



25 June 2009
Welcome Centre



1. Welcome and Introductions

Mark Godfrey (Co-chair), Helen Chamberlain (Co-chair), Zandrea Mays, Suryabala Amin, Jaishree Gohil (Interpreter), Councillor Heather Johnson, Ellen Allcock (Supporter), Julia Aylmer, Helen McDonald (Supporter) Andy Bennett, Anima Thewait, Suki Kaur, Jill Hinde (Mencap), Faye Smith, Teresa Whelen, Councillor Joe Clifford, Janita Wesson. Lynne Cooper, Dot Law (Note taker) Leigh Pitham



Apologies, or people who could not attend today's meeting

Mary Lucas, Gary Bye

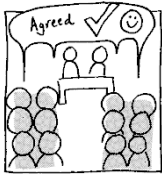
Visitors:

Karen Dowey - Student LD Nurse

2. Items for any other business

It was agreed that items would be covered under the agenda

3. Notes from the last meeting



The notes from the last meeting were agreed.

Minutes are available in CD format.

You can also access the minutes by logging on to our website. The address is www.ldpb.info

If you do not have access to a computer and would like to have a look at the website, please give Janita a call on 76785481 to arrange to come in to the office.

Matters arising

Suki updated on the move from Whitefriars to Brooklands which had been very positive. Everyone had settled in well. Brooklands did not feel like a hospital site - there were lots of bungalows.

The families were ok with the distance as Marston Green Station was only five minutes walk away.

Julia was asked to pick up from the Carers Reference group if there were any concerns on transport to Brooklands and get feedback from carers.

Suki advised that if Councillor Clifford was planning to come and visit he would be made welcome.

A Public Sector Finance Bid is currently being looked at - "The aim is to move from Brooklands to the Caludon Centre early in 2010 (January previously agreed) when some minor alternations have been made to the new building".



4 Feedback from City Wide

- ❖ There was a short film which had been made with City Wide.
- ❖ Detailed information is attached on the issues covered in the film, which include Advocacy, Transport, Being safe when at home and out, and Justice.
- ❖ Ellen advised that a lot of work had been done on Valuing People but there was some difficulty with the document. They were trying to make it more understandable for people in City Wide.
- ❖ Concerns were raised with the Valuing People information - it could be hard to relate the work with self advocates with the document.
- ❖ There was a game to establish what advocacy means - the main points were: enablement, making voice heard, speaking up, fighting for your rights, providing support as and when required, helping others to get their voice heard, supporting people to make choices, what Lawyers do for a living, promoting independence, choice and control.
- ❖ City Wide was having a voice in speaking up on how central friendship and support and making connections were.

4 Feedback from City Wide (Continued)

- ❖ This week was Learning Disabilities week so there was lots of media involvement.
- ❖ There are lots of events aimed at supporting people to be more independent and have choice over their lives.
- ❖ A bed push for the Staying Up Late campaign was taking place today which was ending with the delivery of a report (and tee shirts!) to Councillors at the Council House.
- ❖ Mark said that he had already heard an interview about it on the Liz Kershaw radio show at 7.30 this morning.
- ❖ The campaign is highlighting issues locally and nationally - more information was on www.centralvison.tv.
- ❖ Mencap were leading the national Staying up late campaign. It was found that when a rock band was playing the audience disappeared during the performance, because people could not stay out late for staffing reasons.
- ❖ Grapevine could be full at 7.30am but empty by 9.00 because people had to go home early - not because they wanted to but because of staffing issues.

4 Feedback from City Wide (Continued)

- ❖ The bed push today would be followed by presenting the report to Councillors Joe Clifford and Heather Johnson. The report would be considered at the Scrutiny Broad on 1.7.09.
- ❖ Jill advised this issue was raised at the providers forum and that one of the providers had already made changes so people attending Wayfarers could stay out an extra hour.
- ❖ Grapevine were involved in making an episode of Inside Out programme for BBC TV, some of their members were playing in a football match against Coventry ex-players and coaching staff on 26.6.09 at the Alan Higgs Centre, and a journalist was writing 5 disability stories. See attached - Lynne's media team report for further information on events on radio and TV.
- ❖ Congratulations were given for what young people had put on at the Belgrade. Mark advised that it was important for transition that young people were invited to attend the Board and asked Janita to look at this.

5. Feedback from Carers



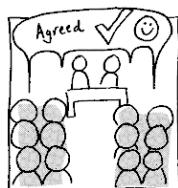
- ❖ Julia advised the last carers forum meeting had been cancelled.
- ❖ There is a workshop for carers on direct payments next week. Carers need to have the right information to decide on this. Flyers had gone out to all known carers to let them know about the event.

6 Partnership board business

- The Health Sub Group had not met for some time but last week there was a re-launch event.
- Health professionals, people with learning disabilities, carers and social care staff attended to look at priorities for Coventry, and to develop a Health Action Plan.
- Priorities included communication, training of staff, and transition.
- If any of the board members would like to join the Health Sub Group please let Janita know. The meetings would take place every 2 months with an annual half day event to see what had been achieved and set priorities. There could be funding from LDDF for key priorities.
- Suki advised that the OT's (Occupational Therapists) had moved from the Snowball Suite to Faseman House today.

7 Partnership board business (continued)

- Janita advised the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) were consulting on making choice and control a reality for disabled people.
- There would be a toolkit and she would look at it to see if we need to be involved. Consultation runs to end of September 2009.
- The DWP have just published long awaited guidelines on getting people with learning disabilities into work.
- The Transformation of Social Care is about making sure everyone has choice and control. Zandrea was working with colleagues on pathways to employment. Dean Atkinson would be involved and wider support networks would be covered.
- Janita advised there was some money left in the Learning Disability Development Fund. She would like to propose funding for additional hours for Jaspreet at the Carers Centre. Jaspreet currently only works 14 hours and additional hours could be used to support other Black and Minority Ethnic Groups (BAME) groups in addition to Asian carers. Following discussion and a vote this use of funding was agreed. Janita would look at how many hours are required.
- It was also voted on and agreed that Janita could progress the work now rather than wait for next board meeting.



Decision – Janita to progress additional hours at Carers Centre.

7 Feedback from Regional Partnership event on 9 June 2009

- This event focused on self assessment. The feedback was that it was not easy for those self advocates to contribute as it was rushed and not well led.
- It felt like Coventry was ahead of the game and had a higher level of political support than other areas. While it was good to see how much Coventry had achieved, we had a strategy and good representation from all levels on the board, but we must not become complacent.
- There were some concerns raised about the running and direction of the event.
- Suryabala felt there was not much opportunity to comment because the event was rushed.
- Helen raised concerns that there were only 1 or 2 people with learning disabilities on the Regional Board - it seemed to be mainly Heads of Service.
- Zandrea advised she had met with others who wanted to discuss joint working with Warwickshire, to talk about our Social Enterprises and Travel Buddies so this was useful.
- Cllr Heather Johnson advised she would take these comments back to the next Regional Partnership Board meeting in September.
- Mark advised that the 14 Partnership Boards would report to the Regional Board. We would need to complete the self assessment report each year. This was important as it would show what we do.



8. Valuing People Now and Developing a new Learning Disability Strategy

- See attached information below from City Wide on Valuing People Now - which highlights points on Advocacy, Transport, Being safe at home and when you are out, Justice.
- Group work highlighted the importance of Transport - if transport was not reliable then you could not get to work or go out.
- Ellen advised that if you could not collect young asian women they sometimes could not get to events and were excluded.
- Carers had concerns about people using public transport.
- Access to mobility cars is an issue.
- Travel training and travel buddies had enabled people to access public transport, but training took time and resources were limited.
- There were issues on buses - if there was a couple of buggies on the bus there was not room for wheelchair users and they could not get on.

8 Valuing People Now and Developing a new Learning Disability Strategy - continued

- Group work also highlighted the need to access leisure activities eg sport, swimming, clubs, faith groups etc.

- It was important to have friendship links - people could choose to go with a friend rather than a worker when it was possible.

- Support to be based on people's needs ie people with epilepsy may need more support.

- There were concerns that direct payments may exclude community things like faith groups - it was unclear personalisation would support these groups.

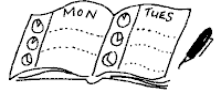
- This was not just about statutory stuff - it was about people's personal circle, informal networks and relationships. It was not about services but supporting individuals to live their life.

- People needed to be aware of what happened in their area eg reading groups etc and to have the chance to try them out.

- There may be a need to challenge perceptions in setting expectations for the future.

8 Partnership Board Agenda's and suggestions for "themed" meetings.

- Janita will continue to look at developing a new Learning Disability Strategy and to set priorities and actions.
- Ideas were requested for future partnership boards meetings and the following were suggested:
 - Leisure and transport
 - Transition
 - Black and Minority Ethnic Groups high support needs - Including Everyone
 - Personalisation Agenda - especially what Coventry is doing
 - Letting people on outer edges know what Partnership Board is
 - Mental Health and LD - similarities and differences, can we combine resources, what is missing
 - Social enterprises and how they can lead to employment
 - Dignity and Respect
 - Profound and multiple Learning Disabilities
 - Quality
 - Saefguarding and Hate Crime
 - Autism
 - Money
 - Workforce Development



Date of next meeting:-

Thursday 30 July 2009.

10.30 - 1.00pm

Welcome Centre

Parkside

Coventry

