per week. This engagement crosses a wide breadth of input varying from providing assistance to parents to establish daily routines to encouraging parents to care for their own needs; from providing practical support to giving required information to encouraging parent:child relationships.

Since completion of the Article 20 Review Report in 2001, the family support pilot service has been launched and is continuing to develop. Since its inception in June 2003 approximately 16 families have been supported on an on-going basis.

Barnardos Parenting Matters Project

The aim of this programme is to promote and develop parental support for parents who are living in disadvantaged areas. This is achieved by the provision of programmes which range from baby massage to parenting pre-school children; from parenting 5 – 11 year olds to teenagers; from parenting children with ADHD to working with Chinese parents and parents in prison. The programme also develops support groups for parents who have completed parenting programmes.

In addition to these programmes the parenting project worker organises workshops on a range of issues as well as providing information sessions which, to date, have been held in every ward area.

Since completion of the Article 20 Review Report in 2001 the project has developed arrangements to provide associated childcare alongside parenting programmes, completed programmes in the Chinese community and developed a programme for parents whose children have attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder. The post is currently vacant but it is anticipated that it will be filled in the near future.

South Armagh Women's Health Initiative

The South Armagh Women's Health Initiative is a vibrant and exciting project, which has, as its main aims, the raising of awareness of health and support needs of families in the South Armagh area, the development of self-help groups and the empowerment of local people in influencing local and regional policies.

The services which are provided include:

- An information resource centre
- A health information service
- A lay health and peer breast support programme
- A physical fitness and fun programme and
- The Camlough Pharmacy service.

Since the completion of the Article 20 Review Report in 2001 many developments have taken place including:

- Opening of the Camlough Pharmacy
- Development of a Community House in Newtownhamilton which includes a development worker post
- Partnership involvement in the new South Armagh Sure Start programme
- Input at school level on health issues and policy implementation
- Development of a parent and toddler group at Lir House, Newtownhamilton.

Health Visiting Service

The health visiting service aims to promote physical, psychological, emotional and sound well-being for all children, by providing support at individual and community levels. Health Visitors function as part of a multi-disciplinary team, with responsibility for advocacy, facilitation, liaison and referral.

The health visiting service provides a range of services including:

- a.** A child surveillance programme
- b.** Provision of information and support on a wide range of issues e.g.
 - Feeding and nutrition,
 - Parenting,
 - Dental health,
 - Accident prevention,
 - Healthy lifestyle and
 - Bereavement, to mention just a few.

The health visiting on-site service includes:

- Behaviour management clinics
- Breast feeding support groups
- Sure Start service
- Parenting programme
- Post-natal depression support groups
- Specialised services to the Travelling Community
- Liaison with day care services.

Since the completion of the Article 20 Review Report in 2001 the following developments have taken place:

- South Armagh Sure Start partnership established
- Engagement with South Armagh Women's Initiative
- Training set up for health visitors in baby massage
- A behaviour management specialist post has been developed and
- All health visitors have been trained in specialised breast-feeding.

Dunnaman Childrens Centre

This project, which is based in Kilkeel, in Kilkeel South ward, has continued to flourish and is now part funded by the Childhood Fund, by the Pre-school Education Expansion Programme and the Southern Health and Social Services Board.

The main aim of the centre is to offer a range of locality-based services which will have the cumulative effect of improving childrens' and families' lives.

The services which are on offer are an accredited playgroup, an after-school club and summer scheme along with a drop-in sessional nursery.

The centre has offered parent and toddler provision and a welfare rights service in the past and has amended service provision based on needs assessment in the local area. Both DELTA and Barnardos Parenting Matters continue to offer programmes.

Orana Sure Start Project

The Orana Sure Start Project comprises ten partners who work together to provide a co-ordinated and seamless service approach to families with children aged 0 – 4 years.

The main aim of the project is to improve and extend services to children and their families across health care / child care / education and support.

The project offers a very wide range of services across all these areas with the following, to mention just a few:

- Health visiting
- Parenting programmes
- Services for special needs children / ethnic minority groups
- Speech and language therapy
- Toy library service
- Outreach family support services etc.

Since the compilation of the Article 20 review report in 2001 there has been significant development in this project:

- Life long learning programme
- Development of parent and toddler groups
- Development of a parents' support group
- Development of a breast-feeding support group
- Development of an on-site drop-in crèche / outreach drop-in crèche

Newry Family Resource Centre

Newry Family Resource Centre has, as its main aim, the support of families through its assessment and therapeutic services, and the maintenance, where possible, of children in their own homes.

The centre provides a range of therapeutic services to children and families from family therapy to direct work with children; specific services on sexual abuse and Article 8 reports / court mediation. The centre also offers preventative and educational input on child management issues and is engaged in the local Orana Sure Start Programme.

Outreach services are also available in Kilkeel and in the Crossmaglen and Mullaghbawn areas.

Since the completion of the Article 20 Review Report in 2001, service demand continues to be high with 205 referrals received in the period immediately following the Article 20 2001 report.

Team for Children with a Disability

The team for children with a disability has, as its main aim, the promotion of access for disabled children to the same facilities as those available to non-disabled children. Integration and inclusion are the two key words which underpin the philosophy of the service. The team's workers use a range of approaches and work in a multi-disciplinary way. A large variety of services is available from the team and these range across respite care to counselling, provision of domiciliary support to supervised day care placements, the availability of advocacy services and benefits advice.

F.A.S.T Project (Families and Schools Together)

This project is targeted at pupils who are at risk of not reaching their potential in the education system. The main aims are:

- To maximise the active participation of children in the pilot project schools in the learning process, in particular those who might be at risk of failure.
- To promote active co-operation between home, school and relevant community agencies in promoting the educational interests of children.
- To enhance the children's uptake from education and their retention in the education system and their attitude to life-long learning
- To raise awareness in parents of their own capacities to enhance their children's education progress and to assist them in developing relevant skills.
- To assist schools to develop a whole school approach to working in partnership with parents.

The current project is based in Windsor ward in Newry City.

Young Parents Project

This is a project which provides support to young women who are pregnant or who have a child, while of compulsory school age, to continue their education.

The project offers advice on childcare, ante-natal care, benefits, careers, parenting skills, health care and personal development.

Sensory Impairment Team – Newry & Mourne Health & Social Services Trust

This team provides services to adults and children in the areas of hearing impairment and sight loss. For the purposes of this report the emphasis is on services to children. These range from comprehensive assessment to counselling and advice, from liaison with other disciplines and agencies to provision of technical equipment, from day care provision to peripatetic home visiting services and from advocacy to mobility training.

Since the completion of the Article 20 report in 2001 two parent support groups have been formed; one is for parents of children with hearing difficulties and the other for parents of children with sight difficulties.

A low vision clinic is also in the process of development through Wraparound, at Orana Family Support Centre.

Services to the Travelling Community

The Travelling Community has left the dedicated site in Newry City and groups have moved to Kilkeel in the Mourne District, Slieve Gullion District and Newry City area.

Newry Early Years Travellers Action Group continues to develop its outreach service with the Orana Sure Start outreach worker offering a toy library service across the Trust area.

Since the completion of the Article 20 report in 2001 a post has emerged entitled Travellers Toy Box worker. This post holder offers a loan scheme to 15 families, organises and runs workshops and there is a specialist health visiting service in place. There is also a three year strategic plan which has been developed by the Newry and Mourne Traveller Partnership; this includes such exciting objectives as: recurring bursaries to education, providing summer scheme opportunities, improved access to early years services etc.

Further specific information in relation to the Newry and Mourne area has not been made available to the author so gaps cannot be identified.

Newry Adolescent Partnership

Newry Adolescent Partnership is an inter-agency project which has as its main aim the provision of support for young persons in trouble, and their families through community based alternatives to care and custody.

The partnership offers programmes which are usually tailored to meet the needs of the individual and may include a range of approaches from counselling to individual work, from social education to group work and family therapy.

Since the completion of the Article 20 report in 2001 Newry Adolescent Partnership has developed a social inclusion post and entered into a business agreement.

Gaps in provision – Family Support Services

Homestart

- Very few referrals from the South Armagh area. This agency did not submit a proposal to the new Sure Start programme in the South Armagh area, so the opportunity to address this gap may have been missed.

Barnardos Parenting Project

- Need for development of support groups for parents who have completed programmes
- Demand for workshops cannot be met within current post
- Need to develop a programme for parents of children who have been diagnosed as having Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Development of a programme for lone and unsupported parents

Contact Service

- Transport aide is required to facilitate children and parents or relatives arrive at contact
- Contact needs for children with significant others i.e. aunts, uncles etc are not being met
- Contact venue required which is child friendly

Family Support Worker Service

- Shortage of appropriate manpower resources to meet need

Newry Family Resource centre

- Waiting list is now 3 – 4 months (non-self referrals)
- Waiting list is 6 months (self referrals)

Orana Sure Start Project

- Lack of available sessional day care places in the local community, which could be accessed by outreach programme co-ordinators.

Newry Adolescent Partnership

- Need to develop parenting orders as part of proposed Anti-social Behaviour Order

Sensory Impairment Team

- Need to develop the part-time social work post which deals specifically with children's services, to a full-time post given an increasing caseload with complex cases and a current referral waiting list.

Feedback

Multi-agency feedback on foot of distribution of consultative questionnaires identified the following as service developmental needs and gaps in service:

Newry City

- Safe play areas for all ages
- Summer schemes for all ages
- More after-school club places
- More childminders

The Mournes

- More play group provision, particularly in outlying areas e.g. Ballymartin
- Day nursery in Kilkeel
- Summer schemes in all wards
- After-school clubs in all wards
- Family support worker services

Rathfriland

- Out of school care i.e. after-school club and summer schemes
- More registered childminders

Crotlieve

- Out of school care in Mayobridge and Spelga wards
- After-school clubs in Warrenpoint and Rostrevor
- Parent and toddler groups in Warrenpoint
- More childminders in all areas

The Fews

- Out of school service in Newtownhamilton with particular emphasis on summer schemes
- Child care day provision in Camlough and Bessbrook
- Safe play areas in Camlough and Bessbrook

Slieve Gullion

- Safe play areas in all wards
- Playgroup provision in Cullyhanna, Culloville, Creggan, Crossmaglen and Mullaghbawn
- Out of school care needed in all wards
- Day nursery provision sought in Forkhill, Creggan and Crossmaglen wards

Recurring Themes in Relation to Expressed Need

- Mobile speech therapy service
- More subsidised places for 0 – 3 year olds
- More childminders in all areas

Key Messages Arising from the Review

1. Availability & Sustainability of Childcare Provision
 - Continue to monitor the sustainability of the sector
 - Promote registered childminding
 - Maintain the quality and availability of out of school hours services with particular reference to the 8+ age group
 - Develop crèche provision and other services for the 0-3 age group and their parents/carers
 - Promote outdoor play
 - Ensure an appropriate range of childcare settings
 - Development of integrated/wraparound service in urban and rural areas
 - Further Sure Start investment required
2. Children with Additional Needs including disability, rural children and children from black and minority ethnic groups
 - Ensure that childcare services promote equality of access
 - Collect and collate information on unmet need
 - Ensure that information on services is appropriate and available
 - Explore transport solutions as a factor in access to services for rural children
3. Services for 0-3 year old children
 - Carry out needs assessments in non Sure Start areas
 - Promote the learning from Sure Start to non Sure Start area
4. Training, Quality & Workforce Development
 - Clarify the appropriate qualification for out of school hours
 - Promote training for childminders including business training for newly registered minders
 - Ensure a co-ordinated system for carrying out training needs analysis and effective signposting
 - Promote the harmonization of terms and conditions across the sector
 - Self evaluation training for Social Work staff and Early Years providers to promote quality and in adopting of forthcoming new standards

5. Parental & Children's Participation & Consultation
 - Prioritise consultation with the 8+ age group and their parents
 - Explore models of effective parental representation
 - Develop systems to capture information /queries from parents

6. Information
 - Co-ordinate information of holiday schemes and activities and post on web-site
 - Develop more effective communication through the SCCP communication working group, development of databases, etc.
 - Develop an effective mechanism for obtaining information from providers

7. Community Development & Local Capacity Building
 - Address Early Years Team capacity issues
 - Develop an Early Years Community Development Strategy
 - Capacity within voluntary sector infrastructure

Glossary of Terms

ADHSSST – Armagh & Dungannon Health & Social Services Trust

BME Wkg Grp – Black & Minority Ethnic Working Group

CBHSST – Craigavon & Banbridge Health & Social Services Trust

CSP – Children Services Planning

DELTA – Developing Everyone’s Learning & Thinking Ability

DHSSPS – Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

HAZ – Heath Action Zone

HSST – Health & Social Services Trust

NICMA – NI Childminding Association

NIPPA – The Early Years Organisation

NMHSST – Newry & Mourne Health & Social Services Trust

NOF – New Opportunities Fund

NVQ – National Vocational Qualification

OOSH – Out of School Hours community childcare projects

OOSHL – Out of School Hours learning projects in schools

OSNI – Ordnance Survey Northern Ireland

PEAG – Pre-school Education Expansion Advisory Group

PEEP – Pre-school Education Expansion Programme

SACPC – Southern Area Child Protection Committee

SAAT – Southern Area Action for Travellers

SCCP – Southern Childcare Partnership

SELB – Southern Education & Library Board

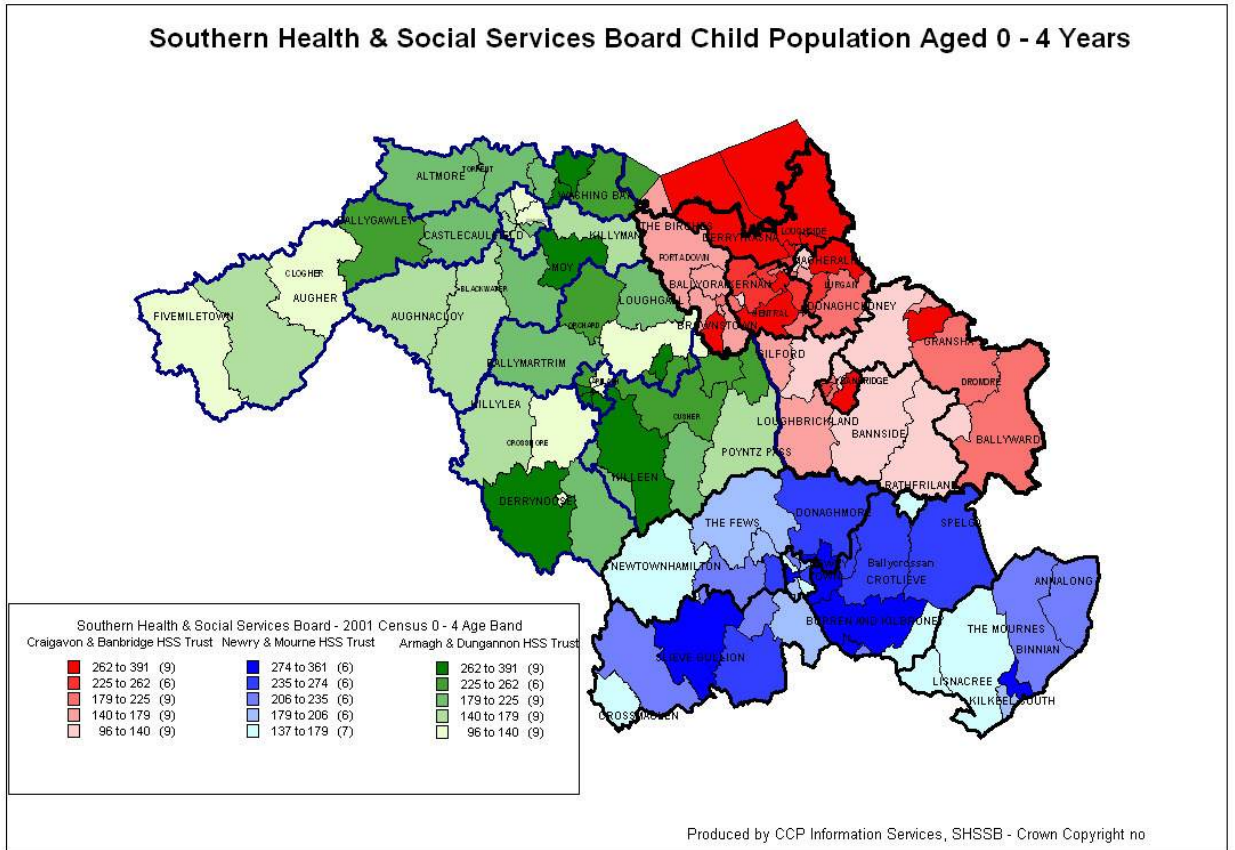
SHSSB – Southern Health & Social Services Board

Appendices

- Appendix 1** Map of Southern Health & Social Services Board Child Population Aged 0 – 4 Years
- Appendix 2** Map of Southern Health & Social Services Board Child Population Aged 5 – 7 Years
- Appendix 3** Map of Southern Health & Social Services Board Child Population Aged 8 – 9 Years
- Appendix 4** Map of Southern Health & Social Services Board Child Population Aged 10 – 14 Years
- Appendix 5** Map of Southern Health & Social Services Board Multiple Deprivation Measure Score (Noble)
- Appendix 6** Most deprived wards according to Robson Measures of Deprivation and Noble Measure of Deprivation
- Appendix 7** Principles of Southern Area Family Support Strategy
- Appendix 8** Summary of Provision in the Southern Area
- Appendix 9** Contact Details

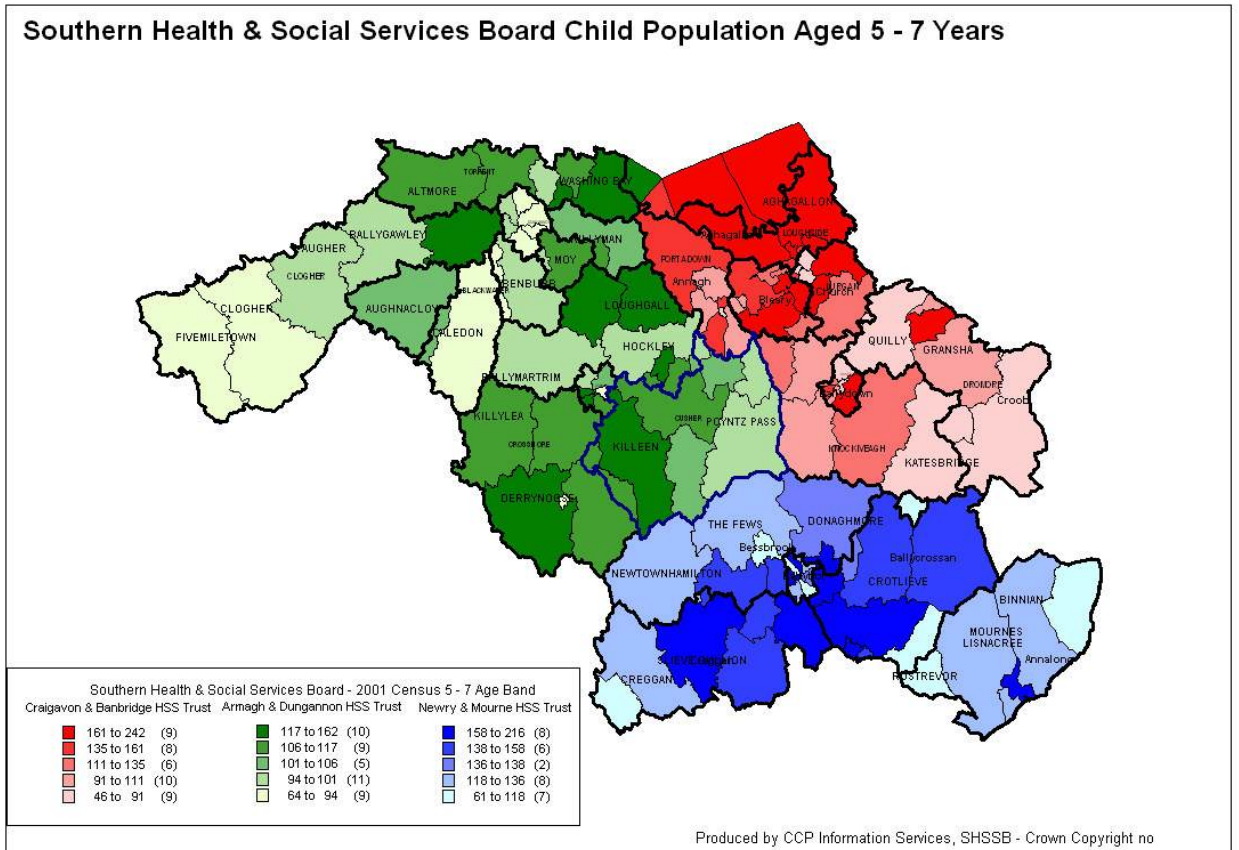
Map

Population Aged 0-4 Years



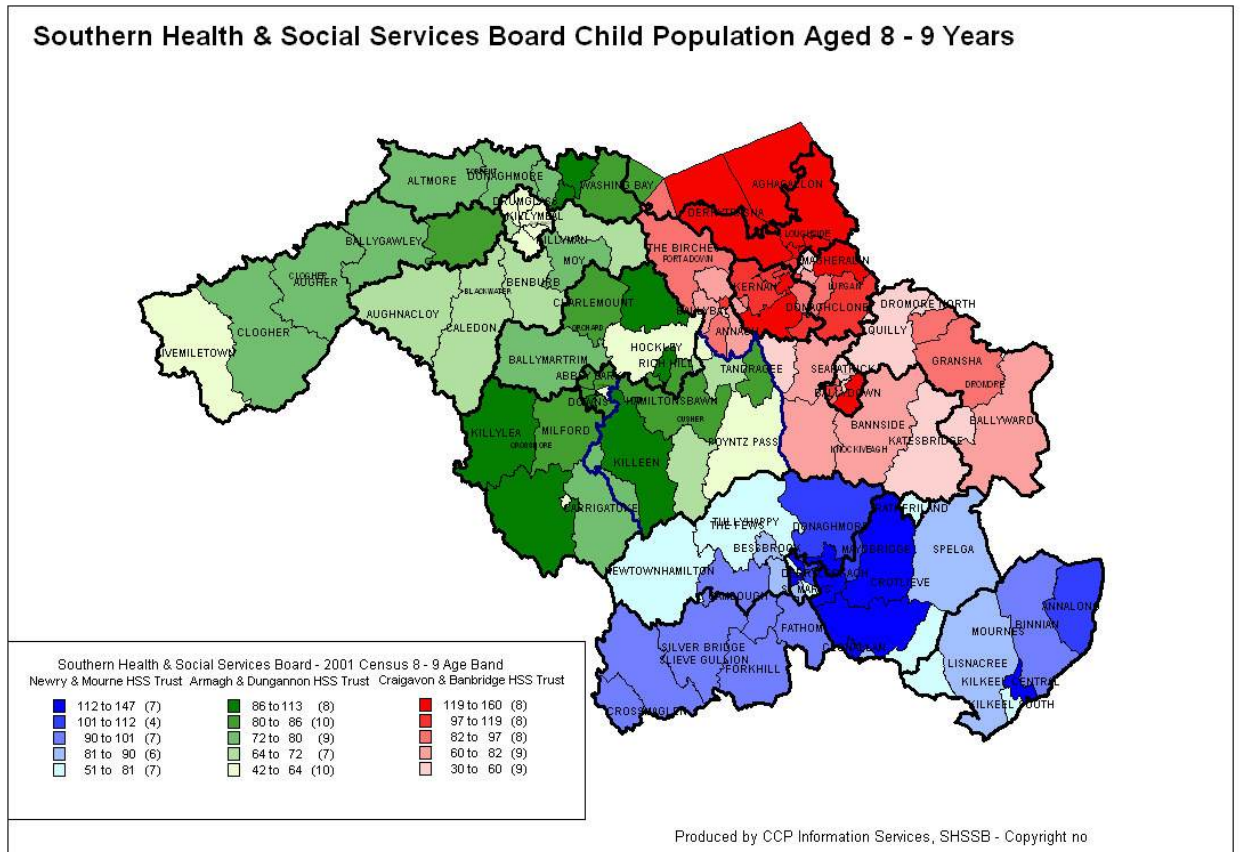
Map

Population Aged 5-7 Years



Map

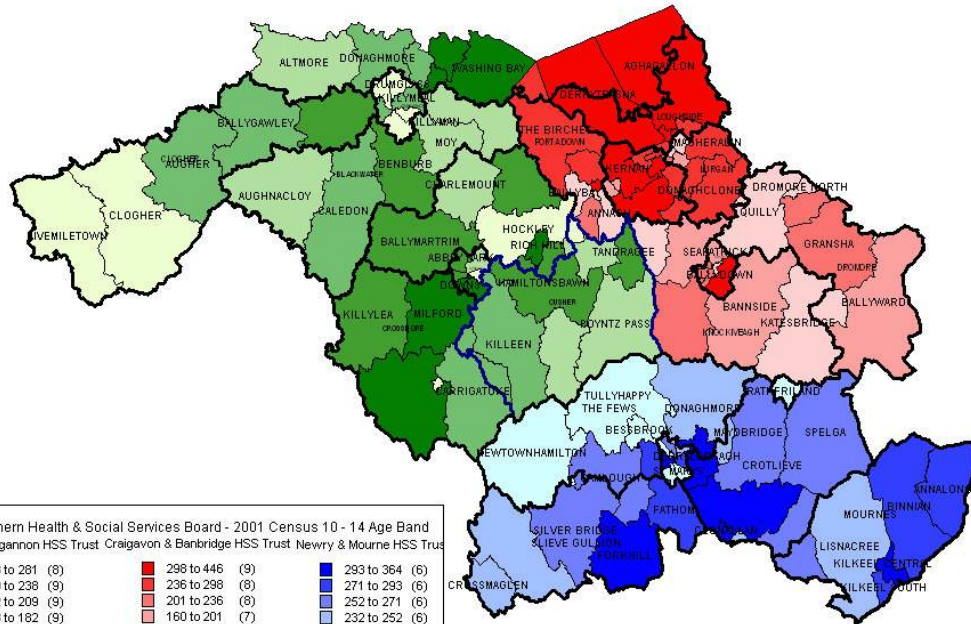
Population Aged 8-9 Years



Map

Population Aged 10-14 Years

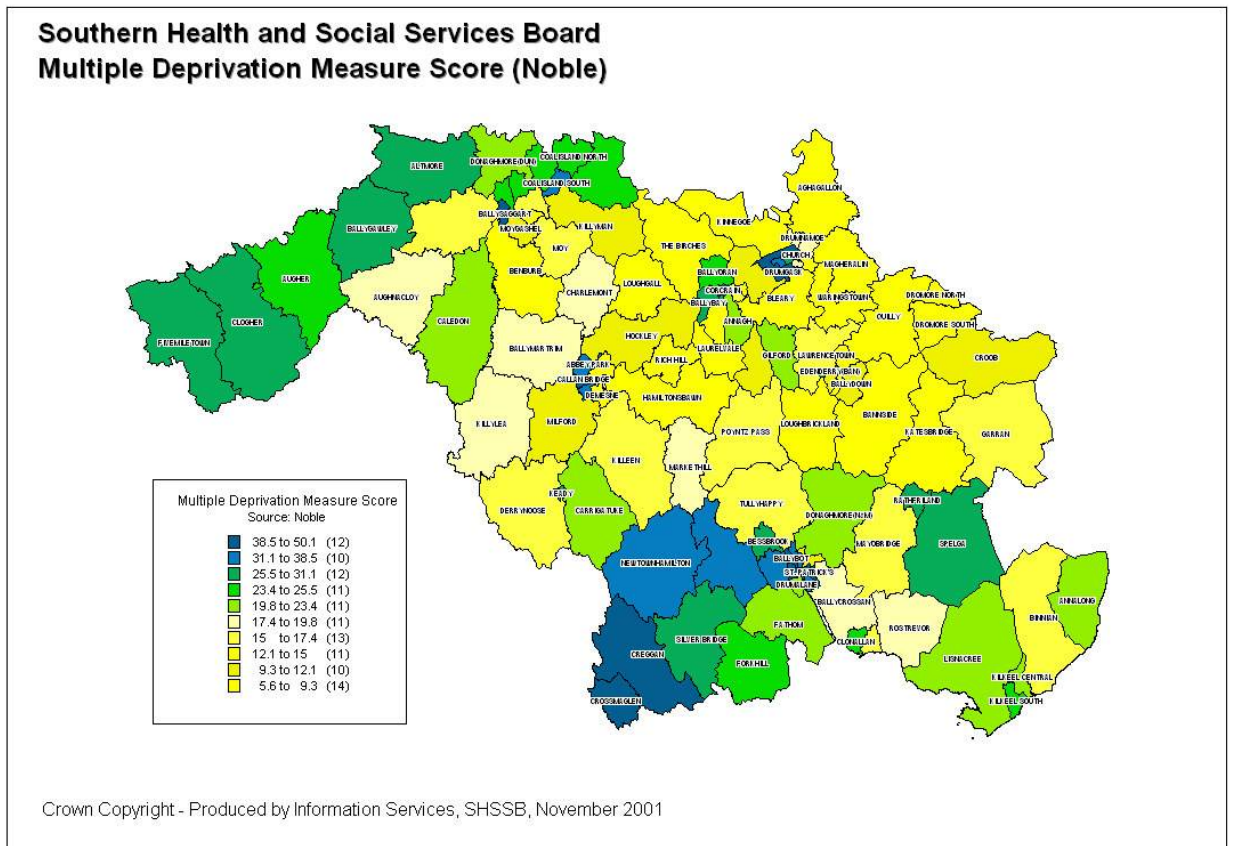
Southern Health & Social Services Board Child Population Aged 10 - 14 Years



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Map

Multiple Deprivation



**Top 25% of Wards in the Southern Area as identified by
Robson Measure of Deprivation**

Robson Deprivation Index			
Rank	District Council	Ward	Score
1	Newry/Mourne	Crossmaglen	16.22
2	Newry/Mourne	Newtownhamilton	13.29
3	Newry/Mourne	Silver Bridge	12.4
4	Newry/Mourne	St. Mary's	12.01
5	Newry/Mourne	Creggan	11.66
6	Dungannon	Coalisland South	11.63
7	Newry/Mourne	Lisnacree	11
8	Newry/Mourne	Forkhill	10.82
9	Dungannon	Altmore	10.64
10	Dungannon	Ballygawley	9.83
11	Craigavon	Corcrair	9.38
12	Newry/Mourne	Spelga	8.7
13	Dungannon	Clogher	8.59
14	Armagh	Carrigatuke	8.46
15	Dungannon	Ballysaggart	8.37
16	Armagh	Charlemont	8.16
17	Craigavon	Tullygally	7.37
18	Newry/Mourne	Daisy Hill	7.21
19	Newry/Mourne	Fathom	7.15
20	Newry/Mourne	Ballybot	6.76
21	Dungannon	Caledon	6.64
22	Craigavon	Drumgor	6.63
23	Newry/Mourne	Mayobridge	6.51
24	Craigavon	The Birches	6.12
25	Armagh	Milford	5.99
26	Armagh	Derrynoose	5.96
27	Craigavon	Drumnamoe	5.93
28	Dungannon	Washing Bay	5.92
29	Dungannon	Coalisland North	5.85

**Top 25% of Wards in the Southern Area as identified by
Noble Measure of Deprivation**

Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure			
Rank	District Council	Ward	Score
1	Newry/Mourne	Daisy Hill	50.05
2	Newry/Mourne	Ballybot	46.29
3	Craigavon	Court	46.23
4	Craigavon	Drumgask	45.62
5	Newry/Mourne	Crossmaglen	45.19
6	Craigavon	Drumgor	44.24
7	Armagh	Callan Bridge	44.01
8	Newry/Mourne	St. Patrick's	42.94
9	Newry/Mourne	Creggan	40.54
10	Dungannon	Ballysaggart	40.27
11	Craigavon	Corcrain	39.64
12	Craigavon	Church	38.50
13	Newry/Mourne	Derrymore	37.37
14	Newry/Mourne	Drumgullion	35.83
15	Craigavon	Tullygally	35.52
16	Craigavon	Drumnamoe	35.24
17	Newry/Mourne	Camlough	34.64
18	Armagh	Abbey Park	34.44
19	Newry/Mourne	St. Mary's	33.88
20	Dungannon	Coalisland South	33.81
21	Armagh	Downs	33.05
22	Newry/Mourne	Newtownhamilton	32.86
23	Craigavon	Ballybay	31.06
24	Newry/Mourne	Silver Bridge	30.59
25	Newry/Mourne	Beesbrook	29.87
26	Craigavon	Taghnevan	29.72
27	Dungannon	Altmore	28.92
28	Craigavon	Tavanagh	28.78
29	Newry/Mourne	Spelga	28.43

Principles of Southern Area Family Support Strategy

Family support services under this strategy should be developed and delivered using the following principles-

1. Promotes social inclusion and equality by providing information and developing accessible services that are available to those who need them.
2. Ensures particular attention is paid to the needs of children and families who are known to be at particular risk of social exclusion. An understanding and respect for issues of race, linguistic, culture and special needs will be central to this principle.
3. Ensures services are responsive to the changing needs of children, young people, families and communities.
4. Develops a whole-child approach that is aware of the interacting relationships between child, family and community.
5. Promotes a strengths-based perspective which recognises resilience as a characteristic of many family lives.
6. Aims to build capacity with the children, young people families and communities to identify and promote their own well-being.
7. Enables the participation of children, young people, families and communities in the planning, delivery and evaluation of family support services.
8. Ensures services are built in partnership. Collaboratively working across organisational boundaries on the principles of inter-agency and inter-disciplinary co-operation.
9. Endeavours to deliver effective change through developing in the design of services a focus on outcomes, evaluation and evidence of what is known to work.
10. Links service development to planning based on needs identified by children and young people, parents, communities and professionals.

Summary of Provision in the Southern Area

Type	Armagh & Dungannon HSS Trust (2004)	Craigavon & Banbridge HSS Trust (2004)	Newry & Mourne HSS Trust (2003)	Total
Childminders	166	240	48	454
Playgroups	43	32	28	103
Day Nurseries	7	17	13	37
OOSH	17	26	18	61
Crèches	2	7	1	10
Employer Holiday Schemes	3	2	1	6
SELB Nursery Schools/Classes	15	25	16	56
Reception Classes	42	N/A	N/A	–
OSHL	15	11	12	38
Special Schools	2	2	1	5
DC Summer Schemes	16	5	N/A	N/A
DC Afterschools	12	–	–	N/A
Delta Courses	136	48	–	N/A
Parent & Toddler	30	27	21	78
Youth Groups	109	121	–	N/A

Contact Details

A full copy of the Southern Area Article 20 Review 2004 is available from the Southern Childcare Partnership website:

www.southernchildcarepartnership.ni.org

Details of deprivation statistics within the Southern Area can also be obtained from the website.

We welcome comments/feedback on the summary of the review. This can be provided to:

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