

GETTING IT RIGHT IN THE EARLY YEARS

Planning Strategy Group

Getting it Right in the Early Years (GIREY)

Vision

This group is a thematic group of Argyll and Bute's Children to build and strengthen partnership working to deliver services for children, young people and their families.

Governance of the group is through Argyll and Bute's Children and should report timeously to the group.

The vision above for Argyll and Bute's Children is the vision of the GIREY group.

"We are committed to working with our communities to develop and improve the quality of life and opportunity for all our children, young people and their families"

In order to achieve our vision, GIREY will strive to ensure that:

- All partner agencies work collaboratively and inclusively to benefit Argyll and Bute's children and their families/carers
- Children and their families/carers receive high quality services when required.

Objectives

In order to achieve this vision the GIREY group will strive to ensure that the following objectives are carried out:

All developments and work streams should ensure adherence to national policy drivers and guidance related to Early Years.

All work streams and programmes should deliver on the vision of Argyll and Bute's Children and the national policy drivers

All work streams and programmes should be commissioned to deliver on key priorities from the GIREY plan and should affect improvements for our children, their families and carers.

Functions

The key functions of the GIREY are:

To build on and strengthen partnership working to deliver integrated services for children, young people and their families.

To implement key policy drivers eg The Early Years Framework; Curriculum for Excellence; GIRFEC, Equally Well and Achieving Our Potential and ensure appropriate guidance is formulated to assist integrated delivery and accountability.

To agree an integrated annual GIREY Strategy Plan which will identify the priorities from national policy which will be the focus for action and development across Argyll and Bute.

To commission integrated Early Years network groups to deliver on key priorities from the GIREY plan.

To be responsible to reporting to Argyll and Bute's children and the locality groups in progress related to GIREY.

To champion and promote integrated delivery in Early Years.

Membership

Further Education	1
Health Services	3
Education and Social Work	3
Voluntary Sector	3
Private Sector	2
Co opted members	2
Elected Member	1
Workforce Development	1
Women's Aid	2
Parent Representatives	2

The chair of the group will be selected by the group at the first meeting. Other personnel may be co-opted on to the group at any point to assist in the achieving of the goals of the group. Heads of Service Children and Families and Education will have the right to attend any meeting and will be informed of progress of the group.

The group will meet at least four times each year, with one of the meetings selected to agree the implementation plan.

Core members can delegate a representative who may attend a meeting on their behalf; this should be notified prior to a meeting.

Tasks

To create an implementation plan for the Group related to key national priorities within the local setting of Argyll and Bute which will address the following:

- the identified needs of children and families seeking early years services
- support the needs of vulnerable families through integrated working in the early years
- develop the ability of parents and carers within our communities to meet their children's needs
- improve the availability and accessibility of provision that meets the needs of families and communities by building on the strength of universal* services
- enhance the care, play and learning experiences of all early years children in Argyll and Bute
- participate in addressing wider issues of poverty and disadvantage
- develop and sustain an extensive information service which meets the needs of children, parents and carers and professionals

* *universal = all services*

Document agreed by core group on 27th October 2011

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Children's Services Planning Structure

