



## **Fairy Tales, Fables and Facts: Bamford Vision, where are we? ARC NI Conference 2016**

**Armagh City Hotel, Armagh  
29th – 30th September 2016**

**“Fairy tales do not tell children the dragons exist.  
Children already know that dragons exist.  
Fairy tales tell children the dragons can be killed.”**

**G.K. Chesterton**

**For all enquiries please contact 028 9038 0960  
or email [stephen.walker@arcuk.org.uk](mailto:stephen.walker@arcuk.org.uk)**

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# ARC NI Conference 2016

## The Learning Disability Conference of the YEAR!

In October 2002 DHSSPS initiated a major, wide-ranging and independent review of the law, policy and provision affecting people with mental health needs or a learning disability in Northern Ireland. As the Minister of Health, Michael McGimpsey, stated in 2009, the overall vision for mental health and learning disability will take 10-15 years to achieve. It therefore feels timely that ARC NI's Conference considers the achievements made, and most importantly acknowledges the recommendations still to be addressed, in order to achieve radical reform and modernisation.

This year's conference will be held on Thursday 29th and Friday 30th September 2016 with Day 1 open to all stakeholders and Day 2 specifically for leaders and senior managers.

### DAY 1 aims to:

- » Take stock of developments so far and the vision for the future
- » Explore what is and isn't working
- » Showcase best practice in achieving positive outcomes

### DAY 2 aims to:

- » Examine the role of leadership in creating a 'can do' culture to support real change
- » Consider a style of leadership based on inspiration, motivation and trust

Be sure of your place by returning the attached booking form ASAP.

## THURSDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER

### Heigh-ho, heigh-ho it's off to work we go - Everyone welcome!

**09.00am** Registration and Tea/Coffee

**09.30am** The Way to Read a Fairy Tale is to Throw Yourself In

#### Chairs:

**Leslie-Anne Newton**  
ARC NI Director  
**Kim Atcheson & Alex Parkinson**  
TILII Members

#### Conference Welcome

**09.40am** The Crystal Ball

**Michelle O'Neill**  
Minister of Health, Northern Ireland  
The Minister will provide an update on the funding and prioritisation of learning disability services to realise fulfilment of Bamford within a new Mandate.

**09.50am** The Facts of a 'Silent Observer'

**Clodagh Dunlop**  
Clodagh who suffered from Locked In Syndrome in 2015, will share her story and inspire us by describing her recovery achieved through determination and self-belief.

**10.00am** The Hare and the Tortoise - Slow and Steady Wins the Race

**Lorraine Brown**  
Bamford Policy Lead, Department of Health  
Lorraine will share the key findings of the recent evaluation of Bamford 2012-15 Action Plan which engaged over 200 people with a learning disability and over 300 parents/carers. She will then confirm the priorities of focus going forward.

**10.20am** Looking Back and Moving Forward

**Theresa Nixon**  
Director of Mental Health and Learning Disability and Social Work, RQIA  
Theresa will share the key findings of the recent review of Adult Learning Disability Community Services which engaged five health and social care trusts and over 200 adults with a learning disability including their carers and parents. She will then confirm the priorities of focus going forward.

## THURSDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER Continued

**10.40am** Cinderella Parents - Developing Parents/Carers of Children with Disabilities/Long Term Health Conditions, as Transformational Leaders

**Orla Watt**  
Nurse Consultant/CEO,  
Parent Action & Parent Co-facilitator  
Orla will present the Parent Action model of enabling, advocacy and empowerment of parents and carers, as transformational leaders to affect service improvement and cultural change in health, social care and education in NI.

**11.10am** WORKSHOPS (1)

Refreshments will be served in workshop rooms

**12.40pm** LUNCH

**1.30pm** WORKSHOPS (2)

Refreshments will be served in workshop rooms

**3.00pm** Advocacy Through the Looking Glass

**Miriam Somerville**  
Advocate & Co-worker  
VOCAL will use some of Alice's experiences in the Looking Glass to reflect our learning of individual's experiences in the Wonderland

**3.30pm** Equal Lives: The Emperor's New Clothes. Challenges of the Future

**Roy McConkey**  
Emeritus Professor of Developmental Disabilities, Ulster University  
The Equal Lives Report designed a new wardrobe of services for people with learning disabilities and their family carers. Ten years on the Emperor - the Northern Ireland Executive - claims to be wearing the clothes but there are many naked patches. Roy will discuss, why has it proved so difficult to weave a new fabric of supports.

## FRIDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

### We're following the Leader, the Leader, the Leader - Calling all CEOs and senior managers!

**09.00am** Registration and tea/coffee

**09.30am** Magic is believing in yourself. If you do that, you can make anything happen.

**Chair:**  
**Agnes Lunny**  
ARC NI CHAIR

#### Conference Welcome.

**09.40am** Fairy Tales Can Come True

**Jeremy Gardiner**  
Director, Core Leadership Group Ltd  
Leadership is being the change you want to see! Jeremy will share his personal story of disrupting the norm and will encourage you to consider different ways of communicating your message.

**10.25am** To Ultimately Slay the Dragon, Sometimes You Have to Take A Hit - How To Cannibalize Your Own Business to Push it Forward!

**Carla Tully**  
President, AES UK & Ireland  
Leadership is being your own competitor! Carla will share her experience of a sector created 135 years ago and how she has embraced the very things that threatened survival through innovation and investment.

**11.10am** Refreshments

**11.30am** To be seen as we truly are, is the biggest risk we will ever take. Will we be enough as we really are? - Let's Take a Risk with Risk

**David Carson**  
Associate of Ulster University  
Leadership is creative! David will share an approach adopted by the U.K. police - a means of delivering a proactive, preventive, principled approach to supporting professionals in the risk-taking which their job demands of them.

**12.15pm** The Yellow Brick Road - Bringing the Mind Home

**Frank Liddy**  
Mindfulness Practitioner AWARE  
All human beings possess the capacity to 'experience' the present moment! Frank will share how in accord with the objectives of the Bamford Review and Mindfulness' ancient roots, attendees will experience the art of falling awake by becoming more alive, aware and authentic.

**1.00pm** Fairy Tales Are More Than True, Not Because They Tell Us Dragons Exist, But Because They Tell Us They Can Be Beaten

**Leslie-Anne Newton**  
ARC NI Director  
Closing Comments

**1.20pm** Lunch

## WORKSHOPS

Please note workshops are occurring on Day 1 only.



### MORNING:

**The Goldilocks Effect - Supporting young school leavers to find what's "just right" for them.**

Lydia Lynas, Christine Johnston,  
Julie Anderson and Louise Macrory  
Orchardville Society

This workshop will discuss the realities and practicalities for young people with a learning disability and/or autism spectrum condition, leaving school and moving on to the world of work.

**Given the Right Choices It Can Result in a Happily Ever After - Choice Checkers**

Leanne McCafferty, Alana Douggan & Alison Simpson,  
Triangle Housing Association

This workshop will demonstrate how working in partnership with people with a learning disability throughout an initiative (from planning and development to delivery and reviewing) enabled the creation of a bespoke, person centred resource that works for each individual.

**The Ant and The Grasshopper - Be prepared. Prepare for the Inevitable.**

Margaret Cameron, Irene Millar & Susan McBride  
Inspire Wellbeing

This workshop will discuss how an organisation can improve practice, meet and exceed minimum standards and implement Bamford to achieve positive outcomes for the service users they support.

**How to cast a Configuration Spell through advocating on resettlement**

Sharon Hanna Mencap NI  
Sinead Campbell Disability Action  
Una Torrens Bryson Independent Advocacy

This workshop will demonstrate how advocacy has encouraged and supported individuals and their families during resettlement and confirms the need for effective collaboration between all stakeholders involved.

**Oisín and the Fabled Land of Tir na nÓg - How low arousal and stress reduction can help lead to the promised land**

Darragh McCullagh & Jonathan McGookin  
Positive Futures

This workshop explores the transactional model of stress and provides participants with an understanding of the low arousal approach, and its application to positive behaviour support.

### AFTERNOON:

**Jack & the Beanstalk - Then he looked upwards and his smile grew broader, joyous in the anticipation of how much further he could yet go.**

Tyrone Best, Lizzie Dixon & Anna McGurn  
Camphill Communities NI

This workshop looks at an integrated approach to health and well being throughout the stages of life for people with a learning disability.

**The Quest for the Holy Grail - How creative planning and support can get you the life you want.**

Jemma Ennis-Dawson & Denise Galbraith  
Positive Futures

This workshop will share a new person-centred strategy called 'The Life I want' which ensures the people supported have real choice, control and flexibility over the support they receive.

**You Shall Go to the Ball - Facilitating community participation and choice for people with a learning disability**

Pauline Spence & Geraldine McGurk  
Mencap NI

This workshop will draw on the real life experience of Mencap's 'Lifestyle Support Service' and the 'Link Me Project' and encourage participants to develop flexible solution based approaches to meet current and future need.

**Mirror, Mirror on the Wall, There's a Leader in Us All - Values Driven Leadership**

Leanne McCafferty, Bronagh Mullan & Arlene Dickson  
Triangle Housing Association

This workshop will share examples of learning and development opportunities for people with a learning disability which steer organisational development and details specific leadership capabilities across all staff.

**The Wizard's Guide to Supporting Parents who have a Learning Disability**

Amanda Burgess, Joanne Dowie & Anne Marie Cooke  
Belfast HSC Trust

This workshop will discuss why parents with a learning disability have their children removed and will consider the interface between learning disability services and family and childcare services.

**"When we get to the end of the story, you will know more than you do now..."**

**Hans Christian Andersen**

Information is correct at the time of print and is subject to change