

# **Voice for KARE**

## **Effective participation in the Decision Making Process**

**5<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

Good afternoon, I'm Seamus.

Myself, David and Elaine are here today to  
tell you about Voice for KARE.

**KARE**

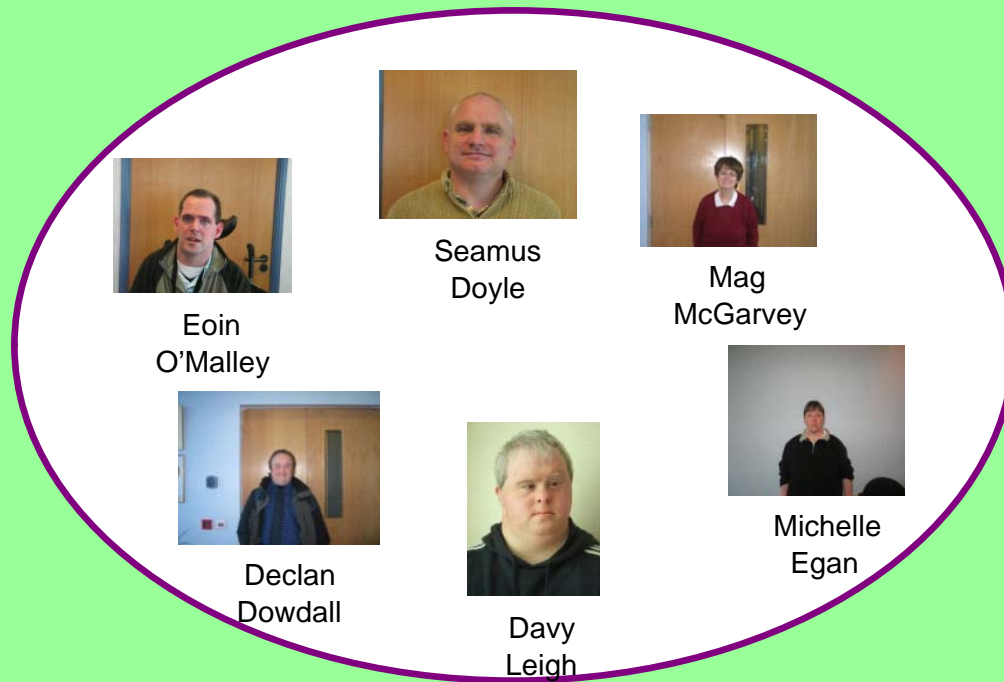
Promoting Inclusion for People with Intellectual Disabilities

We are from KARE.

KARE is an organisation that supports people with an intellectual disability to do the things they want in life.



Voice for KARE helps people who use the service have a say in what goes on in KARE.



We have a **Voice for KARE Committee.**  
There are six people on the committee.



The Voice for **KARE Committee** meet every month. We get involved in things to do with the whole organisation.

Voice for Kare Reps



VfK Newbridge  
Eyre Street



VfK Ailesbury



VfK Allendale



VfK Baltinglass  
Local Service



VfK Newbridge  
Central Services



VfK Flinter's  
Place



VfK Blessington  
Local Service



VfK Tinahely Local  
Service



VfK Athy  
Local Service



VfK Gallowshill



VfK Lakelands



VfK Naas Local  
Service



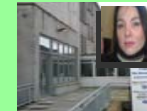
VfK Kildare  
Tully Road



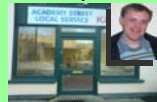
VfK Brownstown



VfK Morrell  
Drive



VfK Kilcullen



VfK Kildare  
Academy Street



VfK The  
Deanery



VfK Edenderry  
Local Service



VfK Clane Local  
Service

We also have **Local Voice for Kare Groups**  
in each area of KARE.

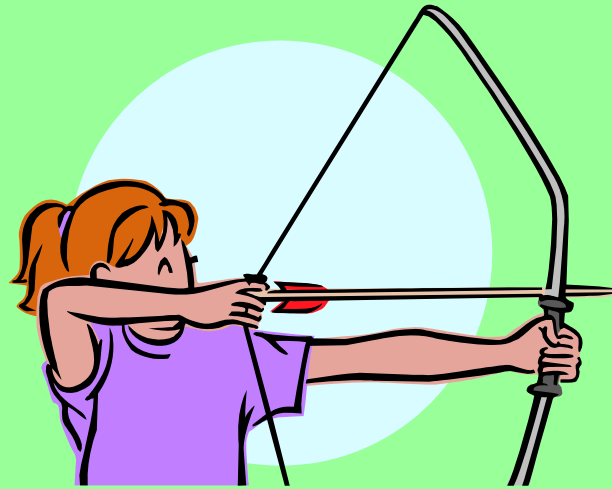
They deal with issues local to their area.



Each local area has a **Voice for Kare Rep.**  
The Voice for Kare committee and the Reps  
meet together once a month.  
Elaine will tell you more about the Reps later.



I will now hand you over to **David**  
to tell you  
more about Voice for KARE



The aim of Voice for KARE is to give advice and support on KARE's plans, policies and key activities and to make them easy to read for everyone.



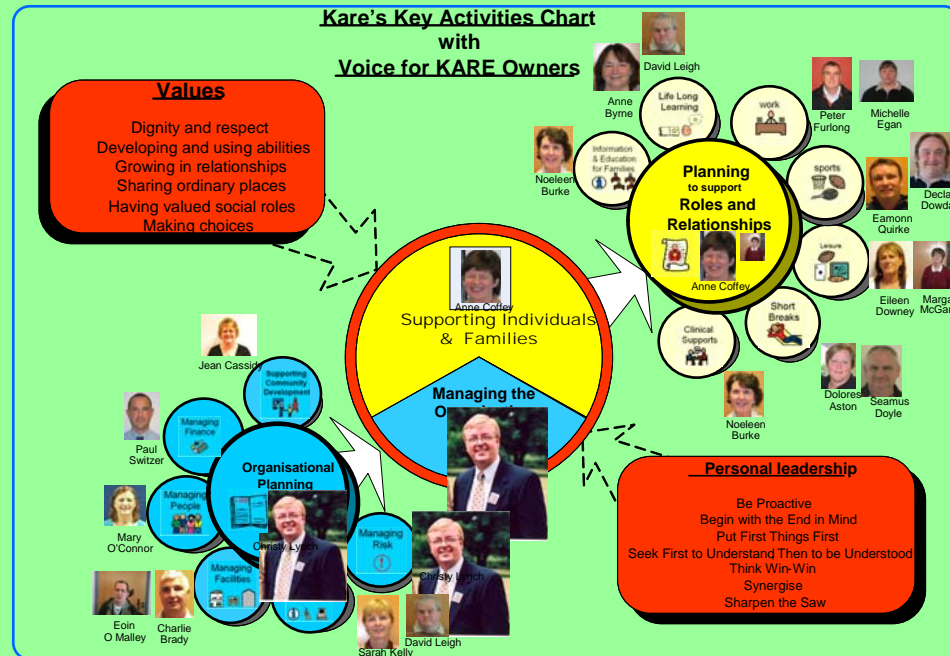
We help make sure KARE do things as best they can.

We give managers feedback and advise on how things are done and help them solve problems.

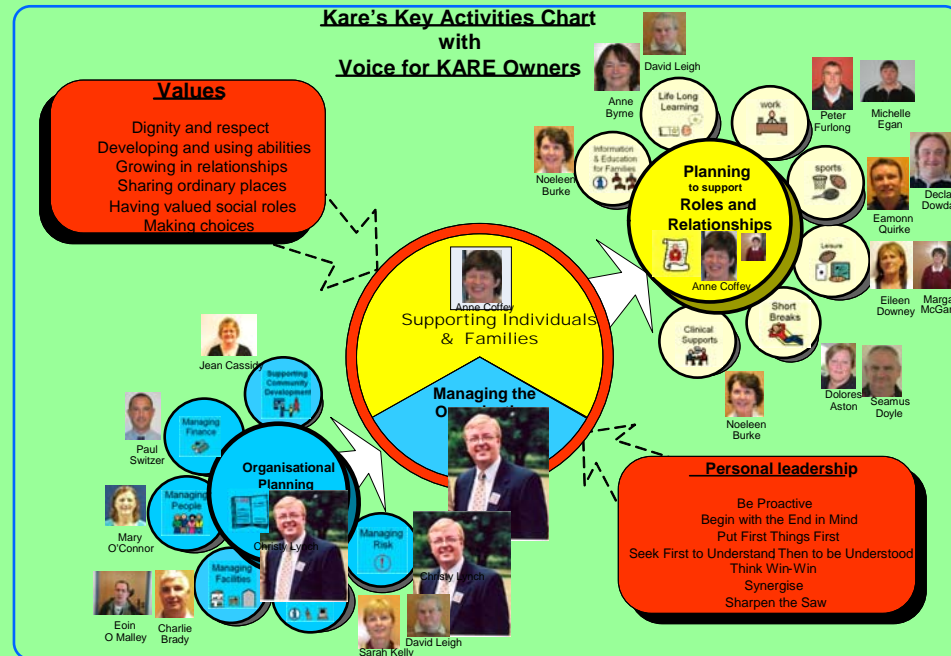


We help KARE make policies that will support us to have the lives we want.

We give feedback on draft policies before they are finished so that our ideas are heard.

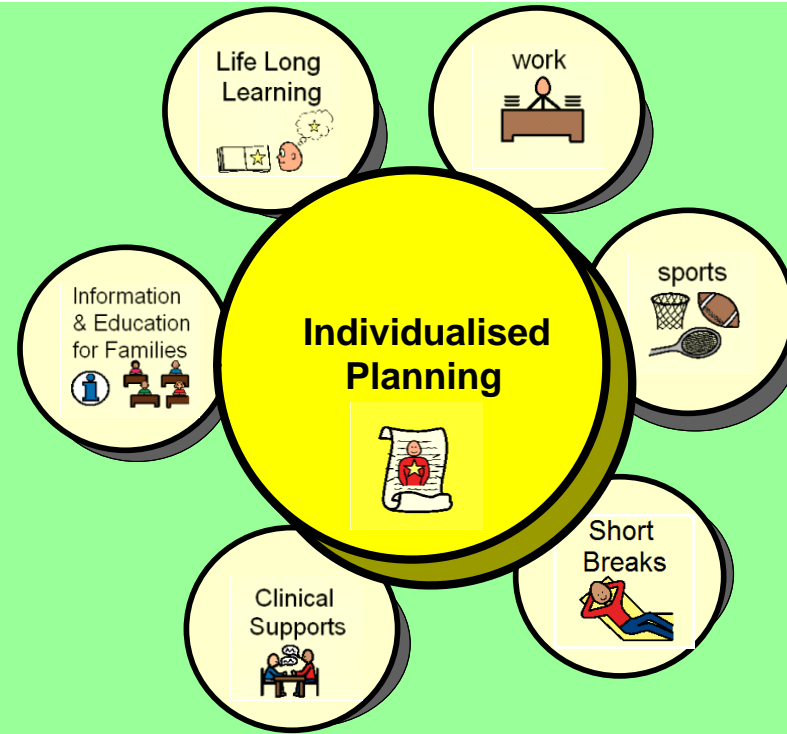


We work with Key Activity Owners to make sure the Key Activities are working well. Key Activities are the main things KARE does.



Key Activity Owners are the managers responsible for the different things.

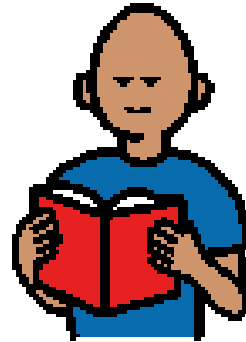
Each Key Activity has a Voice for KARE Committee member who acts as link person with the Owner.



Examples of Key Activities are Supported  
Employment and Life Long Learning

I am working with the Life Long Learning  
group at the moment to see how we can  
improve Life Long Learning in KARE.

**There is an  
easy to read version**



We help KARE make information easy to read for everyone.

We have worked on lots of the policies to make them easy to read.



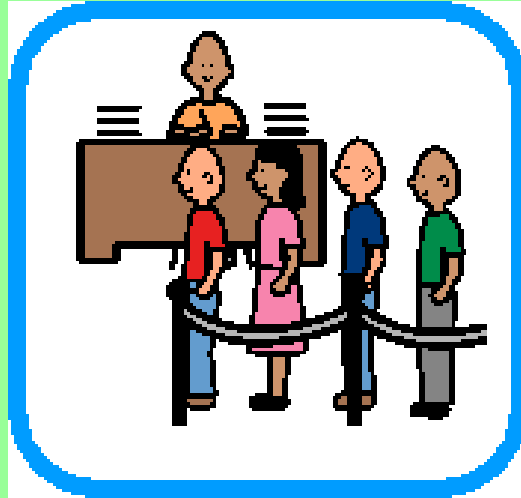
What do I need to learn?

I Look  
I Listen  
I Do  
How can I learn it?

1:1  
Group Learning  
Learn Together with Staff  
Certificate Courses  
Out and About  
Where can I learn it?

Staff  
Family  
Transport  
What supports do I need?

This is some of the work we are doing to make the Life Long Learning policy easy to read.



We also help KARE to interview for new staff.

I have been on a number of interview panels.

Although with the cut backs there are not so many interviews now.



Christy Lynch the CEO comes to our meetings  
from time to time.

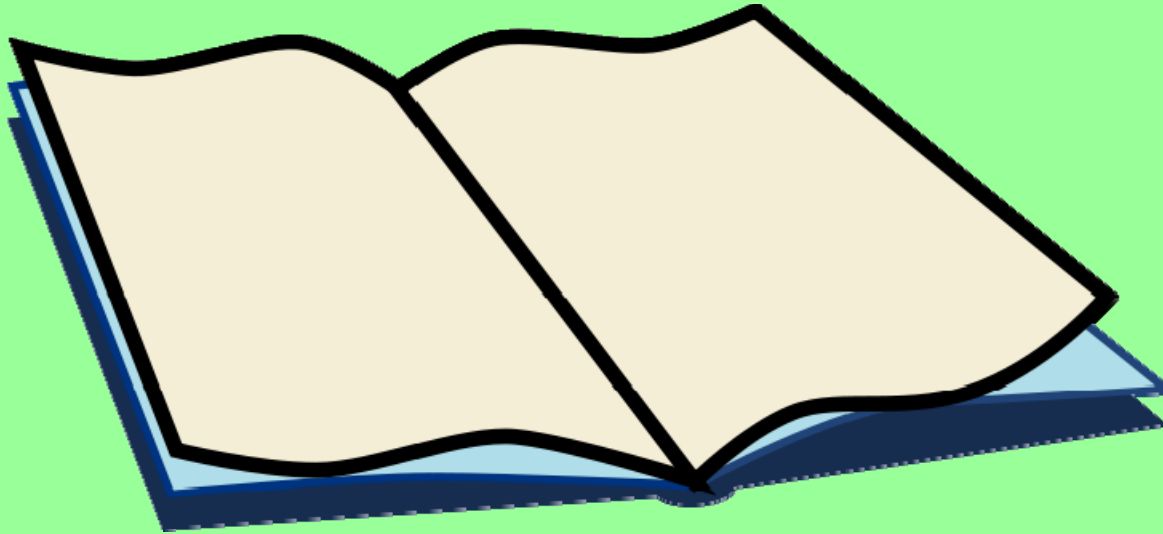
It is very important for us to be able to meet him  
and tell him what we think.



Earlier this year we talked to him about the budget and gave him ideas on how KARE could save money.

Seamus is now going to tell you  
how we help KARE with its plans

2012-2014



This year KARE are working on their new plan for the next few years.



Myself and other people who use KARE were invited to a workshop that was held for everybody to give their ideas on what KARE should do. Some family members, staff and Board members were there also.



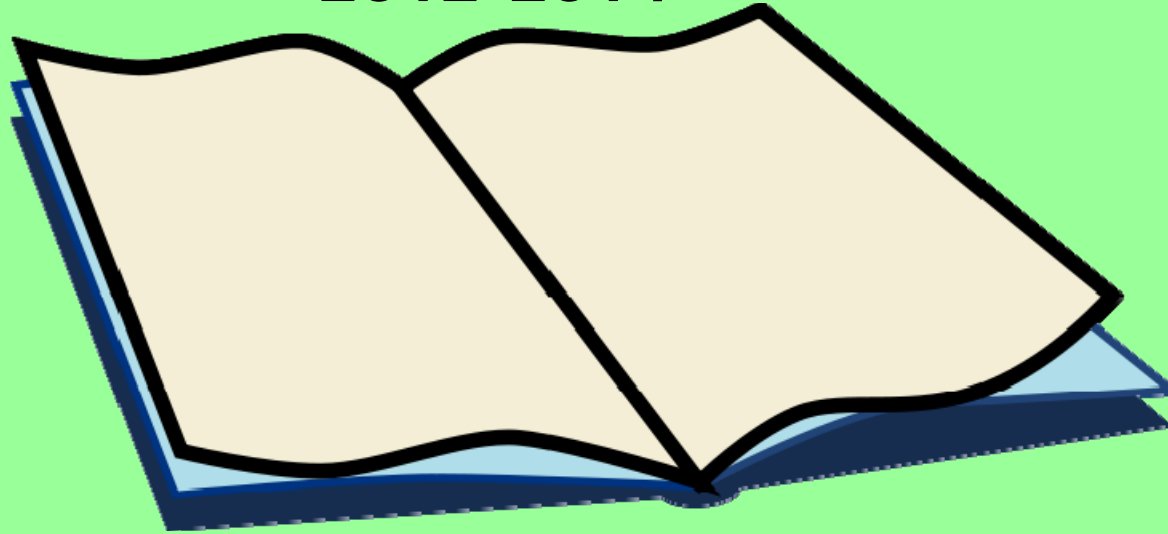
With the help of John O'Brien we all worked together in small groups to discuss things that are important to us.





By the end of the day we had a list of  
what we want KARE to do more of  
what we want KARE to do less of  
and what new things we want KARE to do.

2012-2014



Our work is now being made into KARE's  
plan for 2012 to 2014.

It will be called Changing the Walk of Life.

I will now hand you over to **Elaine** to tell you about her role as a Voice for KARE Rep



Good afternoon everyone.  
I am going to start by telling you a little bit  
about myself. I live in County Kildare not  
too far from Edenderry  
I attend Clane Local Service on Tuesdays  
and Wednesdays.



I am the Voice for KARE Rep. for Clane  
My job as Rep is to make sure all of us who  
use Clane Local Service have a say in what  
happens in the centre.



We have Voice for KARE meetings every second month or more often if we need to.

Some centres meet every month.

We talk about how things are going and what is happening in the centre.



We plan things at our meetings, like activities such as sports and trips out. When we are planning we talk about what we want to do, how many staff should come and how many should be left in the centre. We also talk about the cost and what people will pay.



Sometimes people have complaints like things going missing or bullying. We talk about it and see if we can come up with a way of solving the problem. It is not always easy to solve the problems and sometimes we ask staff to help us figure this out.





I also link in with Frances, the leader of our centre. I give her feedback on our meetings and we talk about things that are going on.



If there are things we cannot solve locally or we want to see what people in other centres think I bring them to the monthly Reps meeting.



At the Reps meeting I feedback from my  
local group in Clane.

I get to hear about things that are happening  
in KARE and to give my views.



It is not always easy to get my point across in the big group but I am getting better at it. It is a great opportunity to meet and talk to people from other parts of KARE.

I am going to hand you back to David now to finish up.



Thank you all for listening to our  
presentation.

We hope you found it interesting.



If anyone wants to find out more about how  
Voice for KARE works we will be very  
happy to talk to you.