

Northern Ireland Social Care Council Participation Partnership

10.30a.m, Monday 26th June 2017
Council Suite 2, NISCC, Belfast



Members at the meeting:

Geraldine Campbell (Chair)
Gerard McWilliams
Brenda Maitland
Anne Mallon
Lee Wilson

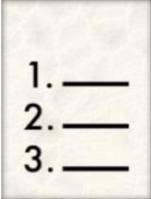
Present:

Brenda Horgan, NISCC
Marian O'Rourke, NISCC
Roisin O'Connor (Note taker) NISCC

Apologies:

Rionach Campbell
Audrey Montgomery
Maria Somerville
Joanne Sansome

Item	Welcome and Introduction	Action
	<p>Geraldine – Welcomed everyone</p>	

Item	Apologies	Action
<p>apologies</p> 	<p>Apologies were received from Neil Irvine, Audrey Montgomery, Joanne Sansome, Maria Somerville, Sarah Gardiner (No longer part of the participation partnership but would like to be updated) and Rionach Campbell.</p>	
Item	Notes of the Last Meeting	Action
	<p>Notes for 23rd May 2017 – Approved</p> <p>Brenda M requested a change on Page 4 of the minutes that the word straightforward is used instead of simple.</p>	
Item	Matters Arising	Action
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social work awards – Brenda requested that Anne and Gerard notify her of their preferred categories in judging the Social work awards. 2. Easy read standards – Update on the event to take place 3. Review of principles to be added to the next Participation Partnership agenda. 	
Item	Update from Chair	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NISCC Council and Participation Partnership schedule – First date of the four quarterly meetings is the 19th September 2017 followed by one another meeting in December, all Participation Partnership meetings will be held before Council meetings take place. • Council applications have now closed. <p>Gerard suggested the possibility that future application forms for public appointments such as NISCC Council should be available in an easy read format, as the language used in the current form was difficult to understand.</p> <p>Anne asked for clarification around the two days a month required for the role, Geraldine explained that these are not necessarily spent in the NISCC office but involve home reading etc.</p> <p>Lee suggested that some training could be arranged for members of the partnership around public appointments.</p>	

	<p>It was acknowledged that the members of the Partnership would be well placed to apply for public appointments, especially for places on the NISCC Council. It was agreed that NISCC would identify the potential for a representative from the public appointments body to talk to the group about the role and the application process. Gerard could consider submitting feedback regarding his experience of trying to apply for a post (inaccessible application)</p> <p>Chair/Vice –Chair to consider how to raise this issue further.</p>	
<p>Item</p>	<p>Update from Members</p>	<p>Action</p>
 <p>News & Updates</p>	<p>Gerard updated that he had been working with Catherine Maguire, Professional Advisor, NISCC to develop an easy read “what do I expect from my social care worker”. This might involve going out to organisations with service users, and linking in with them on what they think needs to be included on the card. The second meeting will be held this afternoon</p> <p>Gerard commented that he had enjoyed attending the PiP (Professional in Practice) awards on 15th June and congratulated his Social Worker on the receipt of their award. an award he said that it was nice to be there and congratulate his Social Worker on their award.</p> <p>Brenda H added that Gerard had shadowed her at a PiP workshop that she delivered to Social Workers. Gerard had taken the lead role in a short film “Introduction to PiP”. Gerard added that he would like to shadow any forthcoming registrant roadshows regarding registration.</p> <p>Anne updated the group about her attendance at a leadership event organised by the DoH to identify priorities for the Social Work Strategy entitled “Moving Forward Together” which was held on 20th June 2017.</p> <p>Anne enjoyed the event but felt that the three collective priorities agreed focused more on organisational internal issues than on service users and carers. She noted that she had highlighted this at the event and this had been supported by other attendees.. Brenda H thanked Anne for attending and noted the intrinsic importance of maintaining the focus of the event on Service Users and Carers.</p>	
<p>Item</p>	<p>Update Residential Care, Nursing Homes and Day Care Content Reference Group Marian O'Rourke</p>	<p>Action</p>



Marian explained to the group that Mairead Harkin is currently developing a mobile application for Adult Residential and Day Care . To undertake this work Meta and Mairead are both working with focus groups which include various organisations within residential and day care. Maria agreed to join the reference group but due to other commitments has been unable to attend meetings.

It was agreed that the Participation Partnership group will feedback on the app and circulate to anyone who may be interested in providing feedback.

Marian also reported that a Child Development App, developed by Mairead in conjunction with Queen’s University and Ulster University has won first place in an international award., A certificate will be awarded and some funding will be given to develop the app further. The Partnership congratulated Mairead and the App team on their much deserved award.

Item	Review of the Health and Social Care Qualifications and the Induction Framework/Programme Meta Kennan	Action
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Meta gave an update on the four projects she has been working on recently:

1. Working on developing the Standards of Conduct and practise into the induction programme for Social Care worker and Social Workers. It in turn will familiarise the workforce with the NISCC standards from the beginning of their employment.

2. There is an ongoing U.K. wide review of the Social Care qualifications including Wales and Ireland. Wales have chosen the two qualification regulators that are specific to Wales. So in turn we would like to create qualifications that are specific to Northern Ireland. Reference groups and working groups have now been set up.

3. We are working on the Early Years Qualifications for Social Workers and Social Care Workers. Reassessing the content of the Level 2,3, and 5 with representatives from Early years organisations and FE College representatives.

4. The new Level 4 qualifications are now being created; this qualification will allow Social care workers with a level 3 qualification to enhance their skills without having to move into a management position.

	<p>Anne queried the level of involvement of service users and carers across the sectors in the working groups involved in creating and reassessing these qualifications. Meta explained that there is currently a list of twenty eight people across the sectors that would like to be involved in the working groups. This is a great response.</p>	
Item	Update on Social Care Ambassador Training (August)	Action
	<p>Brenda updated the group on Social Care workers and Social care Ambassadors training scheduled for the 23rd and 30th August. Brenda requested volunteers from the partnership to deliver part of the presentation giving the sService user or carer perspective at the Ambassador training. Brenda added that if anyone would like to volunteer to contact her. She also explained that there would be an overall PowerPoint presentation but no script.</p> <p>Gerard expressed an interest in volunteering and suggested that he could make a PowerPoint presentation as it would be the best way to get his opinions across.</p>	
Item	Communication Plan	Action
 <p>Communication and Engagement Strategy 2017 - 2021</p>	<p>The final draft of the NISCC Communication Plan, was circulated to the group for consideration. Brenda M commented that it had taken on board the amendments proposed by the partnership.</p> <p>The plan reflects the priorities and themes of the overall corporate strategy and has a stronger representation of the voices of Service Users and Carers. Some of the changes that were suggested were changes to the overall language, for example the word “Stakeholder”.</p> <p>Brenda H gave a brief update on the review of the Principles of Participation action plan. Brenda explained that she had met with Colum, Patricia and Marian regarding the action plan in relation to the NISCC Corporate/Business Plan. She circulated a mapping document for the groups consideration but acknowledged that the paper may not be accessible and partnerships feedback. Brenda H acknowledged that it wasn’t very accessible and would work to improve this in advance of</p>	

	<p>the next meeting.</p> <p>One of the actions in the plan relates to a review the model of engagement Geraldine welcomed this as the Partnership was set up as a springboard to develop better engagement The partnership's terms of reference was to: challenge NISCC on the quality of its engagement or lack of engagement; to influence NISCC in the development of its strategic and business plans by raising any issues that needed to be on the regulators radar and providing insight to other issues; and to advise NISCC on how it might broaden or carry out its engagement. Geraldine encouraged NISCC in particular the workforce development team to seek out opportunities to widen engagement beyond the Partnership, that service user and carer should not come exclusively from the Partnership rather they should oversee the nature and type of engagement utilised by the team.</p>	
Item	Any Other Business	Action
AOB	<p>Gerard updated the group on the HSC Disability Network, Tapestry, who are currently running a program to encourage staff that may have a disability to come forward and give suggestions and feedback on how their workplace could be improved. This year the network will be going on a roadshow, visiting organisations and speaking about the work that is carried out and drawing more attention to the issues. Gerard also explained that there is complete confidentiality in the disclosing of a disability by an employee and that it was important to publicise this fact. Gerard would be keen to promote Tapestry within NISCC.</p>	
Item	Date of Next Meeting	Action
	19 th September @ 10:00 am	