

11 February 2013

Young people in Magherafelt have their say on local services

Young people from the Magherafelt area are helping to shape and make decisions about what services should be available for children, young people and their families in the area. As part of the children's services planning process these young people are working in partnership with local service providers to highlight the issues which are important to them.

Magherafelt Locality Planning Group recently invited children and young people in the area to respond to a 'Have Your Say' survey to identify how their needs can be addressed by the Locality Action Plan. Young people aged from 7 to 18 years submitted 220 responses. Their views will inform a local action plan for service development and will also set out how children and young people will be involved in this work in the future.

Marie Donaghy, Northern Regional College, said: "Magherafelt Locality Planning Group understands the important role children and young people have in the planning process. We are looking forward to working with all children and young people in the area as our action plan develops."

The Magherafelt Locality Partnership is one of a number of locality-based partnerships within the Northern Area Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and which is led by the Health and Social Care Board.

If you are a young person aged between 7 and 18 years and would like to "have your say" on what it is like for you living in the Magherafelt area, please contact Sandra Anderson, Participation Development Officer, on 028 2563 6609 or sandraL.anderson@northerntrust.hscni.net.

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**For further information contact:
Lee McArdle,
Communications, Health and Social Care Board on
Tel: (028) 9055 3740.**

Photo caption – Katelynne Coulter from Magherafelt and Liam McAuley from Draperstown are the lucky winners of the prize draw from the 220 entries. Also pictured: Michael McCrory, Magherafelt District Council, Marie Donaghy, Northern Regional College, Chair of Magherafelt Locality Planning Group, Anne Marie McStocker, NICHI project, Sandra Anderson CYPSP Participation Officer and Selena Ramsey, CYPSP Locality Development Officer. Prizes donated by NICHI Project.