

1	<p>Public Authority: Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.</p> <p>Address: Room D.1, Castle Buildings, Stormont Estate, Belfast BT4 3£Q.</p> <p>Contact Person: Bernie Redmond</p> <p>Branch/Unit: Physical and Sensory Disability Unit</p> <p>Telephone: 028 90522543</p> <p>Email: Bernie.Redmond@dhsspsni.gov.uk;</p>
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2	<p>Please provide a brief description of the background of the work you want to obtain children and young people’s views on:</p> <p>The DHSSPS is developing a new Disability Strategy for health and social care in Northern Ireland. The Strategy will cover physical disability, sensory and communication impairment for all age groups, both adults and children. It will include, regardless of the cause of the disability or age of the person, support and services in respect of physical disability, vision, hearing, communication impairment and neurological disability including acquired brain injury.</p> <p>The aim of the strategy is to improve outcomes in terms of services and support for people with a physical disability, communication and / or sensory impairment. The strategy will recognise the continued need to promote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dignity and respect for the individual’s difference’s; • Social inclusion and acceptance of the individual, regardless of the disability / impairment; • Independence and life opportunities; • Informed choices; • Anti-discrimination in service provision; and • Equality of opportunity and access to services and facilities. <p>The strategy will pay particular attention to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A person centred planning and a life cycle approach to treatment, care and support in order to promote the factors identified above including dignity, respect, independence and social inclusion;
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The need for partnership, working with families, carers and across sectors such as housing, education, transport recreation, leisure and employment; ▪ The promotion of wellbeing and prevention of other illnesses; ▪ Enhancing access to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Care in the Community; ▪ Domiciliary Care; ▪ Transition Planning; ▪ Respite Care; ▪ Rehabilitation; ▪ Prosthetics; ▪ Assistive Technologies; ▪ Wheelchair Provision ▪ Advocacy; ▪ Adaptations; ▪ Use of Direct Payments; and ▪ Individualised Personalised Budgets. ▪ The provision of an informed and skilled workforce in the health and social care sector; ▪ Appropriate commissioning and service provision to promote efficient and effective care; ▪ The development of recommendations which are capable of being monitored and evaluated; and ▪ Ensuring that the appropriate implementation arrangements are put in place following the publication of the final strategy.
<p>3</p>	<p>What do you want to know from children and / or young people?</p> <p>We want to know, from children and young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What difficulties do you face in accessing services or support on a day to day basis? • Have you had any difficulties getting help when you needed it? • What services or support would help you? <p>The discussion questions will be reviewed depending of the age, stage of development and needs of the children or young people that would be interested in getting involved.</p> <p>In addition to engaging with children and young people with a physical, communication or sensory disability. DHSSPS would like to engage with young people who are caring for someone with a physical, communication or sensory disability hear about their views and experiences of services and support available as well as what would help.</p>

4	<p>What are you going to do with the information you learn?</p> <p>The information and feedback we receive will be used in the development of the new Disability Strategy and will be used to inform the content of the strategy and the associated Action Plan which, when implemented, will improve access to support and services for children and young people with disabilities and young carers.</p>
5	<p>Who do you want to engage with?</p> <p>(A) – <input type="checkbox"/> An inclusive range of children and young people</p> <p>(B) – And / or the following groups</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children and young people with physical, communication or sensory disabilities / impairments</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Young Carers</p> <p>What age group(s) of children and / or young people would you like to engage with?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0-4 year olds</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5-11 year olds</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12-17 year olds</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18-25 year olds</p>
6	<p>How would you like to engage with them? (tick all that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I/my colleagues would like to attend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> group meeting / forum <p>that children and young people are already involved in</p> <p>The Physical and Sensory Disability Strategy Team would like to engage with children and young people in their own environment. Whilst the Department doesn't have a specific budget available for this they will endeavour to meet expenses incurred as a result of facilitating their attendance at events.</p> I would like to invite children and / or young people attend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> external consultation event <input type="checkbox"/> working group <p>Please describe:</p> Other, please describe:

The Participation Network recognises that children and young people's participation is not cost-neutral. However, it is the responsibility of the public authority and the organisation to engage in an independent discussion regarding resources and budget.

7 **When and how will you feedback to children and young people about how their views were considered?**

We are interested in attending events with children and young people in their own environment and if possible over the period April to June 2010. The feedback which we have heard at each event will be written up and disseminated back to the participants. This will be followed at a later stage with the draft Disability Strategy being issued for consultation which will show how the children and young people's feedback was used in the completed strategy.

8 **Are you able to provide any awards or incentives to the children and/or young people for their participation?**

We would be willing to provide DHSSPS logo 'goody bags' for participants.

9 **If an organisation is interested in working with you on this, what should they do? By when?**

They should contact Bernie Redmond (028 90522543) or Paul Cassidy (028 90528357) from the DHSSPS Physical and Sensory Disability Unit to express their interest in participating and engaging with the team in relation to the new Disability Strategy by Friday 23rd April 2010 – with a view to co-ordinating our attendance at events taking place during May and June 2010. Whilst we would wish to host and or hold these events if possible within the May-June 2010 timescales, the Department will consider events outside of this timeframe, if required

Authorised by:

Michael Sweeney
Head of DHSSPS Physical and Sensory Disability
Unit

Date:

31st March 2010