



## RAISE Dungannon & Coalisland Locality Reference Group Terms of Reference

### Background

The RAISE Programme is a whole community, place-based approach to tackling educational disadvantage in 15 localities across Northern Ireland supporting the Department of Education's vision that *"Every child and young person is Happy, Learning and Succeeding"*.

The RAISE Programme helps to deliver on the mission, set by the report *'A Fair Start'* to ensure all children and young people regardless of background are given the best start in life, with the strategic objectives of:

- Raising **achievement** and addressing educational disadvantage; and
- Raising **aspirations** through a whole community approach to education.

A key tenet of the community-informed RAISE Programme is the establishment of a Locality Reference Group. It is envisaged there will be one group in each locality<sup>1</sup>.

### Remit of the Group

Whilst the Locality Co-Ordinator will facilitate the development of the Strategic Area Plan, the Plan is owned by the locality and the Locality Reference Group. On behalf of the RAISE Locality, the Locality Reference Group will have a critical role in informing, shaping and developing the Strategic Area Plan for submission to the Department of Education.

On an ongoing basis the group will have a role in engaging with the Locality Co-Ordinator in relation to progressing the plan, identifying issues that may need actioned and ongoing information provision and liaising with stakeholders in relation to tackling educational disadvantage/barriers to education.

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<sup>1</sup> To avoid duplication of effort and where complementarity exists, it may be appropriate in some localities for the Locality Reference Group to be integrated into existing community based structures. If so, a specific RAISE agenda item will be in their meeting and the terms of reference applied.

The Locality Reference Group **will not** make decisions on funding. Decisions on the funding of locality led projects will be made by the RAISE Programme Board.

## Membership

Membership of the Locality Reference Group is not fixed and will vary according to circumstances and locality requirements. It is expected that groups may include representation from strategic networks in the locality, community and voluntary sector groups delivering services in the locality, Churches and Faith groups, early years settings, schools and other educational institutions settings, private sector interests and residents' groups as appropriate. Experts and others may be invited to join discussions on specific projects or activities. The Locality Reference Group should however be reflective of the locality.

New members may be added to the Group following consideration of the content of the Strategic Area Plan and any gaps in representation identified. Decisions on adding new members will be a matter for the Locality Co-Ordinator in consultation with existing members.

Current membership of the Locality Reference Group for RAISE Dungannon & Coalisland is attached at **Annex A**.

## Role of the Locality Reference Group

- To inform, shape, develop the Strategic Area Plan on behalf of the locality, for submission to the Department of Education.
- To provide relevant advice, evidence, information and data to the Locality Co-Ordinator in relation to the locality, including knowledge of other local initiatives being delivered in the area.
- To ensure the feedback from the consultation and engagement with children, young people and parents is considered in developing the Strategic Area Plan.
- To work with the Locality Co-Ordinator to identify any emerging issues and needs that may need factored into the Strategic Area Plan.
- To play a key role in supporting the delivery of the Strategic Area Plan, including identifying relevant issues impacting the Plan's delivery Locality Co-Ordinator.
- To engage with activities associated with the RAISE Programme and encourage participation from stakeholders across the locality.
- To assist with the promotion of the RAISE Programme across the locality and support the consistency of messaging in delivery of the Programme's two strategic objectives.

- To act as a conduit for other Departments/Agencies for engagement on relevant issues relating to educational disadvantage.

### **Frequency of Meetings**

The Locality Reference Group will meet as regularly as required to support the development of the Strategic Area Plan. Locality Co-Ordinators will agree with the Reference Group the frequency of meetings during the delivery phase.

It is proposed that the Locality Co-Ordinator will facilitate these meetings, will provide secretariat support for the group and maintain a record of its meetings.



## *DUNGANNON & COALISLAND*

### **RAISE Dungannon & Coalisland Locality Reference Group Membership**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Jillian Greer	Early Years	Manager	Early Years
Judith Thompson	Early Years	Manager	Early Years
David Thompson	Primary School	Principal	Primary School
Colin Holmes	Post Primary School	Current Chair - ALC	Post Primary School
Martina Totten	Council – Social Inclusion	Social Inclusion Officer	Council – Social Inclusion
Lorraine Griffin	Locality Planning	Manager/Locality Chair	Locality Planning
Deirdre Mc Aliskey	Community	Policy Manager	Community
Frances Marshall	Community	Project Manager	Community
Shane Mc Donald	Youth	Youth Worker	Youth
Sean Murray	Post 16	Boost Project worker	Post 16
Geraldine Mc Veigh	Post 16	Going Places Lead Mentor	Post 16