



**Celebrating
26 Years of
Community
Development**



www.shantallow.net



Greater Shantallow Area Partnership
Annual Review – 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

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VISION & MISSION STATEMENT

OUR VISION...

The Greater Shantallow Area Partnership (GSAP) is a core community support organisation which seeks to bring together and support local residents, community/voluntary sector groups and statutory/private organisations that have an interest in or involvement with improving the social, community, economic and physical environment within the Greater Shantallow area thus helping to create sustainable communities that are:

Active, Inclusive and Safe; Well Run; Well Designed and Built; Well Connected; Thriving; Well-Served; Fair for Everyone; and Environmentally Sensitive;

OUR MISSION...

“To develop and sustain a vibrant community & voluntary sector in the Greater Shantallow area in which well-informed people enjoy high quality, sustainable and appropriate services in an accessible, well-managed environment.

CHARITABLE PURPOSE & PUBLIC BENEFIT

CHARITABLE PURPOSE	PUBLIC BENEFIT
<i>RELIEVING POVERTY</i>	Reduction in the impact of poverty on people's quality of life, the prevention of poverty, and physical, social, community, and economic improvements within the Greater Shantallow Area
<i>ADVANCING EDUCATION</i>	A more educated, skilled and qualified population within the Greater Shantallow Area, and a more informed, and capable C&V sector within the Greater Shantallow Area
<i>PRESERVING HEALTH</i>	Improved health and wellbeing of residents of all ages living in the Greater Shantallow Area
<i>PROVIDING FACILITIES</i>	Improved community life, new community infrastructure developed and maintained, and new and existing C&V sector groups based in the Greater Shantallow Area are developed and maintained so that they can be used by the local community

CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

Peter McDonald

As the Chair of the Greater Shantallow Area Partnership it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our 26th Annual General Meeting and share with you our accomplishments during the period 1st April 2020 to the 31st March 2021. Over the past year we have continued to strive to make the Greater Shantallow area a better place in which to live and work. This Annual Review sets out our work and achievements over the last year and outlines what we have achieved in helping to improve the quality of life of so many individuals both young and old and how we have helped to make the area a better place to live. Despite the uncertain environment, and in particular given the current health pandemic we remain focused on delivering and expanding our current services, whilst at the same time working to develop new services to meet the growing need and demand from our residents.

In these unprecedented times with the current health pandemic (COVID19) and economic context – in terms of rising prices of fuel and food, there are clear challenges for the GSAP and others to maintain high levels of performance in the coming years. We can achieve this by working together, sharing skills, knowledge and resources and by continuing to make a clear commitment to involving local people in community affairs and local decision-making including influencing service delivery. This year has clearly shown that despite the challenging and uncertain times, our community can successfully come together and address key local issues, such as the current health pandemic, community safety, community infrastructure, skills deficit, poverty of aspirations amongst our young people, environmental issues, food poverty, debt etc... With the continued support of the GSAP we together can grasp further opportunities that may arise from the Community Planning Process etc... so to support and enable our most disadvantaged individuals, families and neighbourhoods in the Greater Shantallow area.

Now, more than ever before, the continuing uncertainty around COVID19, BREXIT, welfare reform and ongoing cuts to public expenditure have and will continue to create many difficulties for individuals, families and our community. Now, more than ever before, GSAP together with local residents and the local C&V sector in the Greater Shantallow area must continue to work hard to sustain and develop our current services and where required bring forward new, ground breaking solutions thus helping to shape better citizen focused services in the future. Before I conclude, I would like to take this opportunity to praise local organisations for their continued responsive and unseen work, be it the women's sector, the youth sector, sporting organisations, community playgroups, the 50+ sector, early year providers, community arts organisations and residents associations. It goes without saying that the 'pulling together' of our sector and its resources during the recent lockdowns is worthy of high praise and acknowledgement. This work represents the backbone of our sector and continues to create opportunities and enhance the quality of life for so many of our people, especially our most vulnerable.

On behalf of the Board I'd like to extend our thanks to all those organisations and individuals we have worked and engaged with over the last year. Furthermore I would like to extend a sincere word of gratitude to all those funding bodies who have invested and continue to invest in the GSAP, and who have contributed to the on-going support work carried out by GSAP staff on a daily basis. Finally I would like to extend thanks to all my fellow Directors & staff for their hard work, commitment, dedication and endeavours throughout the past year.

Peter McDonald
Chairperson

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Rory McParland
Manager

We at GSAP are delighted to be hosting our 26th AGM. Over the year GSAP has continued to deliver a high quality '**community support service**' to local individuals and organisations who in themselves are working hard to improve the area and the quality of life for residents locally. Despite the ongoing health pandemic, the impact of BREXIT, and cuts in public expenditure this past year, GSAP has been able to sustain all our services.

Other notable achievements by GSAP throughout the year include;

- ❑ The delivery and support for the Ballyarnett DEA Community Support Team Helpline & Foodbank, led by GSAP from later March 2020 to March 2021, providing practical support during the COVID19 health pandemic, and in particular during the nationwide lockdowns;
- ❑ With a wide range of funding, donations/support we were able to provide **3,741 family (8062 people)** 7-day food parcels and personal/household hygiene products during the period up to 31st July 2020;
- ❑ As part of the **Connectivity Programme**, GSAP was able to purchase **281** computer devices (210 Chromebooks and 71 laptops) which were made available to our three local post primary schools (Thornhill College, St Brigid's College & St Columb's College) by the end of March 2021 to support digital inclusion amongst young people in the area;
- ❑ In early November GSAP reopened the Ballyarnett DEA Community Support Team helpline funded through the **DFC Access to Food programme** (lead by DC&SDC) and supported **538** families whose finances have been directly affected by COVID 19, made **244** direct referrals to the Foyle Foodbank for weekly food parcels. In addition, in January 2021 GSAP was able to distribute an additional **230** food vouchers to **228** families and **657** fuel vouchers to **419** families & purchase white goods for **14** families in need.
- ❑ Opening the doors to the new Skeoge Community Hub, on **10th August 2020** in partnership with APEX. GSAP with the financial support from Nationwide was able to employ a full-time housing & community coordinator to run a range of daily community services / activities for residents from the Skeoge area. Towards the end of March 2021, the GSAP was able to submit a new bid for funding (£460K) to the Big Lottery to continue this new initiative beyond August 2021. This 4-year initiative would lead to the employment of 4 new staff, the establishment of a community café, and the delivery of a range of family-based programmes / interventions, and a menu of community safety initiatives.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Rory McParland
Manager

Among the other stand out results for 2020/21 derived from our integrated local services included:

- ❑ **467** families (**467** adults and **445** children/young people) were able to access intervention/treatment services through the family support hub, and **84** of those young people were able to access specialist support to address their needs;
- ❑ **144** New Year 8 pupils attending St Brigid's College in September 2020 accessed a range of personal/social development and health programmes and resource packs;
- ❑ **191** local residents participated in healthy lifestyle programmes such as Tai Chi, Chair Aerobics, Walking Club, Personal Development, Swimming, Minding Me Programme, Restore Nutrition, Outdoor Boot camp, Yoga etc... thus reducing social isolation and improving their overall health and well-being;
- ❑ **1,021** young people attending local schools accessed a range of extended school programmes and services such as counselling, speech therapy, outdoor environmental education programmes and literacy and numeracy tuition etc...;
- ❑ **586** food (week supply) parcels donated by the four local Churches were distributed by GSAP to families in need across the area thus helping to reduce the impact of poverty and improve their quality of life. This is on top of the weekly food parcels / supplies delivered as part of the emergency food / access to food programme during the COVID19 health pandemic;

GSAP during the year continued to protect **16** existing local integrated local services managed by GSAP including: the Outer North Community Support Project, the secretariat of the Outer North Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership, the Shantallow Family Support Hub (ETHOS), the Greater Shantallow Talking To Our Babies Project, the ASPIRE Programme, the GSAP Skills North West programme; the Greater Shantallow Extended Schools Programme 2020/21 funded through the EA Extended Schools programme, the Outer North Families Connect Project, The Forge Digital Archive Hub, the Greater Shantallow Foodbank, Save the Children Emergency Grants Programme, Red Cross Hardship Fund, Outer North Digital Inclusion Programme, City Wide Food Pallet Scheme, the Citywide Connectivity Programme, the new Skeoge Community Hub at Clon Dara in partnership with APEX, and ONNP with financial support from the Nationwide Foundation, a local Pilot Wrap Around Education Support programme lead by DENI and funded through DOJ Tackling Paramilitarism programme and in response to Covid 19 continued the roll out of the Ballyarnett DEA Community Helpline and Foodbank – which provided support up to 31st March 2021.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Rory McParland
Manager

These achievements alongside continued work on the delivery of a new community centre in Galliagh, the opening of the newly constructed Shantallow Community Centre and the development of new community facilities for Skeoge – Skeoge Community Hub, demonstrate not only the importance of partnership working and collaboration but also the hard work, determination, capacity, and strength of our community & voluntary sector in the Greater Shantallow area.

In the year ahead the GSAP will continue to develop relationships with key agencies responsible for delivering services within the area and work with residents, local organisations, schools, community groups and statutory agencies to develop positive changes in the quality of life of disadvantaged families and neighbourhoods thus ensuring comprehensive social inclusion.

GSAP staff and Trustees will work hard to remain at the centre of local development. This will be achieved by working even more closely with local residents and community & voluntary groups in the area, remaining actively involved in the delivery of the new Ballyarnett Community Plan, the Derry City and Strabane District Council Area Strategic Growth Plan and the delivery of the Outer North Regeneration Plan, continuously identifying need and putting forward sound cases for investment and grasping opportunities that may arise from new Government policies and initiatives such as the City Deal.

We aim to continue to develop real partnerships between community groups and residents with statutory agencies and local government, so existing services are retained and new solutions, led by local people, can be found for important social problems. Overall, there have been many positive and significant achievements throughout the past year, detailed within the body of this report, which would not have been possible without the commitment of our dedicated Trustees and also of course our funders, -without whom we could not function. Details of our funders are found in the back of our report.

In conclusion I would like to thank all our affiliated groups, service providers and partner organisations for their continued support and for the positive, outward looking contribution they have made in the last year.

I would like to thank our existing staff members who have taken on new positions within GSAP including Jacqueline Butler, Sharon Jones and Nicola Mullan, who have worked extremely hard from the second they took up their new posts. I would also like to welcome Elisha McCallion, Caroline Ming, Cathy Green and Claire Durnin to GSAP, to wish Ciara Ferguson, Aine Harnett, Pat Carlin, Lorraine McWilliams, and Mary Mc Brearty, all the best in their new endeavours and finally to give a huge personal thank you to all the staff of GSAP who have remained steadfast to the organisation and have continued to provide a warm, friendly and professional service to all those who contact GSAP. – None of the above would be possible without you.

Rory McParland
Manager

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACTS 2020/21

*(An Active, Influential,
and Learning
Community)*



48 local community & voluntary groups provided with technical assistance support during the year;



26 local frontline workers provided with training and support to continue to provide a professional service to the local community;



6 local community & voluntary groups received advice, information and on-going support to register as a charity with the Charity Commission NI;



17 networking events organised and facilitated by GSAP staff during the year;



GSAP staff and Trustees represented the local C&V sector on 13 city-wide strategic bodies;

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACTS 2020/21

*(An Active, Influential,
and Learning
Community)*



A total of 55 volunteers were recruited and supported by GSAP staff to participate in a range of local events, programmes and initiatives;



GSAP staff provided ongoing support, guidance and advice to 40 local community & voluntary groups;



A total of 23 Electronic Newsflashes distributed to local community & voluntary sector during the year;



To date a total of 8,506 users of our web site – www.shantallow.net with 20,554 views, 2,389 Facebook followers, and 483 followers on Twitter;



7 local community & voluntary groups provided with support to complete 43 ACCESS NI checks;

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACTS 2020/21

*(An Active, Influential,
and Learning
Community)*



Ongoing support and assistance to bring forward a range of capital projects in the area, including the new refurbishment and development of Shantallow Community Centre, construction beginning on the Gallagh Community Centre and redevelopment plans for Boomhall Estate.



538 Beneficiaries of the Ballyarnett DEA Access to Food Project, with 228 families received food vouchers, 419 families received Fuel Vouchers, & 14 families received white goods.



GSAP Staff continued to protect 16 local integrated services, and support the development of 3 new local integrated services;



467 adults accessed intervention and treatment services via our Family Support Service – ETHOS;



445 children & young people provided with early intervention support (84 accessing specialist support);



Ballyarnett DEA Response to Covid 19 Pandemic



Like many communities/neighbourhoods across the NORTH local community/charitable organisations within the Greater Shantallow Area set up **The Ballyarnett DEA Community Support Team** on Monday 16th March 2020 to provide a co-ordinated, central, community response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The team comprised of a range of key community / charitable organisations within the Outer North / Ballyarnett DEA / Greater Shantallow area who redeployed all their existing staff/volunteers, premises and resources to help address the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis in the area. – the relationships built up over many years meant we could mobilise very quickly.

From mid-March 2020 we were all committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of our local community and our most vulnerable individuals/families and worked with all relevant agencies including DC&SDC, DfC, DoH, NIHE, DE/Youth Service, Housing Associations, local businesses, local politicians/councillors, local care homes, local pre-school, primary and secondary schools in the area etc to minimise as much as possible the spread and effects of the COVID-19 infection – intervening as early as possible to ensure that our most vulnerable residents were equipped to deal with the situation.

With all our donations/support we were able to provide **3,741 family (8,062 people)** 7 day food parcels and personal/household hygiene products during the period 16th March to 31st July 2020. Fuel vouchers and baby supplies where also provided when necessary.

**Community
Resilience
Programme**

PROGRAMME REVIEW

Ballyarnett DEA Response to Covid 19 Pandemic

The Community Recovery Plan was developed to deal with COVID-19 challenges – this included meeting the existing need of the community and any new issues that were arising due to the restrictions imposed during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Over **£25000** was invested to assist the C&V Sector within the Ballyarnett DEA with its recovery – ensuring that community venues were safe and operational for the delivery of a range of community services as restrictions eased and we were able to programme more face to face / in-person activities. This included:

- The purchase of **15** Fogging Machines (+ cleaning product) to assist and ensure that 15 community venues were safe and operational for the delivery of a range of community services and when opening up to the general public as Covid19 restrictions eased.
- **2** x I.T. Pods were established in **9** community venues to address digital poverty. These were established at Galliagh Residents Centre (OSCY), GSAP Offices, Northside, LCA – Skeoge House, Rainbow Child & Family Centre – Galliagh, Resource Centre Derry – Carnhill, SCRA – Shantallow , Skeoge Community Hub – Clon Dara, Studio 2 / GSCA and Victoria Hall – CCP / Culmore.
- Adaptation works within **2** community venues - ensuring they were compliant with H&S (Covid19 Guidelines). These small 'adaptation works' ensured that 2 community venues were able to deliver a full range of supports to residents. Physical enhancement work to Galliagh Residents Centre - specifically a heating system allowed services to be run in a socially distanced manner, with a particular focus on youth engagement via On Street Community Youth. Also work to Studio 2 (Greater Shantallow Community Arts) has specifically improved access / internal flow and the establishment of a one-way system and thus the facility is better equipped to provide services.



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Community Recovery Programme

Ballyarnett DEA Response to Covid 19 Pandemic

The Access To Food programme was opened in **November 2020** when additional funding was secured from the Department of Communities in response to the emergency within communities suffering as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic.

- **244** families accessed food parcels for 1 to 6 weeks
- **228** families accessed food vouchers
- **419** families accessed fuel vouchers
- With a total of **657** fuel vouchers for oil, gas, electricity, coal distributed.
- **14** white goods were also distributed.

“Everything has been fantastic and made a big impact”
“The help was excellent, as at the time I was not working and struggling with bills, so it was a God send.”
“It was a lifeline, I found out about it on Facebook, made a major difference. Thank you so much.”
“The food parcels & oil helped so much as we were struggling this year being confined to the house since March. Thank you all so much.”



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Access to Food

Ballyarnett DEA Response to Covid 19 Pandemic

Our City Together - Digital Inclusion Campaign

Since early May 2020 GSAP were made aware that many of our young children living within the Ballyarnett DEA and all areas of the city have not been able to continue their learning, due to the lack of IT equipment and access to broadband within their home.

The local Covid 19 Ballyarnett DEA Community Support Team and ETHOS Family Support Hub were also been inundated with requests from individuals and families ringing our community helpline, contacting the local ETHOS family Support Hub and contacting the school principals for IT support so their children could access google classroom, online learning resources etc.

As a result, GSAP Lead by Pat Carlin 'GSAP Family Connect' Co-ordinator made an appeal to acquire laptops, reconditioned **or new** for all **children and young people in our City who** were impacted upon by Digital Poverty.

To date, through support from Ulster University & Santander Universities, Allstate, Save the Children/Panasonic, Lisahally Power Station, Seagate, Sister Deirdre Mullan, and a number of other private donations we have been able to distribute laptops to local schools for distribution to children and young people in need. The success of this campaign has only been made possible by the generosity of so many individuals, organisations and companies. A big thank you to all for everything you have done for us. You have made the difference in the lives of someone by your act of kindness. Ours is the City of generosity and care.

Ballyarnett DEA Connect Programme (February 2021)

In February 2021, through DC&SDC's Covid 19 Community Support programme (CSP), funded by the Department for Communities, GSAP on behalf of the local Ballyarnett DEA Strategic Growth Partnership and in partnership with St Brigid's College, Thornhill College, and St Columb's College were able to collectively secure **281** new Chromebooks and Laptops that were distributed to the 3 post primary schools to assist young people's access to digital resources within the Ballyarnett DEA.



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Connectivity Programme

Extended Schools Initiative

GSAP Core community development staff managed the delivery of the Outer North Extended Schools Programme. This is a key programme in supporting pupils and parents who attend pre-school, primary and post primary schools in the Outer North Area. The programmes delivered this year included an outdoor environmental education programme, counselling, speech and language face to face delivery, speech and language take home activity packs, Primary school literacy and numeracy support, Post Primary school literacy and numeracy support, Forest Schools and Adventure play and a new programme to support children/parent's mental health throughout the pandemic called Hip, Hope Hurray- a mental health programme app. A total of **1,021** pupils benefitted this year from these key projects.



ASPIRE NI

ASPIRE NI is a unique education programme working in partnership with St Brigid's College and targets all Year 8 pupils within the school. It aims to promote social and personal development, improve literacy and numeracy achievement and to increase the pupil's desire and belief to succeed both inside and outside school. This year as face to face delivery was not possible the children were supported with various take home activity packs including Halloween decoration packs, Mini Professor Science Club pack, Christmas Cookie packs, Football challenge, Easter Art activities, Grow Your Own vegetable kit, and a unique Mindfulness pack providing the tools for pupils to address their anxiety and stress through relaxation techniques, resources and exercises. A total of **144 pupils benefitted this year and 32 parents engaged in parenting skills programmes.**



Talking to our Babies Early Intervention Programme

Talking to Our Babies has continued to provide vital support to parents and carers within our community in enabling them to gain a deeper understanding of how babies and children aged 0-3 years develop language. The programme continued delivery during lockdown providing key activities to parents and carers looking after children on a full time basis at home. **828** children benefitted from Early Years programmes and activities including online Mini Professors Rhyme time, Baby Sensory, Play Together, Learn Together, Seasonal craft packs, Seasonal "Share a Story, Share a Smile" and later several programmes were delivered face to face according to Covid 19 guidelines.



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Relieving Poverty

Greater Shantallow Food Bank

Greater Shantallow Area Partnership has continued to work with 'The Four Churches' in order to provide food parcels to families most in need within the area. This is a service which has been greatly welcomed by local residents, many who face financial difficulty and poverty on a day to day basis. This is a confidential facility used to aid our clients who find that they are struggling to provide adequately for their families. This year our staff provided **586 food parcels**.



Financial Support and Guidance

During the year March 2020 to April 2021 our Family Support Service(ETHOS) provided financial support, guidance and assistance to **475 families**, an **increase of 148 families**. This is undoubtedly due to the increased financial struggles facing local families due to the Covid Pandemic with increased benefit cuts and increased costs in household bills with families being at home more. The team offered vouchers to access groceries and household essential items, fuel vouchers and 12 laptops for families who had children studying at home.



ETHOS – Family Support Service

Our ETHOS Family Support Hub has continued to provide critical support to families in the Greater Shantallow Area throughout the pandemic over the 2020-2021 period. This year in particular has seen an increase in referrals and programmes carried out by the ETHOS team in an attempt to ease the strains caused to families by the Covid-19 crisis. **476 adults** have accessed intervention/treatments, almost double the target due to the huge rise in referrals for financial support and services during the pandemic. **445 young people** have benefitted from the project, a figure that is double the target also due to issues caused to families during the pandemic. This year our staff have continued to work with many local providers, engaging with **76 organisations / providers** and **58 parents and carers** engaged in parenting skills and development programmes.



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Relieving Poverty

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACTS 2020/21

*(An Active, Influential,
and Learning
Community)*



541 Parents / carers accessed parenting skills development programmes;



144 year 8 pupils attending St. Brigid's College accessed a range of personal / social development and health initiatives;



312 parents of children aged 0 to 3 years participated in a range of early intervention / parenting support programmes;



37 parents completed non-specific training and 74 parents completed job specific training;



828 children (aged 0 to 3 years) participated in a range of early intervention programmes through GSAP's Talking to our Babies initiative;

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACTS 2020/21

*(An Active, Influential,
and Learning
Community)*



139 parents / carers ; and 139 children and young people participated in our Families Connect programme;



800 Save the Children and Peppa Pig packs were delivered to local schools and families in the community in the new Skeoge housing development.



A total of 191 local residents participated in healthy lifestyle programmes, reducing social isolation and improving health and wellbeing;



1,021 young people accessed our extended schools programmes and initiatives;



102 residents participated in our locally based employment support programme – Skills North West;

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACTS 2020/21

*(An Active, Influential,
and Learning
Community)*



£104,757.03 secured for local Community & Voluntary Groups;



A total of 910 presenting issues dealt with by our Family Support Service with referrals to 76 providers;



108 qualifications gained by clients on our Skills North West Employment Support Programme;



355 pupils accessed the Hip, Hope Hurray App to help reduce anxiety in children during the pandemic.



87 Families supported as a result of the Skeoge Community Hub Nationwide Programme.



Networking and Event Management

During this year our Networking and Events took place in various forms including through online resources and socially distanced events held outdoors. Our team at the Skeoge Community Hub arranged an outdoor summer fun day, and outdoor cinema night and a Santa Bus to drive through the Skeoge area over 2 nights before Christmas. GSAP was also represented at numerous networking events such as the launch of the DC&SDC City Deal & Inclusive Future Event, the Taoiseach Shared Island Dialogue Event and the DENI Expert Panel meeting.



Greater Shantallow / Outer North Annual Clean Up

This year the GSAP has continued to support Derry City and Strabane District Council in the delivery of the annual community clean-up initiative in the Greater Shantallow / Outer North area. With the support of a range of community and voluntary groups, and in particular Team Works Shantallow a total of **65 Tons** of household materials / waste was collected across the area during July and August 2020..



Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund

The aim of the ONNP is “To help close the gap between the quality of life for people in our most deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of society”. A diverse range of projects have been delivered across the area under the remit of community, social, economic and physical renewal. These projects have been developed in such a way that they address the issues of disadvantage whilst at the same time encouraging as much direct input from local people as possible. In the 20/21 year Neighbourhood Renewal has provided specific **Funding (approx. £1m)** to a range of service providers, primarily from the local C&V sector. Specifically **£423k** for Community Renewal Initiatives, **£404k** for Social Renewal Initiatives and **£183k** for Physical Renewal Initiatives These financial resources have met salary, overhead and programme costs and in many instances acted as a catalyst to secure financial resources from other funding bodies.



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Relieving Poverty

Skills North West – Employment Support Programme

Skills North West offers support to those who are unemployed or are economically inactive through various community hubs across the city. Our hub here at GSAP offers a wide range of services including one to one mentoring, individual needs based training, employability workshops with employer targeted training and guaranteed interview. For the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021, our employment and mentoring staff has supported **141 individuals**, and has helped them gain a total of **153 qualifications (Oct'20 to Mar'21)** in food hygiene, domiciliary care, CSR, paediatric first aid, plant induction, plant construction, child protection & safeguarding, etc... this year. Our staff have also enabled **33 clients** gain employment, and **8 clients** to enter further education & training.



Access NI Checks

The GSAP continues to act as a registered body (umbrella group) for Access NI. Our staff provide organisations, companies, self employed people, and individuals with a speed and professional service for vetting. Our staff handle many aspects of the vetting procedure, supporting, advising and guiding both organisations and individuals through the application process. This year our staff completed **49 applications** and worked with **16 organisations / companies**.



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Relieving Poverty

Funding Advice & Support

The provision of a comprehensive funding advice / support service continues to be a key element of GSAP's work. Despite funding cutbacks / pressures on government departments, during the year staff continued to offer advice and practical support and assistance on fundraising [application processes], tendering and how to best maximise funding opportunities from Government agencies, charitable trusts, grant making organisations and European funds. Despite these funding pressures, the GSAP has facilitated and assisted numerous community development proposals and community group funding applications throughout the year. Over the course of the year GSAP has facilitated a total of **19** local groups / organisations / initiatives to make applications to a range of funding bodies and has resulted in groups securing funding totalling **£104,757** from bodies such as:- Awards for All; Children in Need, Big Lottery – Supporting Families Fund, CYPSP, ON Arts and Culture, DCSDC Emergency Covid Fund, Sport NI, Nationwide, Halifax, Screen NI, Screwfix, Community Relations Council, Derry City and Strabane District Council Good Relations and Grant Aid, Education Authority (Extended Schools).

Capacity Building Support

The GSAP continues to provide capacity building support to local community groups / organisations and specifically has supported interventions in the form of initiatives, projects, facilities, services and community development programmes. Through 'Capacity Building' measures, our staff assisted groups / organisations within the Greater Shantallow / Outer North area to be more capable and therefore more successful in seeking whatever help and assistance necessary to implement projects, initiatives and programmes that address their issues and concerns. This support has helped develop the local community infrastructure to ensure effective and efficient targeting and use of government and other related funding. During the year capacity building and technical support provided by GSAP to local groups has covered the following areas: - development of internal policies, staff handbooks, community surveys, facilitating meetings, planning/supporting recruitment and selection procedures, drafting press releases, managing procurement processes, Access NI checks, project monitoring and evaluation, designing leaflets/posters/annual reports, costing projects/services, managing volunteers, financial management, support with PAYE Procedures (RTI), developing tender documentation, setting up management accounts, research, compiling statistics, developing exit strategies, support with applications to the Charity Commission (NI).



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Advancing Education

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACTS 2020/21

*(An Active, Influential,
and Learning
Community)*



31 local organisations / agencies engaged to support the delivery of our ASPIRE NI Programme during the year;



144 Aspire pupils received a bespoke take home Mindfulness Kit to help pupils recognise their feelings of anxiety and stress, the pack contained relaxation methods/pamper treats and a specialised book for Teens called Breath Out.



144 pupils from St. Brigid's College took part in healthy lifestyle projects;



61 Ton of household waste collected this year during the annual Outer North Clean Up Campaign;



GSAP Staff engaged with a total of 39 local providers / agencies / organisations to help deliver new programmes and initiatives in the area;

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACTS 2020/21

*(An Active, Influential,
and Learning
Community)*



121 local people received training in community development & capacity building during the year;



51 adult education qualifications gained during the year via our core community support programme;



62 young people benefited from youth inclusion & diversionary programmes in 2019 / 20;



A total of 92 local providers engaged in the delivery of our Families Connect Programme, including schools, training providers, statutory partners;



34 gained a qualification through our Skills North West Programme;

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACTS 2020/21

*(An Active, Influential,
and Learning
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26 full time / part time jobs secured as a result of participation on our Skills North West Programme;



204 soft skills acquired by participants on our Skills North West Programme;



467 adults accessed interventions/treatments with our Family Support Service.



100% of referrals to Family Support Service dealt within minimum required time period of 4 weeks;



25 Agencies making referrals to Family Support Service during the year;

Cross Community Programmes – Forget Me Not Project

GSAP together with Cornshell Community Network, Northside 50+ and the Forge Writers Group developed a community relations project to capture and record information and stories from the local area in digital form before it would be lost or forgotten. Interviews with older people in the Shantallow Area took place in January 2021 where they discussed their personal experiences and what life was like growing up around the time that Shantallow was incorporated into the Londonderry corporation in the early 1950s. A quote from one story “It’s a hard hard life”:

“In my brothers and sisters younger days we all had our share of helping to clean the house at the weekend. The boys had to clean the range every Saturday, it was not an easy job as the range was used all week for cooking the dinner, and any baking that was done. On the range also was a big kettle where you would always have boiling water. My brothers Jack(14 years old) and Jim (13 years old)were the eldest in the family so they had to help out a lot with other jobs around the house such as bringing in coal and coke to keep the range burning so that the heat would stay in the house. Their pocket money, 1 shilling, on a Saturday night took them to the pictures, the City in William Street and a bag of chips between them which they bought in Maggie Friel’s fish shop.”



Cross Community Programmes – Teach Na Failte

With the Centenary of Partition approaching, GSAP supported Teach Na Failte in planning a series of study visits and workshops to mark the centenary of partition and the establishment of the Northern parliament. They studied the context around partition and the boundary commission, addressing the issues of the Unionist identity across the century and examining the idea of ‘Britishness’ or ‘Northern Irishness’ and discussed their own perspectives on the state’s establishment and evolution. Due to Covid restrictions the project took place over several zoom sessions with noted academics and community activists.

PROGRAMME REVIEW

Advancing Education

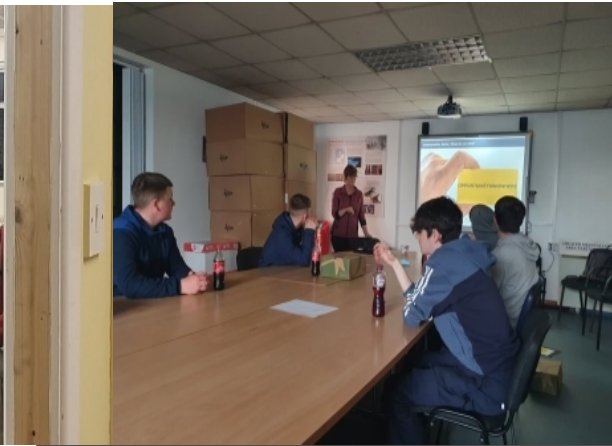
DENI WRAP AROUND PROJECT

Our Pilot WRAP Educational Support Programme 2020/2021 is run locally in partnership with Shantallow Community Residents Association, Rainbow Child & Family Centre, ETHOS Family Support Hub & On the Streets Youth Initiative within the Ballyarnett DEA. The programme encompasses six (6) programmes: Youth Pre-employment, Family Therapy Intervention, YES, Youth Engagement, Mini Questioning and Solihull Training. By March 2021, **330** young people (30 young people engaged face to face and 300 Year 10 pupils received YES recorded video and packs when they returned to school on 12th April 2021).

25 schools/groups working collaboratively: **7** community groups: GSAP, SCRA, RC&FC, OSCY, ETHOS, Skills North West, Chamber of Commerce, **9** primary schools/**3** Nursery schools/**3** post primary schools and **3** community playgroups have been contacted to refer onto programmes **6** programmes completed

46 preschool children completed mini Questioning

63 parents/carers supported directly through Mini Questioning (38 parents) & Mindfulness (13 parents) & Solihull (12 parents).

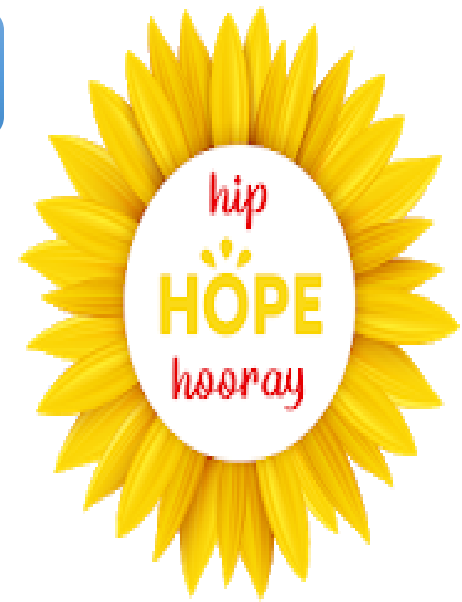


PROGRAMME REVIEW

Advancing
Education

Families Connect

Families Connect is an evidence-based programme supporting families to help their children succeed in school and live within strengthened family environments. By establishing early partnerships between families, schools & communities, FACT empowers parents to help their children learn and removes obstacles that prevent children succeeding at school. FACT has built upon the FAST (Families & Schools Together) - a Save the Children signature project, designed to improve the relationship between classroom learning & the home learning environment. Families Connect's long-term aim (targeted at children between 4-6 years) is to give children a greater chance of achieving their potential and do better in school – with evidence suggesting that positive home learning environments contribute to children's readiness to learn and positively impact on children's educational outcomes. This year due to the Covid 19 pandemic Families Connect could not be delivered in school so all workshop resources were made available online to parents. **800 take home activity packs** were provided to support parents at our partner schools and for families living in the Skeoge area. An App called Hip, Hope Hurray was also developed as an extra support for parents to help families focus on the development of hope as a skill to deal with their children's anxieties and the trauma of lockdown and reduce the fear of returning to school.



Community Education Initiatives

A key element of GSAP's core community support role is to provide local residents with access to both formal and non formal training and education programmes and courses. This year we continued to offer our training programmes adhering to Covid 19 guidelines, offering online training and where possible socially distanced classes. **121 people** availed of the programmes on offer. Education programmes this year included CSR, Hip Hope Hurray(mental health programme),First Aid, Manual Handling, Child Protection, AED training, Autism Awareness, Covid 19 Return to Work Toolkit, Infection Control, Mindfulness Training, Happy Mental Health, Hopeful Minds for parents and Hopeful Minds Train the Trainer.



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Advancing Education

Northside 50+

This year the GSAP continued to provide support to our very popular Northside 50+ group despite the group being unable to meet face to face due to the vulnerability of members. Our staff supported the group with the planning and coordination of a full suite of programmes that could take place online, applying for funding, managing the group's finances and budgets, and arranging facilitators. GSAP Assisted with a ring around service for club members to ensure everyone was coping during lockdown. The club also moved to 2 days online to help to improve the quality of life of individuals, and to reduce social isolation during the pandemic. Throughout the year the club offered activities 5 days a week to meet the need of members. Not all members could access online clubs and so they were provided with DVDs of online exercises and classes they could follow at home. Programmes this year included aerobics, knitting and crochet, painting and drawing, book club, Tai Chi, dance, flower arranging, health and wellbeing programme, art classes, etc. The group particularly enjoyed their weekly art session via zoom where GSAP purchased art supplies on behalf of the group and facilitator Tommy Long delivered art classes and set assignments for the ladies. "I'd have been lost without the classes on the computer, especially in the winter. At least you could go for a walk in the good weather, but you're stuck inside in the winter. The club and the classes online, I always had something to do, people to talk to. It's stops you getting lonely and doting, it's important to keep the mind sharp."

Schools Counselling Support Programme

With funding secured through the Extended Schools Programme, the GSAP was able to offer all of our primary and post primary schools access to an early intervention counselling programme. As a result of funding this year a total of **24 pupils** were able to avail of the early intervention counselling support programme. This year our counselling support service dealt with a wide range of issues including anger management, emotions and frustrations, bereavement, anxiety management, support with difficult family environments, parental illness, and separation anxiety. Pupils and families members were also given the opportunity to learn positive techniques that enabled them to develop strategies to improve positive thinking.



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Preserving Health



Skeoge Community Hub

In the reporting year 20/21 Skeoge Community Hub, in partnership with Nationwide, delivered a new housing project for the community of the Skeoge developments of Clon Dara and Clon Elagh. This project set out to assist new residents in forming a positive sense of identity and belonging to their new community, offering support services to prevent them from losing their homes and opening a new resident led community hub.

As a result of funding from Nationwide our Housing and Community Co-ordinator developed a wraparound personalised support programme for families in the area. **87** families received a total of **201** food parcels, **31** families accessed Save the Children Emergency Support grants.

A further **178** families accessed the programmes and services offered at the new Skeoge Community Hub.

The project delivered a series of activities for families in the housing estate including a family fun day on 14th of August 2020 accessed by **60** families, an outdoor cinema night on 15th August accessed by **50** families, street games and sports day for **25** children on 21st August, a Santa bus visited the estate and **over 600** households, **100 children** received a Christmas Eve activity pack and **10 families** received a luxury Christmas hamper.



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Providing Facilities

Information Dissemination

A core element of GSAP's work is to continually inform local groups, individuals, and residents about a range of community issues. This year the GSAP has continued to provide information in a range of formats including, information leaflets to residents/groups, newsheets that cover a range of events and services including local training/education programmes, open days, clean up campaigns, fun days, extended school activities, public services, campaigns, consultation events, public meetings, information workshops, new local and available services etc... GSAP continues to regularly update the community notice board for the general public who drop into the office for advice, information, support, meetings etc... and we forward the info/posters etc... to around 30 local premises within the area including parish halls, the local shopping mall at Northside, local shops, health centre, schools, local C&V groups for them to display. GSAP's '**electronic newsflash**' continues to be a vital resource to local groups / organisations and is a very cost effective tool for updating local groups and individuals on a range of community issues. **This year the GSAP distributed 23 electronic newsflashes.**



Technical Assistance

During the year the GSAP also provided extensive **Technical Assistance** to over **40** existing / new local groups / organisations / projects, Outer North NR Partnership, Leafair Men's Health, Leafair Community Association Galliagh Women's Group, On Street Youth Initiative, Cornshell Community Network, Angels Recruitment, St. Joseph's Community Playgroup, Pennyburn Community Playgroup, Aurora Counselling, Northside 50+, Extended Schools Cluster Groups (Outer North), Teach Na Failte, Foyle Harps FC, Culmore Community Partnership, Hilltop Day Nursery, Hollybush Daycare Nursery, Carnhill Community Association, Rainbow Child & Family Centre, NHIP, Glenabbey Community Association, Bay Road Park Steering Committee, The Forge Writers Club, St Brigid's Women's Group, Don Bosco's FC, Elite Community Gym, Skeoge House Women's Group, Naiscoil Na Dherog, Gailscoil Na Dherog, Skeoge Community Hub, Feis Dhoire Cholmcille, Life After Group, Culmore Women's Handcraft Group, Twisters Gymnastics, St Joseph's Amateur Boxing Club, Headliners, Naiscoil Cholmcille, Praxis Connect Services, Net Ministries Ireland, Galliagh Community Centre, Spartans AC, Trojans Football Club, Legion of Mary etc...



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Providing Facilities

Physical Regeneration Initiatives

In the 2020 / 21 period the ONNP has supported the Physical Renewal agenda within Outer North, helping to progress a range of capital projects to a more advanced state of readiness through feasibility studies, economic appraisals, planning applications, design stage, land acquisition, [statutory] permissions / approvals and funding leveraged.

Support for key projects which have been completed, are currently under construction or have made significant progress in the past year include:

- Completion and launch of the Leafair Pavilion
- Refurbishment and redevelopment of the Shantallow Community Centre
- Construction Work on the new Galliagh Community Centre
- Progression on plans / permissions for the new Culmore Community Centre
- Progression on proposed new Skeoge Youth Centre (Clon Dara site)
- Further promotion of concept masterplans for the Galliagh Linear Park and the Belmont Campus
- Progression of pitch developments at Steelstown Brian Óg's GAC, Na Magha Hurling Club and within the Culmore Country Park
- Redevelopment Plans for Boomhall Estate (including house)
- Progression of the NW Greenways Infrastructure (Derry to Culmore / Muff and Derry to Bunrana routes)
- Nature Based Catchment / Sustainable Drainage linked to A2 Bunrana Road
- Infrastructure linked to the proposed North Townlands Heritage Trail
- Progress on the Ballyarnett Country Park and Culmore Country Park Masterplans
- Refurbishment and launch of the Victoria Hall (Culmore)
- Ballynagard Field Environmental Improvements Scheme
- Improvements to Rainbow CFC (additional carparking and fence line), Leafair Pavilion (additional carparking), Galliagh Residents Centre and refurbishment of St. Joseph's Community Playgroup
- Development of a number of proposals linked to the Ballyarnett Re-Imaging Project



PROGRAMME REVIEW

Providing Facilities

GREATER SHANTALLOW AREA PARTNERSHIP	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
INCOME FROM GENERATING FUNDS			
Income from Donations and Legacies	23,973	879,067	903,040
Income from Other Trading Activities	18,356	63,028	81,384
Other Income	4,000	-	4,000
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TOTAL INCOME	46,329	942,095	988,424
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RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Staff Costs	6,415	435,258	441,673
Establishment Costs	8,414	52,811	61,225
Motor & Travelling Expenses	482	342	824
Auditor's Remuneration & Accountancy Fees	1,040	2,740	3,780
Legal & Professional Fees	1,452	-	1,452
Communications & ICT	2,589	2,708	5,297
Other Office Expenses	7,752	12,806	20,558
Interest Payable & Similar Charges	746	-	746
Depreciation & Impairment	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Expenses	2,613	-	2,613
Donations	-	-	-
Project Costs	-	435,430	435,430
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TOTAL EXPENDITURE	31,503	942,095	973,598
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Net Income / (expense) for the year	14,826	-	14,826
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Total Funds Brought Forward	113,661	4,489	118,150
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TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	128,487	4,489	132,976
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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

**1st APRIL 2020 –
31st MARCH 2021**

Rory McParland	Manager
Jacqueline Butler	Community Development Manager
Darren Kirby	Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy Manager
Lorraine McWilliams	Projects Development Officer
Chris McDonagh	Community Support Officer
Pat Carlin	Project Coordinator – Families Connect
Sharon Jones	Project Coordinator – ASPIRE N
Natalie Logue	Project Coordinator – Talking to our Babies
Nicola Mullan	Project Coordinator – Skeoge Community Hub
Elisha McCallion	Project Support Worker – Skeoge Community Hub
Caroline	Café Links Projects Development Worker – Skeoge Community Hub
Ming	Café Links Project Worker – Skeoge Community Hub
Catherine Green	Café Links Project Worker – Skeoge Community Hub
Minty Thompson	Senior Employment & Mentoring Officer
Claire Durnin	Employment & Mentoring Officer
Rose McCrossan	Family Support Coordinator - ETHOS
Teresa Tierney	Family Support Worker - ETHOS
Laura Collins	Project Coordinator – Families Connect / Monitoring Officer - ETHOS
Tina Doolin	Administrator & Receptionist

GSAP STAFF

GREATER SHANTALLOW AREA PARTNERSHIP TRUSTEES

PETER MCDONALD	TRUSTEE & CHAIRPERSON
CATHAL MCCAULEY	TRUSTEE & COMPANY SECRETARY
SANDRA DUFFY	TRUSTEE & VICE CHAIRPERSON
ELAINE YOUNG	TRUSTEE & SECRETARY
CHARLIE MCDAID	TRUSTEE & PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
MARTIN CONNOLLY	TRUSTEE & TREASURER
TONY HASSAN	TRUSTEE
BRIAN TIERNEY	TRUSTEE
MARIE GILLESPIE	TRUSTEE
VIVIENE LYNOTT	TRUSTEE
MICHAEL DOYLE	TRUSTEE
ROSIE DOHERTY	TRUSTEE
BRIAN O'NEILL	TRUSTEE



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District Council**
Comhairle Chathair
Dhoire & Cheantar
an tSraitha Bain
Derry Cittie & Strabane
Destrack Council

Greater Shantallow Area Partnership Annual Review 2020-2021

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