



Annual Report 2015

Building Stronger Families

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INTRODUCTION

Chairperson Paul Slevin

As Chairman of Space it is my privilege to reflect back on a year which has surpassed all expectations, particularly in strengthening relationships with our partnering agencies and delivery of our projects in the community. Under the exemplary leadership of our Director, Jacinta Linden, our team has grown and their dedication and care continue to make the difference in what we do. As we look forward to a year with exciting developments ahead, as always I remain indebted to the support of my fellow board members, to our funders, our partner agencies and to our team of loyal volunteers – without you all we wouldn't be where we are today.

Jacinta Linden—Director at SPACE

It is hard to believe that we are back reporting on another year, without a doubt the SPACE years are turning quicker than ever! At the beginning of 2015 we had a clear plan and we were determined that our Social Enterprise “Love Your Space” would grow, we were hopeful that we may attract funding to continue delivering services, and committed to maintaining and developing the relationships with and between the volunteers, staff and management board that make this project tick.

Thankfully we are happy to report that we have achieved all of the latter!

SPACE is a charity registered with HMRC, (formally known as South Down Family Health Initiative). SPACE supports individuals and families through challenging times in their lives. The SPACE vision is to have a healthy and active population in which every person has access to services and opportunities enabling them to reach their full potential. The SPACE mission statement establishes that we want to work with and connect individuals, families and the community to support and enable people to improve their health and wellbeing. Over the last 11 years SPACE has developed a range of services to help people realise their full potential, these services have grown to provide training, support and resources to individuals and families as well as contributing substantively to the local economy by creating over 25 full and part-time jobs as well as numerous independent contractor and volunteer opportunities. There are three overarching areas to our work:

- SPACE 1—Supporting Parents and Children

- SPACE 2—Supporting People and Communities

- SPACE 3—Supporting Potential and Community Enterprise.

Throughout this report you will find detail on the work undertaken in 2015 by our staff, management board and volunteers. Please take the time to read about our progress and if you wish to learn more or talk to us about a project or service, lift the phone.

3 KEY ELEMENTS TO OUR WORK PROCESS

SPACE VISION

A healthy and active population in which every one has access to services and opportunities enabling them to reach their full potential.

SPACE MISSION STATEMENT

To work with and connect individuals, families and the community to support and enable people to improve their health and well being.

SPACE VALUES

Make connections for people by informing, sharing, advocating, supporting, partnering, demonstrating enabling and empowering.

SPACE 1 Supporting Families & Individuals

Family Support Hub

SPACE 2

Out - Reach
Work

Wellbeing

SPACE 3

Social
Enterprise

Love your Space

Strategic Aims

To lobby, challenge, represent and influence change on behalf of our communities through the development of a value based organisation.

To continue to work with, and between individuals, families and the wider community to support and enable people to improve their health and wellbeing.

To develop SPACE staff, systems and resources to ensure continuous improvement and development of SPACE services.

PROGRAMMES 2014- 2015



SPACE 1

Funded by Big Lottery NI



MARA

Funded by Public Health Agency and DARD



NEWRY AND MOURNE FAMILY SUPPORT HUB

Funded by SHSCT and CYPSP



EISS EARLY INTERVENTION FAMILY SUPPORT

Funded by Public Health Agency



EAT, SLEEP, LEARN, PLAY

Funded by Save the Children



SURE START KILKEEL

Funded by Southern CCP and Department of Education



MOURNE HOME 2 HOSPITAL

Funded by Newry Mourne and Down District Council and PHA



COMFORT ZONE

Funded by Awards for All Big Lottery NI and Newry Mourne and Down District Council

REPRESENTATION AND STRATEGIC INFLUENCING

- ★ Wellbeing and Active Partnership (WAP)
- ★ N&M Integrated Care Partnership (ICP)
- ★ CYPSP Southern Outcomes Group (CYPSP)
- ★ Newry Mourne and Down Rural Advisory Group
- ★ Newry Junior Chamber of Commerce (NJCC)

- ★ Newry Mourne and Down Intercultural Forum
- ★ Strengthening Families Steering Group
- ★ Southern Area Family Support Hub Steering Group
- ★ Craigavon and Banbridge EITP Steering Group
- ★ Newry DEA Community/Voluntary Sector Forum

START HERE

1 INVESTMENT

GENERATED INCOME/ SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

10% Government TENDERS

24% Government TENDERS

3% E.U FUNDING

63% GRANTS/ OTHER TENDERS

2 VOLUNTEERS

52

3207 HOURS

£29,761 VALUE TO THE COMMUNITY

538 PRACTICAL HOURS

135 LOCAL FAMILIES SUPPORTED

4 FAMILY SUPPORT

PROGRAMMES & SUPPORT

26,241 HOURS

19

3 STAFF

£40,000

IN GRANTS AND EQUIPMENT

5 PROGRAMMES & COMMUNITY SIGNPOSTING

25 EVENTS

- Facts & Fun Day
- Speed Networking
- MARA

882 PEOPLE REACHED

- Action Cancer Bus
- SPACE CAMP
- SPACE Launch

6 STRATEGIC INFLUENCING

REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLANNING GROUPS

FINISH

LOVE YOUR SPACE 1656 LIKES

SPACE 848 LIKES

776 WEBSITE VIEWS

557 FOLLOWERS

8 INFORMATION SHARING

10 Appeals for families through Love your Space

7 APPEALS

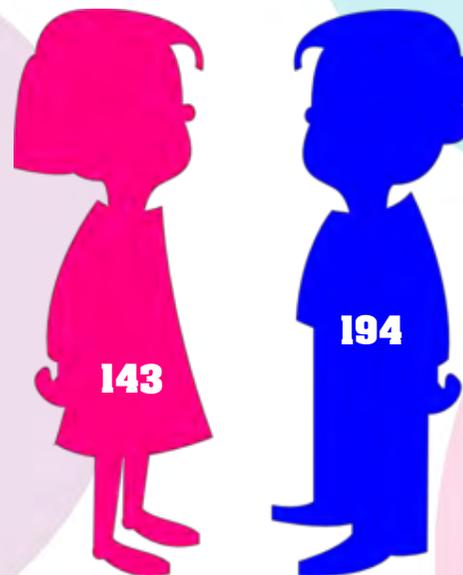
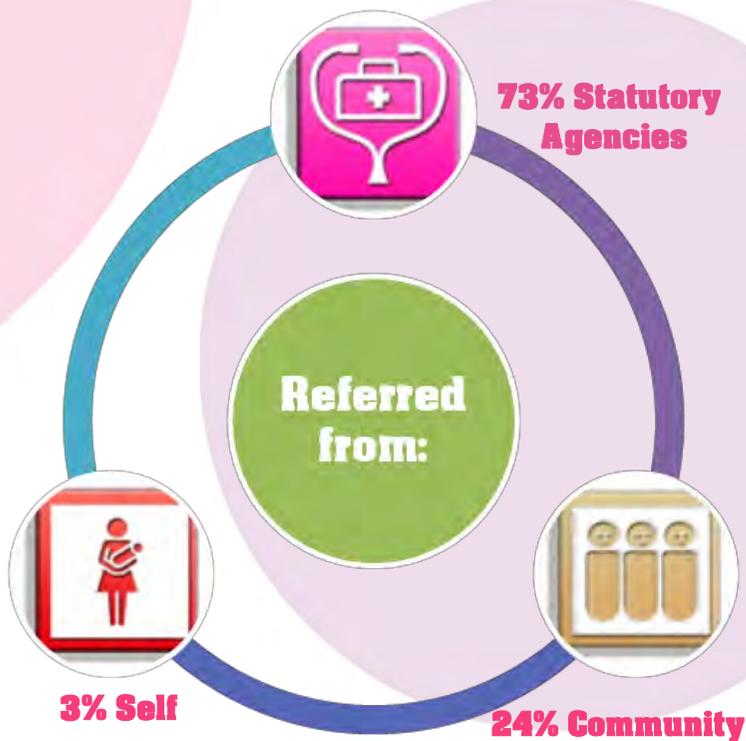
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FAMILY SUPPORT HUB

There are 29 Family Support Hubs throughout Northern Ireland and SPACE has co-ordinated the Newry and Mourne Hub since 2013. The Hub is a group of voluntary, community and statutory organisations who meet to match requests for family support to services.

They achieve this by listening to local children, young people, parents and communities. They use local expertise and knowledge to identify the most appropriate support for families and then monitor and evaluate services, ensuring that all requests for support are followed through.

Reasons for Referrals



Outcomes



SPACE 1 – FAMILY SUPPORT

In November 2015, we launched our Big Lottery funded SPACE 1 Family Support Programme. This investment of £700,000 will enable SPACE to provide support to over 1500 families over the next five years. We will work to develop resilience and coping skills; parenting and home management skills; build and strengthen family relationships and support families to engage and contribute positively to their community. Work begun in earnest with the recruitment of our two family support workers, Martina and Niamh. With a passion for flexible practical support they have been delivering bespoke services to thirty-eight families in the first three months of SPACE 1. Work is as varied as we suspected with referrals coming in for support with parenting support, managing behavioural issues, educational support, mental health, financial assistance, disability and illness and housing.

38
Families

189
hours of
Family
Support

Mary and Dan's story:

Mary and her family came to us via the Family Support Hub after Mary had disclosed to her GP how low she was feeling. Mary has a serious long term illness. Dan is a plasterer who is working in Scotland during the week and they have three children under ten including a six-month old baby. Friends and relatives are providing as much support as they can but there were still times when Mary didn't see anyone except the children for days at a time.

Mary was desperately frustrated with her illness and felt that she wasn't coping as a mother and was embarrassed at having to ask for help. Her relationship with Dan was suffering as he struggled to cope emotionally with the fear that he may lose his wife and being the only breadwinner. Weekends were spent cleaning, shopping and arguing. Of course the children had picked up on the tension and the older boy became disruptive at school.

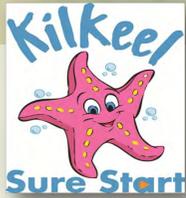
SPACE have been with Mary for eight weeks now. They visit twice a week, helping to clean the house, change beds, take her shopping and emotionally supporting the children. They arranged for a MARA home visit and discovered that Mary had not claimed benefits that she was entitled to. The youngest two children are now registered with Sure Start. The eldest is signed up to join SPACE's Spacewalk programme which has been developed to offer boys the chance to come together with their families and have lots of fun, take (safe) risks and most importantly take responsibility for their actions and behaviour.

Mary is still ill and Dan still catches the boat on Sunday evenings, but at least now weekends are for fun not pressure and they report that they are enjoying making happy memories for the future, whatever that may be.

Statistics: October 2015 to December 2015

SPACE 1 Family Support Workers
Niamh McDonnell
Martina Olusanya-Crothers





KILKEEL SURE START

Case Study: Our Sure Start Speech and Language Therapist assessed a two year old child due to parental concerns regarding delayed speech and language development. Screening concluded the child had delayed receptive and expressive language development. The child was signposted to other specialist services and the screening appointment was followed up by a home visit from the Sure Start Speech and Language Therapist to help support the child in a home environment. The child's mother also attended a parent workshop developed by the Speech Therapist focusing on empowering parents in supporting their children's communication development. As a result of onward referral this child has had grommets inserted which has had a positive effect. Their global development is being monitored by the Community Paediatrics team and the child is accessing regular speech and language therapy from core services. The child's mother noted increased confidence supporting her child's speech and language development through the support of Kilkeel Sure Start's team.

Outcomes Achieved

- 24 children attended Jigsaw - Programme for Two year olds
- 13 expectant mothers recieved home support from our Midwife
- 19 mothers recieved Post-Natal home support
- 11 families recieved home support visits
- 26 children attended our Summer Scheme
- 40 families took part in our health promotion activites



“My son has shown huge progress since starting Jigsaw—his confidence has increased, he is more sociable with his friends, his speech has developed and he loves coming to Jigsaw”

“To be honest, I would be lost without the group. No words can describe the benefits my family have gained”

“He has come on leaps and bounds since he started, in all aspects. When my son started he spoke very few words and he is now using three word sentences. He is interacting better with children his own age and his confidence has greatly improved”

“The programme is a fantastic experience for both children and parents”

EISS - THE EARLY INTERVENTION SUPPORT SERVICE

October 2015 to December 2015

WHAT IS THE EARLY INTERVENTION SUPPORT SERVICE?

The EISS service works within the Craigavon and Banbridge area to offer short term support to families with children 0-18years who have additional needs or are facing challenges that are difficult to overcome such as:

- Issues at school
- Behavioural difficulties
- Coping with illness or bereavement
- Family difficulties
- Domestic violence
- Difficulties with development or health related issues

WHAT DOES THE EISS OFFER?

- A range of support tailored to meet the needs of individual families. EISS works with families for a time limited period of around 12weeks
- A project worker from EISS will meet with you and your child/children to help identify both your needs and strengths
- EISS works with parents and children to develop a plan which is individually tailored to meet the identified needs
- You and your child/children participate in putting the plan in place, reviewing the plan and deciding when needs have been met
- EISS can provide information and help you to access other services in your area.



EISS Workers
Marie-Claire McCann & Julia Quinn

Contact:

EISS Southern
NIACRO/SPACE
26 Carlton Street
Portadown
BT62 3EP
Tel: 028 3833 1168
Email: eissouthern@niacro.co.uk



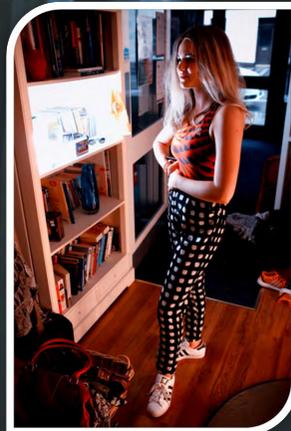
LOVE YOUR SPACE



Love Your Space is a Social Enterprise that helps our organisation provide more resources to support people. Social Enterprises are community based businesses that trade to tackle social problems, improve communities, or improve people's lives or the environment. Love Your Space (LYS) started in November 2014, with a goal of generating income, attracting volunteers and providing an opportunity to let customers know about SPACE services. As the year developed, it became clear that charity shop income is not the real indicator of success, it was all about the individuals, our volunteers. Over the year, LYS volunteers have become more confident, taking risks with presenting the goods in the shop, styling the shop window, retailing online and really enjoying their time with LYS as they designed and up-cycled unwanted goods.

Something way beyond our aspirations of creating a new income stream was happening in LYS, Carly, Shaunine, Denise and Amy had all contributed to making our volunteers welcome and then helping each of them to challenge themselves a little each week. Some of our lovely volunteers Tara, Gemma, Katie, Cameron and Stacey have moved on, we miss them dreadfully but we are so proud of all their achievements and we wish them every success. Over the year, 20 volunteers have contributed time, creativity and commitment to our shop. We greatly appreciate your time and hard work, your efforts have helped so many local families in a time of need. Donations of furniture, clothing and bric-a-brac continue to come and we are truly appreciative of the kindness of our community.

If only "we had more space, we could take more volunteers", has been the cry from LYS staff and volunteers all year. Thankfully negotiations are well underway to develop a new bespoke workshop providing extended volunteer and day-care opportunity in upcycling and other options. It is our plan in 2016 to create a thriving workshop and social enterprise in Newry where the LYS staff and volunteers can extend and grow, we are massively excited about this.



MAXIMISING ACCESS TO SERVICES, GRANTS AND BENEFITS IN RURAL AREAS—MARA



Information taken from Summary Evaluation Report carried out by Deloitte

A recently published independent evaluation (conducted by Deloitte) of MARA, reports:

“The project has performed well with significant engagement in the targeted rural super output areas. This engagement has been at a broader community level as well with the households themselves. This in itself should be viewed as a success factor for the project, not least given the multi-agency approach and partnership working between statutory and non-statutory providers”.

Deloitte report forecasts that for every £1 spent on MARA there will be a Social Return on Investment of £15.52.

68% reported MARA made a difference to their quality of life

40% visited Reported that they felt more socially connected

SPACE completed 2853 Home visits during MARA

589 individuals reclaimed Benefits totalling £1.9million

45% individuals reported an improvement in their general health

Case Study 2: Mrs R

Mrs R has young children and was interested in Home Safety, with her permission we referred her for a home safety check. Within a matter of weeks of the visit Mrs R was issued with a range of Home Safety equipment.

Case Study 4: Mrs Y

Mrs Y requested a Benefit Entitlement Check and the check identified she was eligible for Pension Credit and Carers Allowance. This has resulted in a significant increase in Mrs Y's weekly income.



MOURNE HOME 2 HOSPITAL

• Statistics - April 2015 to December 2015

The Mourne Home 2 Hospital project was developed in response to a need identified by older people living in the Mournes areas at a community consultation undertaken by the Public Health Agency.

In April 2015 SPACE was awarded funding to pilot a home to hospital project in partnership with Newry and Mourne Rural Community Transport. By splitting the hospitals covered between both Newry and Mourne Community Transport and SPACE they can ensure that any older person who meets the eligibility criteria can be taken to any of the hospitals in Belfast, Craigavon, Downpatrick and Tyrone.

The project is aimed at those aged 60+ living in the Mournes, Kilkeel and surrounding areas that require help to get to hospital appointments in Belfast, Craigavon and Dungannon.

102
People
registered

5
Volunteer
Drivers

115
Hospital
Appointments

400
Volunteer
Hours

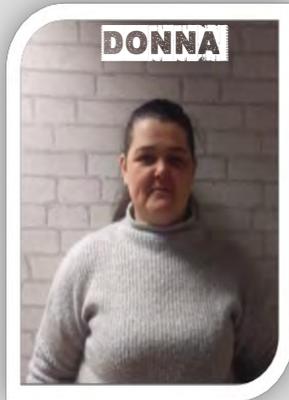
Mrs X

"I could not have went to my appointment because it was too early in the morning for public transport to Craigavon. Public transport would also have meant three different buses from Kilkeel to Craigavon. Mourne Home 2 Hospital is a great service."

Mr Y

"Delighted to be collected by this service, I was very tired after my hospital appointment but was reassured that I was getting home safely. I don't know how I would have managed to have gotten to my appointment if it wasn't for your service. Thank you."





DONNA

"I started here on a course, however when the course ended I continued to volunteer here because the people are brilliant, the shop is lovely and it's all for a good cause!"



CAILUM

"I enjoy sanding and helping out and the Craic is also good!"



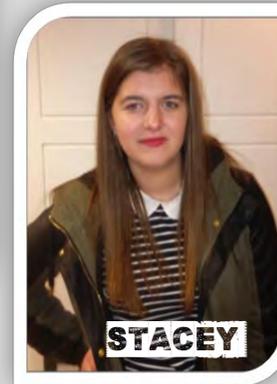
KATIE

"I completed my placement here from Links Works and have loved my 10months working in Love Your Space. The Craic's always good and you get to be creative making things."



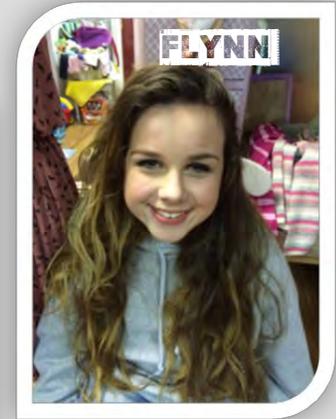
STACEY

"I love working with all the other volunteers and I enjoy doing retail and sorting out outfits. I also get to learn more about art when I'm helping Carly and I've learnt to use the till."



TIM

"One of the many reasons I enjoy working for LYS is that they are helping less fortunate families in the community. I enjoy working with the staff and I find it a very fulfilling and satisfying job!"



FLYNN

"I love helping out in the shop, it's for a great cause. I love the idea that I'm helping children my age in our local area, dressing the mannequins is my favourite job, as I like to be arty!"

MEET THE VOLUNTEERS

We Donations

24 Monaghan Street, Newry
Tel: 028 3083 5764



ANNIE

ANNIE

"I like volunteering at LYS because I'm getting retail experience and I've made a lot of new friends. I think I've learnt more about sales and what LYS and SPACE do for the community."



EMMA

SEANA

"I started here for my course on placement and I really enjoy it because I've made new friends with other volunteers and my own confidence has grown."

EMMA

"I like working here because I get the chance to understand how and why the local families receive help and a big plus is that the people that work here are genuinely warm hearted and lovely!"



BARBARA

EVA

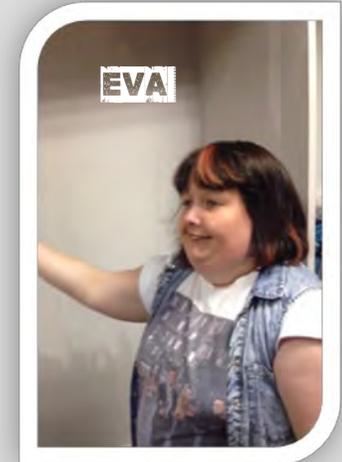
"I learnt a lot about upcycling since I started working with Love Your Space and retail too. The staff at SPACE are all lovely and always good fun!"

BARBARA

"I love the styling of Love Your Space, it's not your typical charity shop, classy and unique is how I would describe it. The Craic is always good and the staff are all lovely to work with."



SEANA



EVA



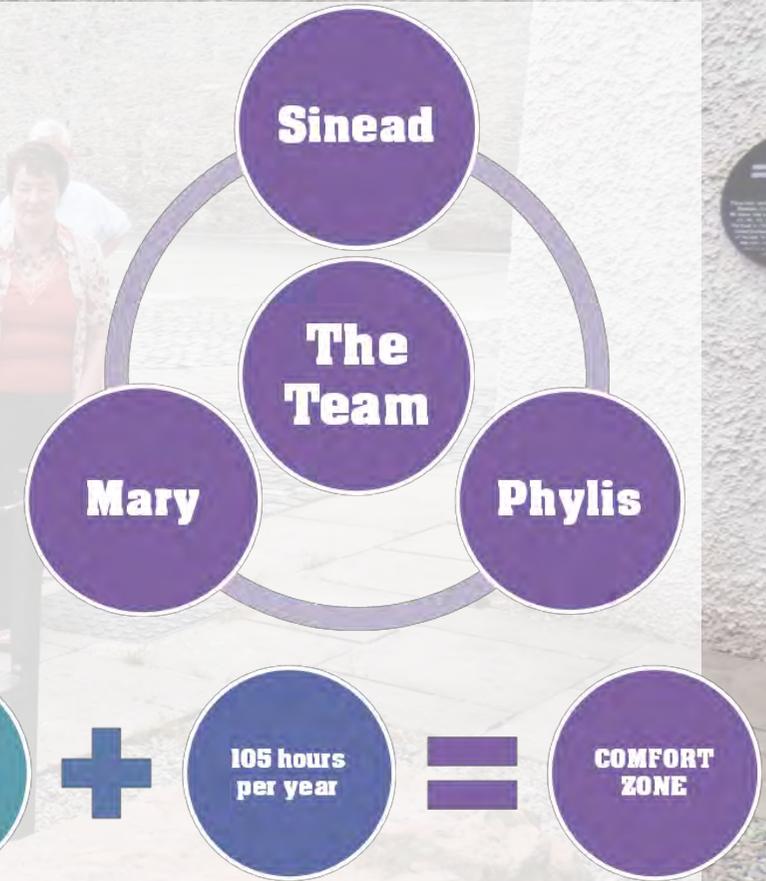
COMFORT ZONE

The Comfort Zone is a social opportunity for the young of heart aged 50+ that meet every Wednesday morning from 11.00-1.00pm in Warrenpoint Town Hall. They enjoy informative talks, quizzes, day trips and just enjoying the Craic among themselves.

Equal number of men and women attending ensures there is always plenty of chat about football, rugby, "the good ole days" and shopping. The weekly men Vs women quiz sees some good hearted rivalry and banter, where the focus is always on the superior gender.

The very welcome Awards for All funding will ensure a busy programme of iPad training, arts and crafts sessions, theatre trips and days out for 2016.

"I have been coming to the Comfort Zone for two years now and enjoy every week. The Craic is always good and the added bonus of lovely buns help too"



LOTTERY FUNDED



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin
Newry, Mourne
and Down
District Council



2015 The Memories



SUMMARY AND BEYOND



Whilst none of us know what 2017 will bring, we can be sure that our organisation will face many challenges and opportunities as we continue to serve those that need our help most.

In March 2016 the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's (<https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/prosperous-poverty-free-northern-ireland>) informed the general public that the Executive target of ending child poverty by 2020 looks set to be missed. There continues to be worrying achievement gaps in education, with children from poorer families leaving school with lower levels of educational attainment. The JRF report highlights that "Poverty affects us all either directly or indirectly, whilst overall the report identifies that 101,000 of Northern Ireland's children (that's a staggering 23 per cent) live in poverty; they also highlight that 63,000 pensioners in NI are in poverty (21 per cent). Space works at both ends of the life continuum, from Early years right through to Golden years, and whilst programmes like MARA and Mourne Home2Hospital are time bound and subject to change, we need to keep focused on developing new and exciting opportunities to ensure continued support and services.

Leading a modern charity that is ambitious for the future is a balancing act, the community and voluntary sector in NI is at a key juncture, and if we in Space want to be part of that future then we need to invest now in our staff our systems and our facilities. Hopkins (2007) sets out a strong and positive endorsement of the Third sector as a Business partner:

"As an integral driver of economic and social progress. Its organisations are the Primary voices of social, economic and environmental justice, deliverers and sources of innovation in services to vulnerable people and vital contributors to the modernisation of public services in the UK"

As the third sector continues to change as a result of internal and external drivers, it faces significant challenges to its current and future success. For SPACE, the public value factor is central to helping volunteers, staff and advocates value the work that we do and also to clearly identify the pathway to those seeking support. Public value brings the area of accountability sharply into focus and places the internal/external axis of our work as a priority for all to consider from the caretaker to the CEO. Moreover the added value to the public, which third sector organisations deliver on, is particularly relevant given the volatility of the current economic markets, the demise in our health care system, the breakdown of families and the increasing need for our services. In other words the work we do is crucial, and we need to find creative ways to sustain and develop income and services for the future. SPACE as an organisation is keen to see an end to Poverty in NI; we all have our part to play. At every stage of a person's life, there is something that can be done to reduce poverty and create greater opportunities for everyone to play a part in – and benefit from – a shared prosperity, going forward that's one of the many challenges that SPACE must endeavour in partnership with partner agencies to achieve (JRF 2016)

CONTACTS

Chairperson

Paul Slevin

Vice Chairperson

Ingrid Perry

Treasurer

Paul Farquhar

Secretary

Aisling Rennick

Board Member

Martina Flynn

Additional Members

Brian Quinn

SPACE Director

Jacinta Linden

Operations Manager

Allison Slater

Project Administrator/Accounts

Margaret Toner

Information & Marketing Officer

Aine McKeown

MARA Administrator

Anouska Kenny

Family Support Workers

Niamh McDonnell

Martina Crothers-Olusanya

Early Intervention Support Services (EISS)

Julia Turley

Marie-Clare McCann

Love Your Space Supervisor

Amy Henshaw

SPACE Sessional Staff

Sinead, Mary, Denise, Anne, Niamh

Sure Start Co-ordinator

Pauline Downey

Health Promotional Worker

Kate Cunningham

Family Support Worker

Fiona Haughian

Sure Start Administrator

Annamarie Mathers

Social Media

Website:

www.space-ni.com

Twitter:

@SpaceNI15



Facebook:

SPACE -

www.facebook.com/spaceni/



Love Your Space -

www.facebook.com/loveyourspace21/

SPACE is registered by the Inland

Revenue as Charity Number:

XT12829

Funders in 2015

- Big Lottery - SPACE 1
- DARD/PHA - MARA
- CYPSP- Family Support Hub
- SHSCT
- Newry, Mourne and Down District Council - Mourne Home 2 Hospital
- PHA - Early Intervention Support Services
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive

SPACE Main Office

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First Trust, 1 The Square, Warrenpoint

Tel: 0845 600 5925

Accountants

McPolin and Murdock

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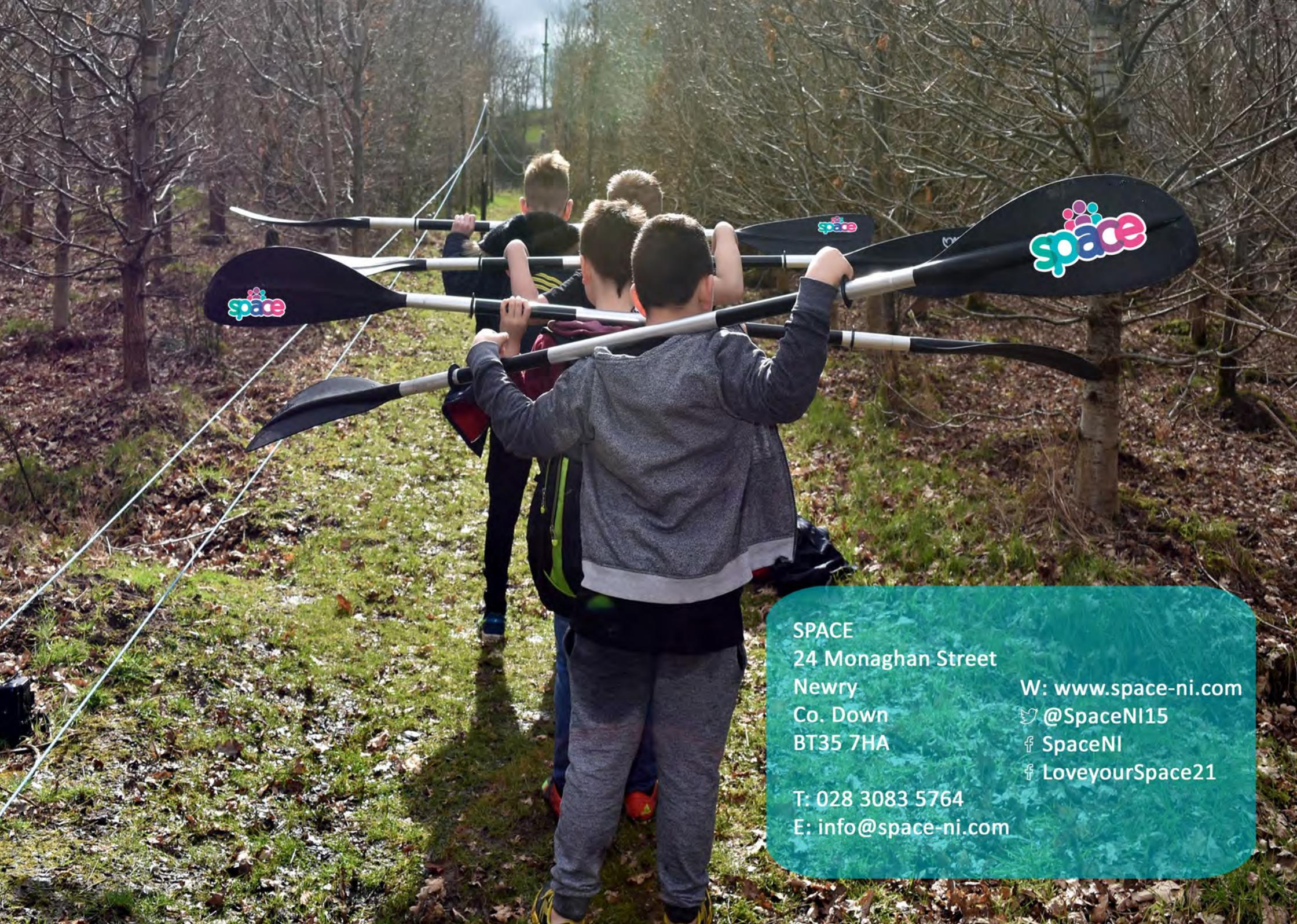
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Governance and Planning

Sector Matters

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