

CYPSP Representatives visit to Renfrewshire Council **on 12 June 2013**

CYPSP representatives met with John Trainer and Russell Hamilton of the Social Work Department of Renfrewshire Council in Scotland. The initial discussion focussed on the “Reach for a Better Future” strategy which is an outcome focused approach to Early Intervention. In relation to key indicators, improvement plans have been developed to help families achieve better outcomes.

The programme, supported initially by a Big Lottery grant of £500,000 to the Council in 2009 was based on:-

- Creating a profile of the children and families who are most likely to need help;
- Identifying the kind of help that is going to be most effective and;
- Providing this help before problems develop.

The Council's Strategy has been to develop Early Intervention in the context of the Scottish Executive's GIRFEC strategy, shifting resources toward Early Intervention and engaging with and supporting a range of parties including small voluntary organisations (at local community level).

Reporting on progress is undertaken at different levels:-

- Renfrewshire (full local authority level)
- Clusters of schools (neighbourhoods)

The Council has undertaken a wide consultation with parents of children under 8 years and children/young people aged 9-17 years to identify main issues of concern and how these might be addressed.

Renfrewshire's Reach for a Better Future includes a service of interlocking programmes:-

- Triple P
- Incredible Years
- Functional Family Therapy

New programmes to be developed are:

- Multi-dimensional Treatment Foster Care
- Family Nurse Partnership

The CYPSP representatives had an opportunity to visit the following services:-

(a) Glenburn Pre-5's Centres

This visit involved meeting a group of parents involved in the Incredible Years Programme. They outlined their personal/family difficulties and their identification of positive outcomes from the programme and other supports provided by the staff, delivered while their children attended nursery class in the centre.

(b) Renfrew High School

This provided the group with the opportunity to meet the staff in the Home-Link service who covered a number of post primary schools. Their role, as a multi-disciplinary team, was to take referrals from schools in respect of children with challenges in their lives. Since April 2011, they have delivered Triple P, an evidence-based programme that is delivered at a number of levels, from awareness raising of the benefits of positive parenting to intensive family intervention.

The team described local resources that they have developed, approved by the Triple P licensing body, the intensive training/retraining required and the use of evaluation tools eg Depression Anxiety Stress Scale (DASS).

For more information contact:

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