

Background

The Southern Area Outcomes Group supports 5 Task and Finish Groups to progress its Action Plan for 2017-20. These groups all take a partnership approach to agree priorities and actions based on evidence and consultation on priorities for children, young people and families.

One of the Task and Finish Groups focuses on the outcome “*Children and young people will have the best start in life and enjoy the best possible health and wellbeing*”. The Group agreed to provide opportunities for young people (including BME, LAC C&YP with disability) to come together for enjoyment and support; and provide opportunities for young peoples’ voices to be heard in terms of shaping services.

One of the actions was for the group to co-ordinate the delivery of 3 Disability Awareness events led by SHSCT Community Access Officers to encourage groups/ organisations to be more inclusive to young people with a disability. These would showcase examples of good practice in the area and provide an opportunity for professionals to network and share good practice of their own.

The first of these events was held at The Epicentre in Armagh on Thursday 17th May.

Link to the video taken on the day: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXAvOeYtNh0>

SAOG Outcome:

**Children and young people will
have the best start in life and
enjoy the best possible health
and wellbeing**

The Southern Area Outcomes Group invite you to:

**INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES – BUILDING SERVICES
FOR ALL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**


Thursday 17th May 2018, 10.30 – 1.00

EPICentre
59 Lisanelly Lane, Armagh, BT61 7HF

A workshop exploring best practice on how groups can be more open and inclusive to young people with a disability, including easy steps on how to make your service more accessible; experiences and good practice from service providers and “Ask the Expert” service user perspective.

Followed by lunch, you will have an opportunity to network, explore and learn from the marketplace of information stands.

If you would like to attend please email laura.small@hscni.net before 10th May 2018



HSC Health and Social Care Board

HSC Southern Health and Social Care Trust

Believe in children
Barnardo's

CiNI
Children in Northern Ireland

How much did we do?

- 2½ hour event held at The Epicentre Youth Club, Armagh
- 6 speakers:
 - SHSCT Community Access & Children's Nursing Services
 - Dept for Communities
 - Live Active NI
 - Barnardos 6th Sense
 - Armagh Locality Planning Group
- 15 Services/organisations represented on information stalls
- All attendees were provided with a "Good Practice Pack": tips and checklists for making their service more inclusive for children/young people with a disability.



How well did we do It?



- Partnership approach: Southern Area Outcomes Group and Armagh Locality Planning Group
- 70 people attended the event
- 31 different services/organisations were represented
- 15 services were advertised through the information stalls
- 21 completed evaluations, 9 completed evaluations by information stall holders
- 86% rated the event as “Excellent” in helping to make their service more inclusive to children/young people with a disability
- 47% rated the speakers as the most useful aspect of the event to their organisation
- 47% agreed the networking & information stalls was the most useful aspect of the day
- At least 175 pieces of information were given by information stalls

Is anyone better off?

- 67% rated their increased knowledge as “A lot” in ensuring their service is inclusive to children/young people with a disability, due to the event
- 28% rated their knowledge increase as “A little” due to the event
- 73 new links were made between attending organisations/services
- 16 respondents arranged follow up work and contact as a result of the event



Is there one tip you would share with us to help make services more inclusive?



- Increase training on providing personal care and to increase confidence
- Small steps can make a big difference
- Where to access funding for children with a disability in a pre-school setting
- Treat everyone equally
- How we team up more with Council/Youth Service
- Include siblings if you can – we do and it helps keep family together, share info and gives sibling some time to shine also
- Listen to the service user/young person – they are the expert
- Needs to be more regional joined up thinking
- I think all of the Top 10 tips were fantastic



One thing you will take from today's event to help make your service more inclusive:

- Knowledge of groups & equipment availability
- Making resources easy to read
- Other groups in the area we can signpost to
- Where to choose events/locations
- Contacts with key organisations
- People with disabilities can speak for themselves
- All areas/events should be inclusive to all
- Range of activities available – share these for foster carers
- Take a person-centred approach to understand the needs & challenges to children and young people with a disability
- Make sure there is enough room for everyone
- Working in partnership is essential

Is there anything you can think of which should be included in further events like this?

Case studies of groups who have transitioned to become inclusive

List of contact details in the pack

Input from Early Years/ focus on Pre School and play

Interactive workshops

Working with children with disabilities from BME communities

Question & Answer session with speakers

Young people with a disability in the workplace – role models

More young people/ parents in the presentations

and lastly...

Could have been a lot bigger with available time

Excellent event

Today was fabulous, really enjoyed it.

This was good & validates the approach to work we are doing

Listen to young people with a lot to offer

Loved the video from B and hearing C's words today

Fantastic session – would have liked some workshops to explore matters further

Really enjoyed the speakers and the information I received from them

Very interesting & informative event – good to hear about the good work being done

Well run and a great opportunity to network & share experiences

Very informative & enjoyable

Very useful & thought provoking

Very well organised and beneficial event

A great idea for the future

Do you have any further comments to make about the event or today's theme?