
Local Young People have their say on future services

26 November 2013

Young people had their say on future services for children and young people at an information fair held this week in Enniskillen.

The event, organised by the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) and the Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP), brought local young people together with representatives from statutory, voluntary and community organisations to discuss the services currently available to support children and young people and how these can be improved in future.



Young people from local schools sharing their views on what matters to them at the Fermanagh Stakeholder event

The day began with a play “Don’t say a word” in Ardhowen Theatre, organised by the PCSP and attended by over 250 local school children.

Councillor Rosemary Barton, Chair of the Policing and Community Safety Partnership and member of Fermanagh Locality Planning Group,

said: “We are committed to raising awareness of the issue of domestic abuse and this play is part of a wider programme supported by the Partnership.”

Rosemary then hosted a question and answer session for young people with panel members Michelle Gildernew, MP, Dawn Shaw, Operational Director of Children's Services, Action for Children, Kieran Downey, Director Children's Services, Western HSC Trust, Rachel Wood, Women's Aid and Patricia Byrne, Script writer.

The morning session finished with an information fair with stall holders from a range of local services.



From left to right - Bryan Richardson and Pauline Tracey (Policing and Community Safety Partnership, PCSP), David Glass (Police Service Northern Ireland, PSNI), Imelda McQuaid (Connections Project, South West College), Jacqueline Sweeney (Mencap)

In the afternoon an open meeting took place in The Hang Out in Quay Lane where Parent Reference Group members joined staff from local services to discuss future services and how to address the issues raised by children and young people in Fermanagh.

This was the second in a series of events taking place across Northern Ireland which will help inform the Northern Ireland Children and Young People's Plan 2015-2018.

Kieran Downey, Director of Women's and Children's Services with the Western Health and Social Care Trust (Western Trust) said: "Everyone at this event is committed to promoting the wellbeing of children and young people in the West. The future of children and young people's services needs be influenced by those children and young people who may need to use these services at some stage in their lives. Involvement in decisions that affect their lives is a fundamental right for all children and young people. This event also provides a platform to hear local issues in a local context and ensure our planning processes are sensitive to that."



From left to right (front row) – Councillor Rosemary Barton, Dawn Shaw (Action for Children), Priscilla Magee (Fermanagh Locality Planning Worker

From left to right (back row) - Emma Latimer, Patrick Mulligan and Callum McIntyre, Kieran Downey (WHSCT), Anne Hardy (Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership CYPSP) and Neville Armstrong (Chair of the CYPSP Fermanagh Locality Planning Group)

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) is a multi-agency partnership, led by the Health and Social Care Board. It includes the leadership of key statutory agencies and community and voluntary organisations that have a responsibility for improving the lives of children and young people in Northern Ireland.



Pupils from Devenish College, Enniskillen; Lisa Foster, Joanne Foster, Natalie Moore, Fern Casey and Rachel Crawford find out more about the CYPSP Family Support Hubs and the Youth Justice Agency through their Connections Magazine



From left to right: Michael Gallogly and Geraldine McCrory, CAMHS and Imelda McGeehan, WHSCT.

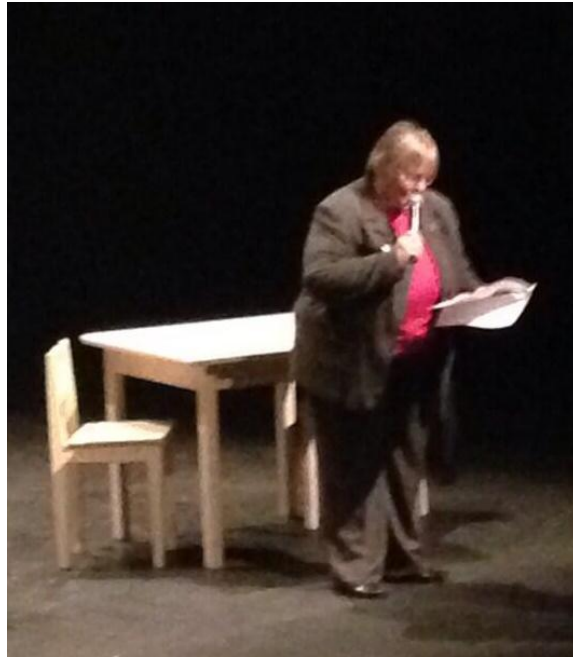


Organisations at the CYPSP Information Session for children and young people at the Fermanagh Stakeholder event

From left to right: Tara Reddin (Cedar Foundation), Bernie Carleton (Daisy), Brenda Burns (Breakthru) Maeve Linton (Ark Healthy Living Centre) Helen O'Neill (Family Support NI) Collette Latimer (Probation Board) and Seana Connor (Action for Children)



From left to right: MP Michelle Gildernew and Priscilla Magee (Fermanagh Locality Planning worker) at the CYPSP Stakeholder event in Fermanagh



Councillor Rosemary Barton welcomes children and young people to the opening of the PCSP 'Don't Say a Word' performance to raise awareness of domestic violence at the CYPSP Stakeholder event



Over 250 children and young people from local schools in Fermanagh attended the PCSP performance, 'Don't Say a Word' with author and performer, Patricia Byrne



Don't Say a Word Performance at the Ardowen Theatre, Fermanagh

From left to right (front row) – Councillor Debbie Coyle, Rachel Woods (Fermanagh Women's Aid), Dawn Shaw (Action for Children), MP Michelle Gildernew, Councillor Rosemary Barton

From left to right (back row) – Anne Hardy (Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership CYPSP), Kieran Downey (Western Health and Social Care Trust WHSCT), Councillor Alec Baird, Councillor Stephen Huggett, Patricia Byrne (Author and Performer of Don't Say A Word), Priscilla Magee (Fermanagh Locality Planning Worker)

For more information about the CYPSP Stakeholder events please contact Anne Hardy, Children's Services Planning Officer by email on, anne.hardy@hscni.net or by telephone on 02825 311 208

For more information about the CYPSP in Fermanagh please contact Priscilla Magee on 028 6632 4181 or visit www.cypsp.org

If you are interested in joining the CYPSP Parent Reference Group in your area please contact Maria Herron on 028 7137 2006.