Service User and Carer Involvement in Professional Education: A National Conference

University of Stirling, 26th April 2017

Hosted by Unity Service Users' and Carers' group, in collaboration with the University of Stirling Students' Union, the Scottish Social Services Council and the Scottish Inter-University Service User and Carer Network

We invite you to contribute to a national conference to share and promote best practice in service user and carer involvement in professional education. The conference will bring together service users and carers, students, educators, professionals and policy-makers. It will be relevant to social work, health, education and other areas of professional education, at qualifying and post-qualifying levels. We are looking for workshops that:

- Showcase good practice in service user and carer involvement in professional education and post-qualifying education and training;
- Share learning points and development ideas;
- Draw on students' and professionals' experiences of the involvement of service users and carers in their courses;
- Explore key challenges and ways to overcome them. For instance:

- Ways to successfully involve service users and carers, who live in rural locations, in the delivery of professional education;
- Ways to address the demands of an increasingly 'integrated' workforce: for instance, working across health and social care;
- Maximising influence and participation: what does empowerment mean and how can it be achieved?
- Working participatively in the context of austerity;
- Other challenges particularly relevant to your own work and achievements.

We invite proposals for 45-minute workshops that address one or more of the above themes. We would like the workshops to be a learning opportunity for everyone and to be as interactive as possible.

If you would like to participate please send a 250-word outline of your workshop proposal to lynn.maher@stir.ac.uk by **17th February 2017**. We really look forward to hearing your ideas!

Many thanks

Unity Service Users' and Carers' Group, conference sub-group