

Dear Colleague,

Presentation on Early Intervention by Graham Allen MP.

Robin Newton and Gerry Kelly, Junior Ministers in the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister are delighted to host a seminar addressed by Graham Allen MP on “Implementing Early Intervention Programmes”. This seminar is taking place on **Friday 15th January at 9.30am in The Long Gallery, Parliament Buildings, Belfast.**

Graham Allen is in Northern Ireland on the invitation of Together 4 All, Barnardo’s and OFMDFM to address practitioners and policy-makers on his experiences in driving the introduction and implementation of “Early Intervention” by Nottingham City Council.

Giving every child a decent start has always been a fundamental part of Graham’s political and personal philosophy. The way he decided to go about this began to crystallise as “Early Intervention” through his experience as MP for the constituency in which he was born and bred.

Graham Allen represents Nottingham North, the largely white, working class former council estates which stretch across the north of the otherwise prosperous city of Nottingham. Despite the city’s excellent universities, this constituency sends the fewest young people to university of any constituency in the UK and has the highest rate of teenage pregnancy in Western Europe. However, these and other indicators are symptoms of the problem, which is the failure to intervene early enough to break the intergenerational nature of underachievement.

The Early Intervention objective is nothing less than to replace a vicious cycle with a virtuous cycle; to help every child become a capable and responsible parent who in turn will raise children who themselves will learn, attain and raise functional families of their own.

In this seminar he will be discussing the methodology he used, what challenges and barriers he faced and what outcomes have been achieved through the implementation of this programme by Nottingham City Council. He will also be discussing how he hopes to achieve political consensus on investment in Early Intervention nationally, highlighting the benefits against the costs of this programme and detailing how it will achieve better outcomes for children.

Good parents, great kids, better citizens.

We have enclosed a short biography of Graham Allen MP and a map of Stormont Estate for



your information.

This seminar will take place on Friday 15th January 2010 at 9.30 am in the Long Gallery, Parliament Buildings, Belfast. Registration will be opened from 9.00am and the seminar is scheduled to finish at 12.00pm midday.

As places are strictly limited, we respectfully request that you book your place as soon as possible by emailing oonagh@together4all.org or calling 028 3839 6546.

N.B. Please present this letter of invitation at the Massey Ave entrance to Stormont Estate and on entry to Parliament Buildings. If you are arriving by car, please confirm your car registration number when confirming your attendance. If you have any special access needs, please also confirm at this time.

Kind Regards,

Nuala Magee
Chief Executive, Together 4 All

Lynda Wilson
Director, Barnardo's N.I.

