

LARG

27th March 2013

In attendance

Michael, Graham, Peter, Victor, Brian, Patricia & Catherine

The session focused on preparation for the Community Development Presentation for SWC Students coming in on 8th April.

We discussed the Get Up & Grow Social Economy Project as well as the way in which the organisation offers meeting space and delivers training, which brings in a modest income towards the running of Willowbank.

The work of LARG

- Consultation Responses
- Representation on Boards & Committees
- Supporting people to be involved at all levels of engagement
- Deliver training
- Engage with Students
- Engage with Local and Regional Representatives
- Learning about the various Government departments
- Supporting Disabled people to be actively involved in their own decision making

Each member of the group identified their role within and outside of LARG

Patricia Admin & Support role for group

Good practice examples of Service User Involvement

I'm a Representative on Service User Participation Group for NISCC – the group is small and support is given to ensure you are truly involved. Everything is talked about in lay man's terms and it's ok to say I don't know what you mean or I don't know

anything about that. I'm offered 1-2-1 support to check on how I'm getting on within the group and they even try to bring the meetings outside of Belfast to encourage involvement. The availability of the transport is a big thing because without it I couldn't do it.

Open question to group – **What is it that makes the difference to you being able to participate in groups etc?**

- Availability of Transport
- 1-2-1 support outside of the meetings
- Preparation & Planning in advance of the meetings to get up to speed
- Deciding what you want to get involved in – if it's not something you are interested in it's hard to keep up
- Planning, Planning, Planning

It was decided to host the group in the top room.

We will deliver the Community Development Presentation as well as opening it up to each individual speaking about what they are involved in within and outside of LARG.

It was agreed to evaluate the session.