

Involving young people with disabilities in the development of regional child and youth disability services



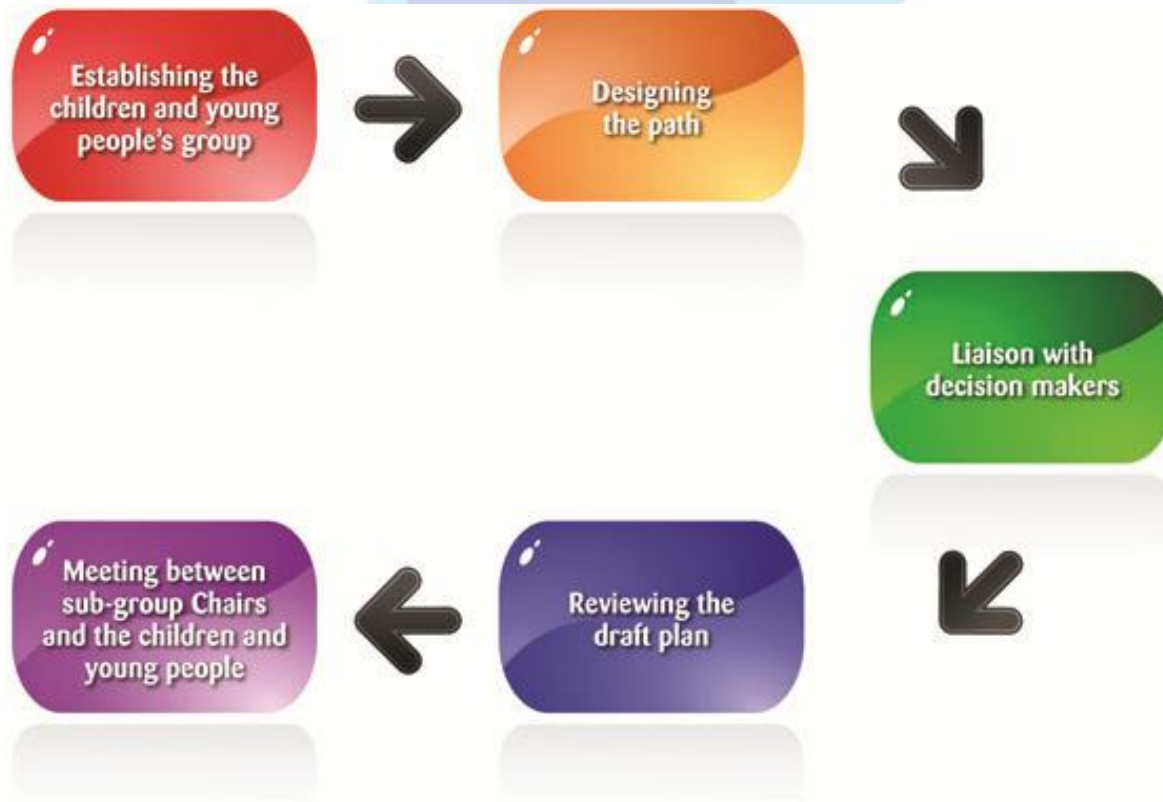
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Context

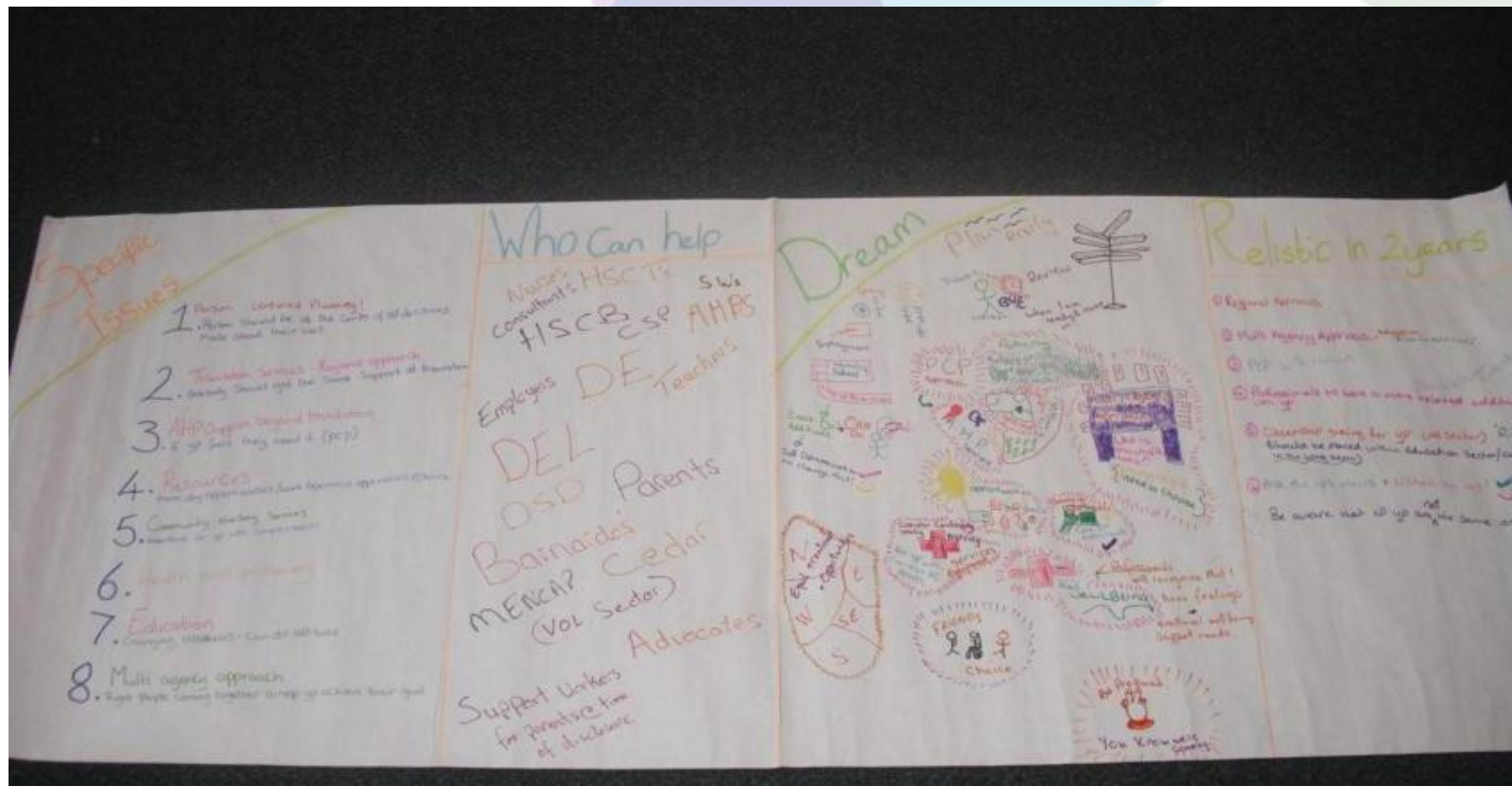
- Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership
- Participation Network
- Regional sub-group on Transitions of Children and Young People with Disabilities to Adulthood
- Disabled Children and Young People's Participation Project



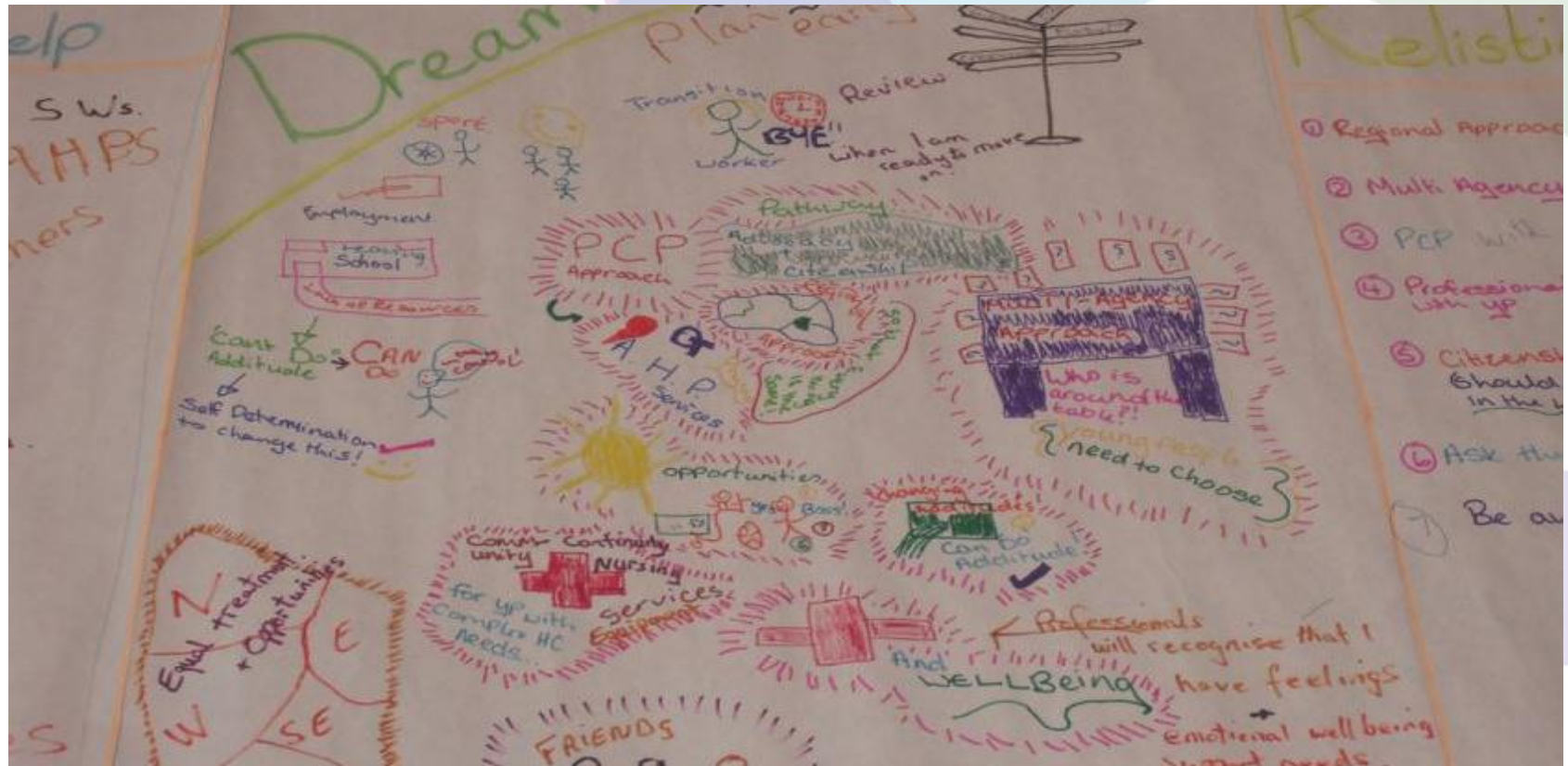
Process



Designing the path



The dream



Process



Key messages

- A regional approach to transition in place.
- A multi-agency approach operating.
- A person-centred plan in place for every young person.
- Professionals to have a more relaxed and “can do” attitude to young people and to engage them in a meaningful way.
- Young people to be aware of their rights – to be heard and make decisions about their lives.
- Professionals to actively seek and appreciate children and young people’s views



Impact

A regional approach to transition in place.

Develop an integrated commissioning statement, which will ensure equal opportunities through the transition process across the region.

A multi-agency approach operating.

Develop a collaborative multi-agency approach to individual assessment to best benefit the young person through transition stage from 14+.



Impact cont'd

A person-centred plan in place for every young person.

Develop a good practice model for integrated plans – to ensure that every young person has access to support from 14 years old.

Ensure a person centred approach through self-directed support including individualised budgets and direct payments.



Impact cont'd

Professionals to have a more relaxed and “can do” attitude to young people and to engage them in a meaningful way.

Training for Teachers, Community Nurses, Social Workers and other relevant professionals to challenge their attitudes to disability and expand their skills in supporting children with disabilities and their families. The aim of this training is to aid the young person to develop to their fullest potential and adapt a can-do attitude to life, aiding independence.

Training for service providers and policy makers on how to communicate effectively with adolescents with disabilities in order to help them to identify their needs and wishes and aid participation.



Impact cont'd

Young people to be aware of their rights – to be heard and make decisions about their lives.

Children and young people with disabilities receive rights training based on the Human Rights Act, the UNCRC and the UNCRPD, including advocacy training.

Professionals to actively seek and appreciate children and young people's views

Human rights, UNCRC, UNCRPD and disability awareness training for all staff working with young people and their professional bodies.

Agree a collaborative training programme for all agencies that is designed to be delivered by young people with disabilities



The challenges

- Among other sub-group members - professional defensiveness – taking challenge as complaint
- Getting commitment from each of the young people's agencies
- Changing membership of young people's group – “age out” – go to University



What made it work

- Experience of DCYPP
- Commitment of Sub-group chairs
- Mandated by CYPSP strategy
- Willingness of young people to engage
- Underpinned by ASK FIRST standards



ASK FIRST standards

Appropriate methods

Support

Knowledge

Feedback

Inclusion

Respect

Senior people

Timing



ASK FIRST standards

Appropriate methods

Children and young people will be engaged in a variety of ways, based on what is best suited to their age and level of development / maturity. In particular, play based methodologies will be developed for involving pre-school children.

Support

Children and young people will be provided with the support needed to engage effectively in the decision making process.



ASK FIRST

Knowledge

Children and young people will be provided with the knowledge they need to engage fully in decision-making processes. Information will be easily understood, child friendly and produced in a range of accessible formats.

Feedback

Children and young people will be told about the outcomes of their involvement and how their input has been considered. Where their ideas have not been taken on board they will be told why this has happened.



ASK FIRST

Inclusion

All children and young people will be facilitated to engage in public decision-making processes. Particular measures will be put in place to ensure the involvement of those who are vulnerable and marginalised, in line with Section 75 and UNCRC obligations.

Respect

Children and young people will be treated with respect. They will decide the nature and extent of their involvement, including the option not to participate.



ASK FIRST

Senior people

Children and young people will have direct contact with senior people who are in a position to make decisions and take action in relation to their ideas, views and experiences.

Timing

Children and young people will be involved at the earliest possible stages of policy and service development, including processes to establish the need for service or policy initiatives.



More Information

Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership

www.cypsp.org

Children with Disabilities Working Group

<http://www.cypsp.org/children-disabilites.htm>

Transition Working Group

<http://www.cypsp.org/transition.htm>

CYPSP Young Peoples Pages

<http://www.cypsp.org/young-people.htm>

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