

**YPAR 0-5 Working Group  
Meeting Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

**Present:** Beth Fagan, Claire Devery, Ramona O Reilly, Cathy Steenson, Mark Shinnick

**Apologies:** Frances O Keefe, Ann Carroll, Jenny Heath, Frank Mulville, Lesley Strahan.

**1. Minutes 19<sup>th</sup> November were noted and agreed.**

**2. Matters Arising:**

- Re HSE meeting Mark Following up with Parents of two of the cases mentioned
- DESSA could be an additional support to children with disabilities.
- Little Treasures have endeavoured to contact TOD from the HSE re their CE worker but he never answers or returns a call.
- While there is no excuse for the 'bad manners' of not returning people's call, it should be noted that there has been a lot of changes in the HSE senior personnel.
- YPAR to continue to endeavour to set up a meeting with HSE early intervention team.

**3. Directory Up-date**

It was agreed that the 0-5 Working Group will proceed with the up-dating of the YPAR directory seeking the additional information set out in the agreed profile template. YPAR staff will action this. However, it was pointed out given the limited capacity of YPAR staff at present if it were possible to secure the services of a student to work on up-dating the profile it would be much more effective as it would allow for time to carryout visits to each service.

**4. YPAR Protocol**

As there is anecdotal evidence to suggest that the 0-5 age group do not tend to use the YPAR Protocol, it was agreed that the YPAR Protocol Coordinator would be asked to examine this to confirm if this is the case. If this is the case, the working group will try to identify the barriers preventing parents in this age group using the Protocol and look at ways to overcome these.

Some of the possible barriers noted included;

- Lack of involvement by social workers
- Lack of time on the part of childcare workers/manager to initiate a Protocol case
- Not sufficient information on how to initiate a protocol case
- Reluctance on the parents to be 'stigmatised'

**5. Participation in 0-5 Working Group**

The issue of consistency and continuity of participation was highlighted in relation to holding the 0-5 Working Group. It was agreed that there is value in the group continuing to meet to share information and to work on specific themes in relation to 0-5 children at risk.

It was agreed that the current cuts in CE training budgets is going to have a serious and detrimental affect on childcares services that use CE as a means to resource and maintain their services. These issues will be examined further at the next 0-5 meeting.

**6. 0-5 Working Group Chairperson**

It was agreed that Jenny Heath Hill Street FRC Manager, would take over as Chairperson of the 0-5 Working Group effective immediately. Jenny and Ann Carroll will represent the 0-5 Working Group on the YPAR Steering Committee.

**The next meeting of the YPAR 0-5 Working Group will take place on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012  
12noon in Ozanam House.**