

## Minutes of North East Inclusive Dance Network Meeting

**Date** Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July

**Location** Dance City

**Present** Martin Wilson, Laura Hunter, Patricia Stead, KM, Tricia Etherington, Amy Fawdlington, Lynn Campbell, Amanda Gregory, Nicole Watson, Tony Wilson, Rob Huggins.

### 1. Introductions

All present introduced themselves to the group

### 2. Background context

Martin reviewed the background to the formation of the network including narrative about the first meeting.

The group discussed the name of the network and agreed that the network would benefit from a tagline or sub-sentence that gave more of an accurate picture of who the network was created to support.

The initial proposed name is **The North East Inclusive Dance Network** - *supporting and developing dance for and with people with a disability*

### 3. Aspirations

At the first meeting a list of aspirations were generated. The group looked at these in smaller groups and set about trying to identify which aspirations were of greatest importance and whether it was possible to prioritise certain aspirations.

Through a fairly 'raw' tally method the following priorities were highlighted as the most important:

- More chances to perform or show work
- Opportunities to access training in how to deliver inclusive dance
- Information about funding
- Exploring how to support artists who work in inclusive practice?
- Explore how an inclusive network can connect to and be supported by the Arts Council England
- Reaching people – experts, participants, networks

This isn't to say that these are the only aspirations to focus upon now and that all other aspirations generated are left behind BUT these aspirations allow us to form a pathway for the next 12 months that will help us think more about these key areas and they offer us some targets to address.

### 4. Working areas

The network then looked at the focus areas from the first meeting.

There was discussion about the breadth of tasks or ideas. All were valid but the need was felt to spend time unpicking them together practically as a group.

There isn't enough knowledge in the room of each others practice, methodology, needs and demands yet to form something on paper that would satisfy and address all needs.

So we then discussed forming a period of practical opportunities to create time and space to see, share, talk and appreciate each other's work or practice.

The network agreed to come together in September to draw together a programme of workshops / interventions / performance opps / open house opportunities, etc to address the point above.

Martin agreed to meet with Patricia Stead to discuss how Dance City can support this process and to also meet with Amanda Drago to further discussions and explore potential funding to support the practical programme phase.

**End of meeting**