

## **Additional Support Needs Advisory Panel**

**This year the ASN Advisory Committee has focussed on 2 main areas as follows:**

1. Managing Challenging Behaviour
2. The Role of the Named Person (Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014)

### **1. Managing Challenging Behaviour**

Members of the committee looked at and discussed copies of policies from their respective local authorities. All of these policies related to Promoting Positive Behaviour and Managing Challenging Behaviour.

A paper produced by Janine McCullough (committee member) and entitled, "Promoting positive behaviour and managing challenging behaviour and/or violence" has been submitted to the Health and Safety panel.

An additional paper aimed at raising the awareness of teachers who work within an ASN setting about relevant health and safety matters is in the process of being prepared.

### **2. The Role of the Named Person (Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014)**

This Act makes it clear that every young person has the right to a named person - someone to support them and their family, especially when things go wrong. The panel are particularly concerned about the provision of time for those teachers who will be required to fulfil this role specifically in the context of learners who have additional support needs.

Additionally, members of the committee have raised their concerns relating to the Named Person at a meeting with Angela Constance (Cabinet Secretary of Education) and at meetings with other members of the Scottish Government GIRFEC team.

The committee continues to be concerned about the continuing cuts to ASN budgets and about the impact of those cuts on our most vulnerable young people.

The committee would like to thank Liz Hunter (Professional Officer) for all of her support and for the work which she undertakes in the field of ASNs on behalf of the Association. We should also like to thank Michelle Moran who organises and disseminates the necessary paperwork which allows the committee to function efficiently.

The committee welcomed two new members this year. And, we are as always on the look out for additional members.

Anne O'Kane  
Convenor, March 2016