

(4)	Assessing the Economic Value of the Adult Social Care Sector in Northern Ireland Report	
4.1	The Chief Executive advised that this was the final draft of this report and it will not be officially launched. This report has already begun to resonate in the work that NISCC is progressing. It has been included in the NISCC response to Programme for Government and the Apprenticeship Levy consultation. He went on to explain that this paper will contribute to building a body of knowledge for social care and is there for this group and others to take into their own environment.	
4.2	The Chief Executive suggested that this report along with other reports that NISCC are progressing should be brought together to form the basis of a social care symposium later in the year. This is on the agenda and will be discussed in detail at item 8.	
4.3	Cindy Scott commented that whilst this was an excellent report it does not reflect the unregistered groups or show the significant value of these groups. The Chief Executive agreed but explained that the available data for social care is very dispersed and that NISCC could only stand over the data for registered groups.	
4.4	Leslie-Ann Newton informed the Partnership that ARCNI has used this report in their response to Apprenticeship Levy consultation.	
4.5.	Leslie-Ann commented that she was disappointed that social care was not really featured on the agenda for the Seminar on the Skills Gap in Northern Ireland on 26 January. The Chief Executive stated that he will be attending this seminar and he plans to take the report to it.	
4.6	Brenda Maitland suggested that this report be shared with the Participation Partnership and it was agreed this would be done.	
4.7	Lisa McElhern stated that she is involved with the Procurement Board and that it would be beneficial to present this report and their next meeting. The Partnership agreed and also that this report is shared to the Department of Health.	
(5)	Strategic Issues for the Social Care Workforce Report (John Compton Workshops)	
5.1	The Chair commented that the workshops facilitated by John Compton were very successful and that the information gathered at the workshops will help to produce a valuable report. The report is expected in February.	

5.2	The Chief Executive commented that the template for the report has been decided and will include the challenges that are encountered by the workforce, the threats that they present and the opportunities that exists. He emphasised that this report will be an employer led initiative. It also needs to confirm the value of the mixed economy of care.	
(6)	Domiciliary Care Report	
6.1	The Chief Executive commented that this report was produced by the Department of Health on workforce planning for domiciliary care. The report has not been circulated and that it is not yet clear how the Department intend to use the information. It was noted that members of this Partnership were represented with Patricia Higgins from NISCC and Pauline Shepherd from IHCP involved in the group.	
(7)	Expert Advisory Panel on Adult Care & Support – call for evidence	
7.1	The Chief Executive informed the Partnership that he had recently met with John Kennedy and Des Kelly from the Expert Panel. It was a useful opportunity to highlight the issues relevant to the social care workforce. The Expert Panel indicated that they will be holding 3 workshops in February and March and a report with a series of recommendations will be produced in April.	
7.2	Leslie-Ann commented that ARCNI have requested a meeting with the panel and are awaiting a date. They will be reinforcing the key messages at their meeting. She noted that the introduction of the Innovation Fund has been delayed and the core funding for voluntary and community sector from the Department of Health will continue into 2017/18.	
7.3	The message is consistent across the sector regarding the critical situation of social care in Northern Ireland and that there is an opportunity to become more innovative and improve the collaboration across the sector.	
7.4	Mairead Mackle mentioned that Homecare Independent Living are currently piloting a new community care model that had originated in Belgium. It has been in place for six months and has produced good early results. Mairead agreed to keep the partnership updated.	
(8)	Proposal on a Social Care Seminar	
	The Chief Executive suggested that a Social Care symposium will be organised to pull together all the key pieces of work that are	

	currently being progressed. The partnership agreed that the seminar would be coordinated by this group and that the date should be arranged around the release of the review of adult social care report in April or May	
8.1	<p>The following members agreed to form a steering group for the seminar:</p> <p>Anne O'Reilly – NISCC Council Member Leslie-Anne Newton – ARCUK Cindy Scott – BCM Sandra Gray – BHSCT Deborah Stevenson – Cedar Foundation Mairead Mackle – Homecare Independent Living</p> <p>A meeting for this group to be arranged in the near future.</p>	
(9)	Apprenticeship Levy Consultation	
9.1	The NISCC consultation response was tabled for information purposes.	
(10)	Review of Vocational Qualifications	
10.1	Marion O'Rourke commented that this review was managed through the qualifications panel and that the outcomes of the review showed that the Health and Social Care qualifications were still fit for purpose and that the NISCC standards are being embedded in the core qualifications. A briefing paper illustrating the way forward will be produced and this will be shared with the partnership when it is available.	
(11)	Members Information and Issue Sharing – feedback and next steps:	
11.1	Re-launch of Domiciliary Care App <p>The Chief Executive informed the partnership that the Domiciliary Care app was re-launched and it now includes new information on dementia and updates on safeguarding. He also commented that a similar app is being developed for adult day care services.</p>	
11.2	Synergy Project Launch <p>NISCC launched the Synergy project in December. NISCC Staff are visiting front line staff to get first-hand experience of the work carried out by registrants and engage with services users.</p>	
11.3	Cindy Scott expressed her interest in the project and would be happy for NISCC to visit BCM.	

11.4	<p>NISCC response to consultation on Programme for Government</p> <p>Members were circulated the paper for information purposes.</p>	
(12)	<p>AOB</p> <p>Leslie-Anne Newton mentioned that she is part of a UK wide network that is currently looking into ways to raise the profile of social care including options such as advertising on buses and local television networks. Leslie-Anne is not sure how much progress can be made in this area but agreed to keep the Partnership updated on any progress.</p>	
(13)	<p>Items to Report to Council</p> <p>None</p>	
(11)	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>16 March 2017</p>	

Anne O'Reilly, Chair of Workforce Development Partnership
Northern Ireland Social Care Council