

Somerset Parent Carer Forum

Weekly update



Support group forum

Twice a year the forum hosts a forum for support groups in Somerset to come together and share experiences. We try to include guest speakers and/or training during the session.

This time we were joined by:

- **Annette Perrington** Assistant Director for Inclusion at Somerset County Council
- **Kate Lee** Senior EP
- **Shona Turnbull-Kirk** Designated Clinical Officer
- **Fiona Moir** Public Health

This provided an opportunity for the group to hear about the work they are doing and understand their roles further. Fiona shared the parent carer toolkit that is currently being developed. It includes lots of useful information and opportunities to access training courses. You can access the toolkit at www.cypsomersethealth.org.

Save the date - Our next support group forum will be Tuesday 5th March 10-1:30.

SCRUTINY FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES POLICIES

A Somerset Parent Carer Forum representative attended the meeting to present the questions on the Young Carers Project report.

There appears to be a lack of clarity in the reporting as to what is being funded by the council and what is funded by the friends of the Young carers Project.

You can find details of the questions we have raised at the various meetings and the responses on our website.

ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION

We attended a meeting with Support Service for Education and representatives from home education groups to discuss how support from these services could be offered to families who home educate.

This was an early discussion about if this would be something that would be viable and if families who home educate would be interested and how they would like this to happen.

SHORT BREAKS FUNDAY PLANNING MEETING

This years annual funday was a massive success with over 500 attending.

It has been agreed that to facilitate the planning this year there will be a working group to help the Short breaks team.

If you have any suggestions on what you would like to be included this year please email us at help@somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk.



Unsung Heroes Award Ceremony

We are finalising the arrangements for net weeks Unsung Heroes awards Ceremony.

We have approximately 100 people attending to celebrate good practice and the achievements of our children and young people.



Coffee mornings at Wincanton and Taunton

This week we held our monthly coffee morning at Wincanton and Taunton. We are currently developing our support group offer and are keen to hear your view. Please email us if you have any suggestions of venues.