

**Children with Disability & Transitions Sub Group Meeting**  
**Monday, 20 November 2017**  
**Antrim Board Centre**

**In Attendance**

Kieran McShane (Chair)	HSCB	Eugene Mone	Barnardo's
Lesley Waugh	SHSCT	Joann Guler	EANI
Rosie McNaughton	Cedar Foundation	Liz Osborne	NI Cancer Fund for Children
Rosaleen Dempsey	RNIB	Julie Fitzpatrick	RNIB
Sara McCracken	Angel Eyes	Anne McCaffery	NI Hospice
Joan Brolly	SEHSCT	Christina Kelly	DfE
Kelly Maxwell	Autism NI	Annie Clarke	HSCB
Geraldine Teague	PHA		

**Apologies**

Geraldine Maguire	SHSCT	Frances Curran	DE
Tracey Johnson	NHSCT	Pauline McDonald	BHSCT
Carol Diffin	BHSCT	Teresa Stewart	Barnardo's
Paul Sloan	DE	John Noble	DfE
Marion Magill	DfE	Gayle Baird	Child Brain Injury Trust
Maurice Leeson	HSCB		

<b>What was Discussed</b>	<b>What was Decided</b>
<p><b>Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p>Kieran welcomed all attendees and noted apologies.</p>	
<p><b>Membership</b></p> <p>In light of personnel changes within organisations, it was agreed to explore group membership at the Action Planning workshop.</p>	<p><b>All members</b> were asked to identify potential members for workshop.</p> <p><b>Annie</b> to forward Terms of Reference to members.</p>
<p><b>Young People's Update</b></p> <p>Eugene provided an update from the Young People's Project and the various programmes and activities that take place including 6<sup>th</sup> Sense Advocacy Group, Peer Coaching</p>	

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<p>and a Regional Schools 6-week Programme currently being delivered in 3 Special Schools. It was observed that not all children with a disability attend a Special school. Many children will be enrolled in mainstream education and therefore we must give these young people an opportunity to have their voices heard also.</p> <p>Eugene highlighted the key issues voiced by young people including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns surrounding Transitioning;</li> <li>• Lack of social opportunities;</li> <li>• Rural Isolation;</li> <li>• Difficulties in maintaining friendships after finishing school;</li> <li>• Desire to try new experiences but difficult due to needs;</li> <li>• Mental Health – greater need for support and services.</li> </ul> <p>Members concurred with the concerns raised by young people and identified transport as a significant barrier to overcoming the issues voiced by young people.</p> <p>The Project is seeking to bring young people together from different groups through a new voice conferencing resource.</p> <p>Kieran referenced another piece of work undertaken by Jordanstown Special School to highlight the voice of those children and young people with sensory needs.</p>	<p><b>Eugene</b> to send details of the Video Conferencing Resource for circulation to members</p> <p><b>Annie</b> to circulate video link from this event to members.</p>
<p><b>SEN – DE/DoH Interface Group and EA Framework Group</b></p> <p>Clare Mangan (EA), Michelle Tennyson (PHA) and Pat Ward (EA) will lead this Interface Group. There is a call for members. Focus of the group is to explore the availability of services and to ensure support is available at both an early age and early stage.</p> <p>Joann provided an overview of her role in overseeing the Regional Service for Transitions. The EA are drafting a new Code of Practice with greater emphasis on gaining the views of young people and on raising awareness of the transfer of Rights from parents to young people. EA are working on a number of projects including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independent Travel Project with NOW Project, Schools</li> </ul>	

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<p>and Translink.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Newsletter – Young people and their rights.</li> <li>• Improving access for young people with a disability to Leisure Services within Antrim &amp; Newtownabbey Council.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Holiday Hunger</b></p> <p>In Maurice's absence it was agreed to leave this on the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	<p><b>Annie</b> - keep on Agenda</p>
<p><b>Parent's Led Forum</b></p> <p>Discussions regarding this forum are at a very early stage. Currently looking at Terms of Reference for the forum and linking with CiNI to provide policy overview. Sara has joined the subgroup in the interim until a representative from the Forum is formally appointed.</p>	
<p><b>Young Carers – Educational Guidance Booklet</b></p> <p>This booklet was launched in September 2017. The Booklet has been uploaded onto the C2K system for educational staff to access. The Young Carers subgroup will explore opportunities to disseminate this booklet further.</p>	<p><b>Annie</b> to circulate an electronic version of the booklet to members.</p>
<p><b>Strategic Developments:</b></p> <p><b>Children's Strategy</b> - the Children's Strategy is outcomes driven with 8 High Level Outcomes. It is important that the group in its action planning align to these outcomes.</p> <p><b>Paediatric Strategy</b> - This is an opportunity for collaborative working – beneficial to invite a member of the Paediatric Network to come along to a subgroup meeting to outline the work of the Network.</p>	<p><b>Annie</b> to circulate the High Level Outcomes to members.</p> <p><b>Kieran</b> to extend an invitation to the Network.</p>
<p><b>Action Plan</b></p> <p>It was agreed to hold a workshop in January/February 2018 with a focus on updating the subgroup's Action Plan. To establish how community planning is addressing barriers for children and young people with a disability locally, it was agreed to undertake a mapping of each Community Plan for the workshop. This workshop will replace the bi-monthly subgroup meeting.</p> <p>Members agreed to undertake a number of tasks prior to</p>	<p><b>Annie</b> to arrange venue and circulate to members for the workshop and undertake a mapping exercise of Community Plans.</p>

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<p>the workshop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Identify key areas of work for the Subgroup to take forward;</i></li> <li>- <i>How can we link the work of this group with other groups aligned under CYPSP?</i></li> <li>- <i>Explore resources that could be pulled together to support the actions agreed by the group.</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>All Members</b> to undertake the tasks outlined prior to the workshop.</p>
<p><b>Operational Updates:</b></p> <p><b>Autism NI</b> - Recently launched a project with QUB to explore the impact of Autism among girls aged 11-18 years, is exploring sports disability and engaging with parents groups.</p> <p><b>RNIB</b> - Undergoing management changes at a national level. Family Insight Project which provides Family support services. Real Eyes is coming to an end and RNIB are looking at how this can be taken forward.</p> <p><b>SEHSCT</b> - Recently under gone reform, Joan will lead on Children’s Disability Services across the Trust. The Trust works closely with Children’s Nursing and meet regularly with Education and CAMHS colleagues to share learning. Number of children and young people presenting with highly complex needs is soaring. Children’s staff are training their adult counterparts due to the unprecedented levels of need among young people transitioning to Adults services.</p> <p><b>NI Cancer Fund for Children</b> – Exploring new therapeutic services to be located close to the City and Royal Hospitals in Belfast. Currently working with QUB on research into the residential model. In process of developing a large capital project in Connaught, similar to Daisy Lodge. Cancer Framework is still to be reviewed.</p> <p><b>Angel Eyes</b> – provide an information and advocacy service for parents and families. They also provide an Education Advocacy Service to parents to raise their awareness of the strategies implemented within schools.</p> <p><b>DfE Careers Service</b> – This is an all age service providing free, impartial Careers information in post-primary schools and to adults. Also offer a free Careers Webchat, available</p>	<p><b>Liz</b> to liaise with <b>Geraldine</b> (PHA) re: Palliative Care leads within HSC.</p>

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<p>Monday –Friday from 9.30am – 4.30pm.</p> <p><b>Cedar Foundation</b> – introducing new services in Northern Trust to reduce social isolation. Offer Disability awareness training to a range of service providers. Were successful in securing funding from Big Lottery Fund for a Family Education Project with a focus on ASD.</p> <p><b>Children’s Hospice</b> – provide health, education and employment support. Need identified in having Adult services involved at an earlier stage. Family Support Team provides a range of activities to support Dad’s etc.</p> <p><b>SHSCT</b> – local children supported by Lurgan YMCA were involved in Countryfile (BBC1). ‘Incredible’ is a transition project based in Richhill. This project provides training, cooking skills etc. for young people transitioning.</p>	
<p><b>Any Other Business:</b></p> <p><b>Family Support Hubs</b> - Increase in number of children with a disability referred to Family Support Hubs – currently 18% (2016/17). It was acknowledged that with an increase in thresholds for Trusts, this may create more referrals to Family Support Hubs. It is important to note that referrals should only be made to a Hub were it is appropriate.</p> <p><b>Health Cards</b> - An Alert Card has been developed by Autism NI in partnership with the NOW Project for emergency services. An Acute Services ‘Passport’ has been developed for Adults with Learning Difficulties – this has been very well received. The Electronic Health Card Record is still evolving and further work is required.</p> <p><b>Conferences:</b></p> <p><i>ACEs Conference</i> – a recent conference was held to raise awareness and to showcase good practice undertaken to identify and address ACEs.</p> <p><i>Child Welfare Inequalities Conference</i> – this highlighted the recent research undertaken by QUB into the scale of inequalities among children.</p>	<p><b>Annie</b> to circulate links to Presentations/ Papers from both conferences</p>
<p><b>Date of Workshop</b></p>	<p>Date: <b>Monday, 22 January 2018</b></p> <p>Time: <b>10.00am – 1.00pm</b></p> <p>Venue: <b>TBC</b></p>

