



**Minutes of Parenting Network Meeting
The Steeple
Dundee
DD1 4DG
Wednesday 20th June 2018
10am – 1.15pm**



Who was there:

David	Barr	Acting Chair (Aberlour)
Suzanne	Ferrie	People First Dunfermline
Mandy	Law	People First Dunfermline
Joan	Irons	People First Dunfermline
Susan	Burt	People First Dunfermline
Kate	Milliken	People First Dunfermline
Andrea	Ladyka	People First Dunfermline
Paul	McConnachie	Parent
Maria	Pothoulaki	Glasgow Caledonian University
Alan	Middleton	Glasgow Caledonian University
Chris	Steer	Scottish Government
Mary	Sneddon	Dundee Independent Advocacy Support
Lesley	Russell	Dundee Independent Advocacy Support
Andrew	Scott	Scottish Government
Alan	Roberts	Fife Health and Social Care Partnership
Jackie	Tolland	Parent Network Scotland
Pat	Emmonds	Clinical Psychologist
Fiona	Borrowman	NHS Health Scotland
Rose	Vickridge	NHS Health Scotland
Karen	Laing	NHS Tayside
Carole	Fraser	NHS Tayside
Dana	Martin	Equal Say
Pauline	Crilley	Equal Say
Salena	Begley	Family Fund
Bianca	Woods	People First (Scotland)
Jane	Lewis	People First (Scotland)

Rachel	Pyle	Scottish Government
Oonagh	Brown	Scottish Commission for Learning Disability
Christine	McBain	Minute taker from Scottish Commission for Learning Disability

1) Welcome and Introductions

In Gillian's absence, David welcomed everyone to the meeting, introductions were made and housekeeping rules explained.

2) Review of Minutes of Meeting of 21 March 2018

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

3) Actions from Meeting of 21 March 2018

- Put the use of traffic light cards at Network meetings on to the agenda for the next meeting **(Gillian / Oonagh) Done**
- Contact Oonagh with details of parents who are willing to have their quotes included in the guide for professionals working with young pregnant women and young fathers **(All)** No details of parents provided so contact will now be made with people in the guide and feedback provided at the next meeting. **(Oonagh)** No details have been provided. The Network members will be informed when the document is complete **(Oonagh)**
- Put the issue of neglect on to the agenda for the next meeting **(Gillian / Oonagh) Done**
- Provide email address to be forwarded to the Network members to give input to the Supporting Disabled Children, Young People and Their Families Framework **(Andy Scott) Oonagh to action**
- Send out information on the Mind the Gap: MIA / ANNA event that takes place on 15 May to the Network members to share with people who are not already engaged **(Oonagh / Network Members) Done**
- Send further updates to the Network members by email **(Oonagh) Done**
- Complete and return the Evaluation Form in the pack to Oonagh **(Network Members) Done**

4) Accessible Information

Fiona Borrowman from NHS Health Scotland gave a presentation on accessible information for parents and handed round a copy of The CHANGE Resources which are free and available to all parents. Discussion took place regarding the lack of availability of these resources. Fiona asked the Network to let her know the areas where there are problems. Fiona also asked for comments on the format and content to be sent to her. Content will be reviewed with parents. Fiona will give Oonagh copies of easy read instructions on bottle feeding to pass on to the Network. Fiona and Rose thanked everyone who has been involved in this work.

5) Practice example of existing Parenting Network

Jackie Tolland from the Parent Network Scotland talked about the work that has been done with parents to build networks of parents to provide support for each other. Information on the Parent Network Scotland was available at the meeting to take away. Bianca said that the aims of a national network of parents with learning difficulties would be to make their voices stronger across Scotland, to change attitudes and to push for better support on a national level. The main barriers to parents coming together from different areas are time, childcare and travel. Oonagh informed the Network that a Parents' Network is being set up. Jackie agreed to be part of this.

6) Supporting Disabled Children, Young People and their Families Resource

Andy Scott from the Scottish Government gave a presentation on the resource. The Scottish Government wants to know what information should be included in the resource, what the resource should be called and what format the resource should be in. Meetings with 10 engagement groups will take place before the consultation closes. The resource is available in full, in easy read format, BSL and online. Andy asked the Network members to contribute to the consultation. The link to the consultation will be sent to Oonagh to pass on to the Network and to the Parent Network Scotland.

Paul suggested that the resource should be available on video and DVD. Bianca said that parents with learning difficulties would need a printed copy in an easy read format as not all parents access the web.

7) LUSTRUM Research Project

Alan Middleton and Maria Pothoulaki, two researchers from Glasgow Caledonian University, spoke about a new sexual health treatment pack. They would like people aged 18 – 65 years who have a mild learning disability to take part in research to find out what they think about a new sexual health treatment pack. Information sheets with Alan and Maria's contact details were handed out at the meeting. Anyone interested should contact Alan or Maria direct.

8) Network Member Updates

Bianca Wood - People First (Scotland)

Bianca read out a statement that was written by People First (Scotland) Parents' Group regarding the Scottish Government's new legislation to make emotional abuse and neglect of children a crime. This was approved by the People First Board and sent out for people to sign. So far 34 people have added their signature. Bianca hoped that others would add their signature.

Bianca informed the Network that easy read letters for parents are being used by many schools in Glasgow with positive feedback. Falkirk, South Lanarkshire, Fife and North Ayrshire councils have sent these out to all schools. There have been some very positive comments.

Bianca spoke at the launch of a resource called "Involving children, young people, parents and carers in planning to meet children's wellbeing needs" on 7 June in Glasgow. The resource includes the easy read letters and agendas for GIRFEC meetings and a summary of the child's plan. It is hoped that professionals will use these so that meetings are easier for parents to understand. The resources are available on the ALLIANCE website.

Oonagh Brown – SCLD

MIA / ANNA Event – this took place on 15 May as part of learning disability week. Over 60 people attended with positive feedback from the Children and Young People’s Commissioner Scotland.

Safe and Healthy Relationships – this discussion document was published on the 13th June and gives an idea of the provision of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenting Education (RSHPE) for people with a learning disability in additional support needs schools and those in mainstream schools with an additional support need unit. Copies of the document, together with an easy read summary of the findings, were available at the meeting.

Consultation responses – SCLD is responding to 3 key consultations relating to children and families and therefore parents with a learning disability. The consultations are The Best Start Grant Regulations, Review of Part 1 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 and creation of a Family Justice Modernisation Strategy, Supporting Disabled Children, Young People and their Families Resource. SCLD will be looking to include Network members and will be in touch shortly.

9) Any other business

Use of traffic light cards at Network Meetings – following discussion, it was agreed that only the green “talk” card will be used at future Network meetings.

Date for National Network of Parents Event Working Group meeting – to be agreed.

Oonagh asked the Network members to complete and return the Evaluation Form in the pack.

10) Date of next meeting

To be agreed and venue to be confirmed.

Actions from previous meetings

- Inform the Network members when the guide for professionals working with young pregnant mothers and young fathers is complete **(Oonagh)**
- Provide email address to be forwarded to the Network members to give input to the Supporting Disabled Children, Young People and Their Families Framework **(Oonagh)**

Actions from this meeting

- Network members to let Fiona Borrowman know the areas where there are problems accessing The CHANGE Resources. Network to also pass any comments on the format and content of the resources to Fiona **(Network members)**
- Give Oonagh copies of easy read instructions on bottle feeding to pass on to the Network members **(Fiona / Oonagh)**
- Add Jackie Tolland from Parent Network Scotland to the contacts for setting up a national Parents' Network **(Oonagh)**
- Network members to contribute to the consultation on the Supporting Disabled Children, Young People and their Families resource. Andy Scott to forward the link to the consultation to Oonagh to pass on to the Network members and to the Parent Network Scotland **(All / Andy Scott / Oonagh / Parent Network Scotland)**
- Contact Alan Middleton / Maria Pothoulaki from Glasgow Caledonian University if wish to take part in research on a new sexual health treatment pack **(Network members)**
- Contact Network members for their input into the following consultations:
 - The Best Start Grant Regulations **(Oonagh)**
 - Review of Part 1 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 and creation of a Family Justice Modernisation Strategy **(Oonagh)**
 - Supporting Disabled Children, Young People and their Families Resource **(Oonagh)**
- Decide date, time and venue of the National Network of Parents Event Working Group meeting and send invites out **(Oonagh)**
- Complete and return the Evaluation Form in the pack to Oonagh **(Network members)**

- Decide date, time and venue of next Parenting Network meeting and send invites out (**Oonagh**)