

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Regional Sub Group on Young Carers

22nd November 2012

Present:	Billy McMillan (Co-Chair) Paul McCormack Nicola Topping Rosemary Breslin Carina Boyle	Barnardo's Carers NI WELB NHSCT Action for Children
In attendance:	Maurice Leeson Andrew Hawthorne	Children Services Planning, HSCB Children Services Planning, HSCB
Apologies:	Ann Godfrey	Children Services Planning, HSCB

1. Introduction

Maurice Leeson, the new Children's Services Professional Advisor, was welcomed to the meeting and there were a round of introductions for his benefit.

Ann Godfrey, the outgoing Children's Services Professional Advisor, sent her best wishes to the group, encouraging them to continue the good work already started.

2. Apologies

Apologies received from Ann Godfrey

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The date needed to be changed from 5th September to 25th October.

Action: Andrew to make the amendment

4. Matters Arising

There were a number of outstanding actions from the last meeting below:

Action: Andrew to investigate the population formulae for identifying young carers

Action: Billy McMillan to write a formal letter to Carer's NI

These actions are being carried forward.

Minutes agreed.

5. Chairing of the group

The group agreed that the role of the Chair would be rotated between the representatives from Barnardo's and Action for Children, who would do 6 months each. This might include rotating the venue to increase visibility and increase engagement. Options discussed included Barnardo's Magherafelt where it was noted that admin support would be available for minute taking. This was to complement the support work of the group rather than substitute the role of the current minute taker.

6. Action plan with consultation feedback

The group discussed the role of the group regarding relinquishing the role of young carers from their responsibilities. The group highlighted the importance of assessment to identify issues and reasons why they are caring so they can receive the appropriate support dependent on the issues they face.

The group reviewed the action plan and the additional comments.

Action: Andrew to make final changes to the plan

7. Membership

Maurice outlined the option for the group to approach others considering that the open application process has not been successful on two occasions. The group recognised that the membership is a fluid issue that may change over time. As per previous discussions the group agreed to start by obtaining representation from Carer's NI.

8. Any other business

Carina informed the group that the CYPSP sub group, 'Think Family' has sought a carer's representative. Therefore there is an established link between these two areas of work.

The group enquired on the progress of the guidance issued to Trusts regarding young carers.

Action: Maurice to check on the progress of this guidance

Date of next meeting:

Thursday January 10th 2013 10.30am-12.30pm at Barnardos, Magherafelt