



Working together to support children and families

Keeping you informed about this national programme for the restructuring of children's disability services

About the programme

The programme 'Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People' aims to achieve a national unified approach to delivering disability health services, so that there is a clear pathway to the services they need for all children regardless of where they live, what school they go to or the nature of their disability or delay.

Children should receive the health services they need as close to their home and school as possible. Some children may have their needs met by their local Primary Care services. An early intervention and a school age team will look after all children with more complex needs in a defined geographic network area, regardless of the nature of their disability. These teams will be supported by specialist services when a high level of expertise is required.

The programme also involves our partners in the education sector to ensure we are working together to achieve the best possible outcomes for children.

The Health Service as a whole has to operate within the funding available to it and given the current economic environment, this has become a major challenge for all stakeholders, including the HSE, voluntary service providers, services users and their families. However we need to make the best possible use of the resources we have, and if we work to get the structure right we will have strong foundations to build on.

South of Dublin Interim Governance Group

Purpose: The purpose of the South of Dublin Region Interim Governance Group is to establish the framework for the governance of the delivery of Network Disability Services for Children age 0-18 in the South of Dublin Region in line with the national policy on Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People 0 -18 and the Primary Care Network Structure.

Background: The Voluntary Organisations that provide disability services in the south of Dublin cross a number of HSE areas. This cross boundary distribution has presented issues for the reconfiguration of Disability Services in the region in line with the national programme for Progressing Disability Services for Children and young people. The South of Dublin Region Interim Governance Group has been established to address this.

Members/Stakeholders

Representation from each of the agencies CEO or Director Level.

Parent Representative (DSW Parent Group), HSE Dublin Mid Leinster (DML) Regional Lead for Progressing Disability Services, HSE Local Leads for Progressing Disability Services (3 leads from Dublin South City, Dublin South East, Dublin South West, Dublin West, Dublin South) St Michael's House, Cheeverstown House, Enable Ireland, Central Remedial Clinic, Stewarts Hospital, Saint John of Gods (Menni Services, Carmona Services, St Augustine's)& HSE Beechpark Services.

This change process is supported and facilitated by HSE Performance and Development Unit, DML.

Definitions:

South of Dublin Region: The South of Dublin Region to include the HSE service areas of Dublin South City, Dublin West, Dublin South West, Dublin South and Dublin South East and all of the HSE and HSE funded agencies providing disability services for the 0-18 age group therein.

PDS: Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People 0-18 Years

ISAs: Integrated Service Areas of the HSE.

LIGs: Local Implementation Groups

Disability Networks: Comprise Early Intervention Teams and School Age Teams aligned to the Primary Care Network Structure.

Governance: is concerned with the systems by which partnerships (organisations) are run, directed and controlled, it is about (contd p2)

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(Contd from p1) developing and implementing the appropriate structures and processes to ensure that a partnership/ (organisation) is run effectively. Ref: <http://www.governancecode.ie/glossary.php>

Goals:

1. To agree and establish a framework for the South of Dublin Region Governance Group.
2. To develop a map of the SDR, mapping the Disability Network to the Primary Care Networks.
3. To agree the core principles and values in line with the National Strategy.
4. To agree one Memorandum of Understanding for all services in the South of Dublin region.
5. To draft and agree an implementation plan.
6. To consider the role of the current LIGs with regard to the new Governance structure.

Actions to date:

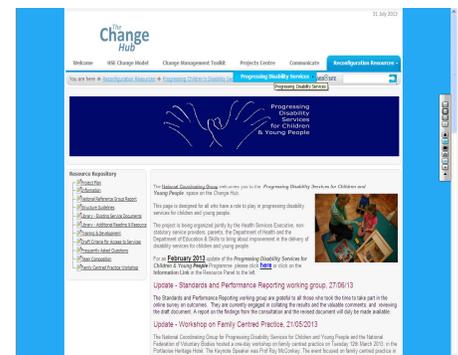
- SDR is currently meeting on a monthly basis.
- SDR has signed off on Terms of Reference.
- SDR has agreed the core principles and values.
- Local Implementation Groups across the South of Dublin Region will continue to operate and are essential to the local implementation of the programme. Specific functions including governance and mapping will be undertaken centrally by the SDR.
- SDR plans to host a clinicians day between April and June
- SDR has collated the number of staff (WTE , Whole Time Equivalent) in SDR and is committed to keeping this template updated and live.
- SDR is engaged in identifying the number of Disability Network teams that are required across the region and the composition requirement for these teams.
- The implementation plan for reconfiguration will advise the number of teams that can be put in place with current staffing levels.
- SDR is commencing work on the SDR governance structure and documentation.

HSE change hub

This is the HSE's Learning and Development website which is open for all to enrol, not just HSE staff. There is a wealth of information and written material of interest on this site, including the Progressing Disability Services for Children & Young People programme. To search for information on this programme, click on **Practice Development Hubs**, then click on the **Change Hub**. Under **Resources** on the left hand side you will see **Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People**. You are not able to search for Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People from the main HSEland.ie home page. You must follow the steps above. You will find key documents such as The Final Report from the *Standards and Performance Reporting* working group - **Outcomes for Children and Their Families** and guidelines as they are issued, plus an extensive library of existing service documents and relevant articles.

Don't forget to visit the site for updated documentation.

The HSE Change Hub has collaborated with the Royal College of Surgeons again this year to share the learning from the service improvements initiatives undertaken by the MSc Health Services Management 2013 Participants. Quality, Safety, Efficiency and Professional Competence are themes addressed by these initiatives.



Visit the [Case Study Repository Page](#) to view the Case Studies by Care Setting Category or view by Tag
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News from around the country

Galway

The parents advisory group which has two representatives on the Local Implementation Group has now formed. Any parent who wants to find out what is happening with the reconfiguration process in Galway can attend the group or contact them with questions.

Anyone interested can contact Orla on 087-2501011 or orla.irwin@hse.ie who will refer on to the group.

Carlow/Kilkenny

Parent committees in Carlow & Kilkenny came together on February 27th and met with Mark O'Connor from Inclusion Ireland. A decision was taken to merge the committees and meet in the future as one Carlow / Kilkenny Parent Committee.

A new Children's Services Centre is now open in Kilcreene campus, Kilkenny. All therapy disciplines are now located here.

Midwest

LIMERICK HIP HOP INTERVENTION PROJECT: NO EXCUSES, INSPIRE, MAKE A MOVE

This is a project being ran by Dr. Elizabeth O'Mahony Paediatric Neurologist and Aine O'Dea Senior Occupational Therapist with the Treehouse Disability Team. The Project is aimed at reducing the segregation of young people from disadvantaged areas in the city as well as those with disabilities in their communities and provide a fun-activity (hip hop dance) that both youth with disabilities and their typically developing peers can enjoy together.

This project came about through Make a Move Festival which is an annual Limerick festival aimed to celebrate and develop the art forms within Hip Hop for young Limerick artists as well as nationally. This festival has a particular emphasis on social inclusion; healthy living and an alternative lifestyle approach for young people especially those from marginalized communities and is the only one of it's kind in the country.



Dr Elizabeth O'Mahony and Dance Team have started a research project with children with DCD, AUTISM, ADHD to see if this particular type of dance can help with physical issues for example motor planning, balance, tone and concentration, But perhaps one of the other issues that they are looking at is how this particular project can help with social inclusion and overall mental health. Classes have also started for all children with mixed abilities including siblings and friends in the University of Limerick Sports Arena every Saturday 6-7pm. In addition they have been working with Down Syndrome Limerick and have started classes at the Centre on Saturdays from 2:30-3:30 pm.

For more information on other classes around the city of Limerick please see Facebook/Limerick Hip Hop Intervention Project for more information on times and locations of all classes or contact Enable Ireland Blackberry Park. We look forward to a very exciting year in 2014 and in particular involvement of our youth in the Special Olympics in Limerick this summer.

The Hub - Drogheda's new initiative for young adults with autism



At the Launch of The Hub at Boyne Rugby Club on Thursday 27th February were (from left): Jacinta Walsh of Drogheda Abacas, Peter Fitzpatrick, Mayor Richie Cullhane, Minister Fergus O'Dowd, Minister Kathleen Lynch TD, Senator Mary Moran, Jackie Barron, Lisa McIvor and Dermot Monaghan. Picture: Thos Caffrey / www.newsfile.ie

The Minister of State with responsibility for Disability, Older People, Equality and Mental Health, Labour's Kathleen Lynch, was in Drogheda on Thursday (February 27) to launch 'The Hub', a new community and activity support for young adults with autism, intellectual disability or complex needs run by Praxis Care, on behalf of the HSE, at an event in Boyne Rugby Club in Drogheda.

The aim of the Hub is to enable school leavers with complex needs to live within a safe and nurturing community environment which promotes options and choices, underpinned by a person-centred, needs led approach.

The Hub is a partnership between Praxis Care, HSE Louth Disability Services, the Genio Trust and Autism Support Louth & Meath and ABACAS School for Children with Autism, Drogheda. It provides individualised programmes of activity that promote social inclusion and service user choice and control to individuals in the Greater Drogheda area. It was decided to call the new support service "the Hub" to illustrate how each individual person is at the centre of all things that relate to them. The Hub also refers to the service's new base at the Boyne Rugby Club, which is an important site of youth community activity.

During his launch-day speech, John McGregor, Vice Chair of Praxis Care acknowledged the valuable input and support of the staff from Praxis Care, HSE Louth Disability Services, Genio, Autism Support Louth and Boyne Rugby Club in bringing this project to fruition and establishing this unique partnership in such an innovative way. "The support of all our partners at all stages of the project gave us a confidence to succeed and we thank them for that and for their support going forward. Each brings to the table their expertise and experience" he said.

The HSE Area Manager Louth Meath, Dermot Monaghan, said that the service envisages that all the supports available in communities will be mobilised so that people have the widest possible choices and options about how they live their lives and how they spend their time. "It places a premium on making sure that being part of one's local community is a real option. It recognises that people with a disability and who have complex needs will require specialised support throughout their lives. The guiding principle is that supports will be tailored to individual need and will be flexible, responsive and person-centred" he said.

Parent, Annemarie Durnin spoke of the impact of this new initiative on her son. "My son is so happy with his new life as a young adult. He now has a very active life doing activities in which he is interested and his horizons are widening all the time. We had been so terrified about what would happen him after school and are now so relieved and pleased. It's a very exciting chapter in the lives of these young people with complex needs."

Deputy Ged Nash welcomed the launch of 'The Hub' saying that it will provide a much needed service for people with disabilities in Drogheda. "Abacus Drogheda approached me some time ago to ask for backing on this project, explaining to me how children leaving the Abacus school as young adults were suddenly left with no services or support" he said. "Since then I have worked closely with Minister Lynch outlining the need for these services in Drogheda and the benefits that they will bring. The Minister was always supportive and I'd like to thank her for delivering so quickly on the project. 'The Hub' will be a life transformer for some young adults and will give them enormous satisfaction and enjoyment. It will of course enhance the lives of their families also. I'm delighted to see it up and running" he concluded.