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## Press Release

### **Limavady young people have their say on planning future children's services**

17 March 2014

Young People from Limavady had their say on future services for children and young people at an information event held in the Roe Valley Arts and Culture Centre on Tuesday 15 April 2014.

Christopher Trainor, Chair of Limavady Youth Council, welcomed everyone to the event, particularly the young people. He said: "Today's event is about finding out what young people and their families need and no one is more expert in that regard than young people themselves. I encourage all young people in the area to get involved in this process and let's shape the services for the future together."

The event, organised by the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) Western Outcomes Group and Limavady Locality Planning Group, brought children and young people together with representatives from statutory, voluntary and community organisations and political representatives to discuss the services currently available to support children and young people and how these can be improved in future. This event was part of a series of events taking place across Northern Ireland which will help inform the Northern Ireland Children and Young People's Plan 2015-2018.

Mark McChrystal, chair of the Limavady Locality Planning Group encouraged attendees to browse through the 20 or more stalls setting out the family support services already available in the area.

Kieran Downey, Director of Women's and Children's Services with the Western Health and Social Care Trust and Chair of the Western Outcomes Group said: "Everyone at this event is committed to promoting the wellbeing of children and young people in the West. To achieve this we all need to involve children and young people in decisions that affect their lives. We need to listen genuinely to children and young people, give careful consideration to their views and use their insights to inform our work in meaningful and respectful ways. By doing so, we will demonstrate our respect for them and their families as valued members of our communities and gain important information that will make our work and services more relevant to children and young people."

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.

For more information about the CYPSP in Limavady please contact Bronagh Donnelly on 028 71342286 or visit [www.cypsp.org](http://www.cypsp.org)

**ENDS**

**Photo captions**

CYPSP5285.jpg – Back row (l-r) are: Bronagh Donnelly, LPG Development Worker, Anne Hardy, CYPSP, Mark McChrystal, Limavady LPG, Brenda McQueen, Dry Arch Centre

Front row (l-r) Kieran Downey, Chair CYPSP Western Outcomes Group with local young people Laoidhe Kelly, Tieghan McLaughlin, Tara McGowan, Carol Ann Clarence and Julia Bechurczyle and , Christopher Trainor, Youth Council

**Media enquiries**

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