**Disability Consultation Focus Group - Friday 6th March 2022**

A focus group took was hosted by Compass Advocacy Network second base group day opportunities adults -Attendees were all over the age of 18 years old with a learning disability, autism and/or mental health support needs.

The focus group took place on Friday 6th March 2022 at from 10.30am-11.30am. In attendance was 10 adult and one support worker and 2 voluunteers.

* 8 male and 2 females
* 3 individuals aged between ages 18-30 years and 7 individuals aged between 31-50
* All 10 attendees said they had a disability. All have been referred through social workers to this service due to individual needs.

**Disabilities included:**  Learning disabilities, Communication disabilities, ADHD and Autism.

**When asked do you know what a crime is?**

Participants answered that they knew most crimes.

**When asked why the following examples where given:**

Using the phoning while driving, Hate crime when people are different sexes or because of colour or disability, Drugs, Smoking, Alcohol, Speeding, Criminal damage, Hackers, Identity stealing, Taking bank accounts, bullying, online trolls, Hackers, rape, harassment, murder, graffiti.

**When asked when they feel safe?**

* 5 said they always feel safe in their home
* 5 said they sometimes feel safe in their home
* 2 said they always feel safe in their community
* 5 said they sometimes feel safe in their community

**Comments about feeling safe and unsafe included:**

**Safe**

* Feel safe if people know me
* I talk to my mum and dad
* My windows and doors are locked

**Unsafe**

* There was a car on fire in the estate one time
* Arguments and shouting
* Hearing noises
* Stories on the news
* Shop got robbed
* Nervous when I don’t know people
* Unsafe in area I don’t know
* Burglaries in the area
* I went missing as I did a bad thing and didn’t tell my parents I where I was going and got mixed up.

**When asked do you have someone you can always contact if you do not feel safe?**

10 replied Yes

Comments: Social worker, friends and family, Day opportunities, CAMHS

**When asked do you know how to report crime?**

All participants answered yes. Support worker answer that in a situation many may not and need additional support.

**Comments:** Phone Police, Ring 999.

**When asked what would help you report a crime?**

* Helpful to report by text
* To know the police
* Police to understand about disabilities

Other comments:

* I would be scared I would be arrested
* Sometimes maybe the police are not good
* I was harassed online and it was reported to police and it help it to stop
* Scared they wouldn’t believe me

**What would help you feel safe in your home and community.**

* Camera at duck pond (Ballymoney Riverside park)
* Stop fights and groups of people.
* Stop drinking and drugs and cussing
* Cameras
* Alarms
* Having someone to help you stop worrying
* More police
* Learn about disabilities – have easy read/signs to help
* Cards with easy read/signs
* More Councillors (the participant was talking about election taking place the day before focus group)