



**Minutes of Parenting Network Meeting
The Steeple
Nethergate
Dundee DD1 4DG
Wednesday 31st May 2017
10am – 1pm**



Who was there:

Gillian	MacIntyre	Chair (University of Strathclyde)
Morag	Innes	City of Edinburgh Council
Shellie	Connor	NHS Tayside
Carole	Fraser	NHS Tayside
Lynne	Hughes	NHS Tayside
Amanda	Muir	Equal Say Advocacy
Alan	Roberts	NHS Fife
Ailsa	Stewart	University of Strathclyde
Maggie	McAlpine	Central Advocacy Partners
Andy	Williams	Central Advocacy Partners
Paul	McKee	Central Advocacy Partners
Elle	Lorimer	Aberlour Family Service (Aberdeen)
Tracey	Dickson	Aberlour Family Service (Aberdeen)
Sharon	Swan	Aberlour Family Service (South Ayrshire)
Paul	McConnachie	Parent
Marnie	Batchelor	Family Support Fife
Gill	Simpson	Children and Families Services Dundee
Cath	Keenan	Learning Disability Team Dundee
Lesley	Russell	DIAS Dundee
Karen	McAulay	Advocating Together Dundee
Jenna	Breckenridge	University of Edinburgh
Dominique	Harvey	CELCIS
Oonagh	Brown	Scottish Commission for Learning Disability
Andy	Miller	Scottish Commission for Learning Disability
Christine	McBain	Minute taker from Scottish Commission for Learning Disability

1) Welcome and Introductions

Andy informed the Network of the change to the Chair as Ailsa has stood down. On behalf of the Network, Andy thanked Ailsa for the work that she has done over the last 4 years. Gillian MacIntyre from the University of Strathclyde is the new Chair. Gillian has been a member of the Network for some time. Gillian welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

2) Review of Minutes of Meeting of 1 February 2017

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

The contents of the pack that was given out at the meeting were discussed. This included the evaluation summary of the last meeting on 1 February 2017 and an evaluation to be completed at the end of today's meeting.

Oonagh also asked anyone who has not yet completed the form to join the UK Network to do so at the end of this meeting.

Completed forms should be given to Oonagh.

3) Actions from Meeting on 1 February 2017

- Send the easy read information regarding Child's Plan meetings to the Network when this has been completed **(People First (Scotland) Parents' Group, Edinburgh / Christine) Carry forward**
- Send the pack containing an easy read summary of the work done by the People First (Scotland) Parents' Group round the Network **(Andy / Oonagh) Done**
- Send an email asking Scottish Network members to join the UK Network. Post a paper copy to Paul McConnachie **(Oonagh) Done**
- Promote the Network to Children and Families Social Workers within own localities **(All Network members) Ongoing**
- Give a short presentation on the findings from the Network survey at the next Network meeting **(Oonagh) On agenda**
- Email or phone Oonagh with comments on the Good Practice Example template **(All Network members) Done**

- Distribute the evaluation results from this and all future Network meetings with the Minutes of each meeting (**Oonagh / Christine**)
Ongoing

4) **Esme Fairbairn work plan update**

Oonagh gave the following update:

- **Scoping Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenting Education** - Part of the work plan is to scope the provision of this in Additional Support Needs schools. A report will be produced covering relevant legislation, guidance, gaps in the provision for children and young people with learning disabilities and good practice examples. If anyone has any resources or good practice examples they would like to contribute, please contact Oonagh
- **Children and Young People Act Part 12** - Implementation events have taken place in Dundee and Fife. A further event will take place in Falkirk on 23 June 2017 with support from People First (Scotland), Aberlour and the Falkirk Family Network Team. 6-month surveys will be sent out to attendees to assess the impact of the events
- **Guideline Events** – 2 events will be held to promote the use of the Guidelines to practitioners. A provisional date of 22 August at the City of Glasgow College has been set. The other date and location has yet to be confirmed. Network members have been asked for workshop submissions to highlight examples of positive practice
- **Success Stories** – The Norah Fry Centre for Disability Studies and the University of Bristol want to publish stories of positive practice in supporting parents with a learning disability. 3 parents have expressed an interest in taking part. Network members should contact Oonagh if they know of any parents who may be interested
- **Website and members only board** – The University of Bristol's Working Together with Parents Network page is the main area for resources. You have to sign up to become a UK Network member to access the online members-only board which is a practice sharing resource. SCLD has its own network page within SCLD's

website. This is used to collect and share examples of good practice

- **Network Survey** – In November 2016, Network members were asked to complete a survey about how they would like to see the Network develop and operate in the future. Most of the people who answered the survey were practitioners. All said that parents should be consulted with and invited to attend meetings. Meetings are now half days and will be held in different areas. Evaluation forms will be available for completion at all meetings for input from members
- **Update from England (University of Bristol)**
 - Contributing a chapter on parents with learning disabilities for a leading social work textbook
 - Drafting a series of short articles for professional journals
 - Delivering requested training about parents with learning disabilities on post-graduate and professional training courses for social workers and a local authority
 - Invited to speak to the Official Solicitor's staff
 - Meeting with a film maker to make a short DVD featuring parents with learning disabilities talking about their experiences of keeping or losing their children. This will be based around the 5 key principles of the Good Practice Guidance. The film will be uploaded on to the website and YouTube
 - The work with an advocacy organisation on a practical legal resources toolbox for advocates is on temporary hold
 - The survey of what members want from their regional networks in England closes next week. The findings will be circulated
 - Requests for advice - topics have included resources for a Birth Parents support group, easy reads, an advocate needed urgently for support pending imminent court case
 - Invited to speak at the annual Family Law Bar Association conference in November

- **Sharing film resources** - Oonagh was asked to share films that have been produced by Central Advocacy Partners about supporting parents with a learning disability
- **Update from Learning Disability Wales** - Updates have been received after this meeting and will be sent separately. 4 booklets on parents' rights have been produced and can be found at:
<https://www.ldw.org.uk/networks/resources-for-parents-network.aspx#.WTISA0vyuUk>
 These booklets will be adapted for Scotland and England.

5) Updates from Network members

Paul McConnachie – Paul handed out a flyer with contact information about promoting positive health outcomes for people with Down's Syndrome and people with a learning disability. The Lanarkshire ACE / Speak Out Advocacy group worked with NHS Lanarkshire to produce this. All of the information and leaflets can be found at
<http://www.healthelanarkshire.co.uk/>

Alan Roberts – NHS Fife

- money for the project is relatively secure
- accessible information is being developed regarding termination of pregnancy and what happens when I am pregnant
- a video called "What is a Children's Hearing" has been found and circulated <https://vimeo.com/213827229>
- an invite to join a consultation group to develop accessible information regarding feeding and weaning has been received from Elaine Paterson from NHS Health Scotland
- the Snakes and Ladders of Supported Parenting event in Stirling on 1 March went very well. There was a great atmosphere and enthusiasm as well as considerable learning. It has been recognised that more inclusion from parents at similar events is needed. Those involved in organising future events will make sure this happens

Sharon Swan – Aberlour

Aberlour worked with the Daily Record to share a story about a parent with a learning disability who had accessed their service. The story can be read here:

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/real-life/i-terrified-would-taken-care-10552439>

Following the updates, it was agreed that for this meeting and all future meetings, updates from Network members are to be emailed to Christine as soon as possible after the meeting if the update is to be included in the minute of the meeting. If the update is not emailed to Christine, it will not be noted in the minute.

6) Presentation from Dr Jenna Breckenridge from the University of Edinburgh

Dr Jenna Breckenridge gave a presentation on disabled women who experience domestic abuse. This includes women with physical impairments and women with learning disabilities. Following the presentation, Jenna answered questions from the Network. Jenna will send research papers on domestic abuse and child protection to Oonagh to pass on to the Network members.

7) Dr Dominique Harvey from CELCIS

CELCIS are currently working in partnership with the Robertson Trust to understand how they can work with families at an earlier stage, and how the range and co-ordination of support currently available to families can be improved.

CELCIS will be working with children and families, statutory services, third sector organisations and community groups in three areas of Scotland to understand how children and families are currently supported, and to test out new and innovative ways to work with families. The Network split into 3 groups and gave their views on how support for families can be improved. See outcome from workshop in attached document.

Dates of future meetings

- Wednesday 6 September 2017 in Edinburgh
- Wednesday 6 December 2017 in Glasgow
- Wednesday 7 March 2018 in Dunfermline
- Wednesday 6 June 2018 in Ayrshire (Kilmarnock)

The times and venues of all meetings will be confirmed and sent to Network members nearer to the time of each meeting.

Actions from previous meetings

- Send the easy read information regarding Child's Plan meetings to the Network members when this has been completed **(People First (Scotland) Parents' Group, Edinburgh / Christine) Carry forward**

Actions from this meeting

- Provide Oonagh with any resources or good practice examples relating to the provision of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenting Education in Additional Support Needs schools **(Network members)**
- Provide Oonagh with workshop submissions to be used at the 2 events to promote the Guidelines to practitioners that highlight examples of positive practice **(Network members)**
- Contact Oonagh if you know of any parents who may be interested in sharing stories of positive practice in supporting parents with a learning disability that will be published by the Norah Fry Centre for Disability Studies and the University of Bristol **(Network members)**
- Share films that have been produced by Central Advocacy Partners about supporting parents with a learning disability with Network members **(Oonagh)**
- Send updates from Learning Disability Wales to Network members when these are received **(Oonagh)**

- For this meeting and all future meetings, email updates from Network members as soon as possible to Christine if update is to be included in the minute of the meeting **(Network members – asap following the meeting)**
- Send research papers on domestic abuse and child protection to Oonagh to pass on to the Network members **(Jenna Breckenridge / Oonagh)**