



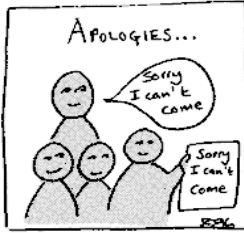
24<sup>th</sup> September 2009  
Welcome Centre



## 1. Welcome and Introductions



Present: Helen Chamberlain (Co-chair)  
Zandrea Mays, (Co-chair), Janita Wesson,  
Sarah Warmington, Suryabala Amin, Masuma  
Oomajia (Interpreter), Councillor Heather Johnson, Ellen  
Allcock (Supporter), Julia Aylmer, Carol Bromley. Suki Kaur,  
Anima Thawait, Lynne Cooper, Dot Law (Note taker) Leigh  
Pitham



**Apologies or people who could not attend today's meeting:**

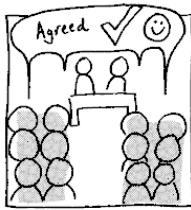
Mark Godfrey, Gary Bye, Andy Bennett, Helen McDonald, Theresa Whelen, Councillor Joe Clifford, Mary Lucas.

**Visitors:** Dean Atkinson, Gerard Fletcher and Karen Bentley, from The Employment Service Support (TESS), Jo Ann Dundas, Brandon Wood Farm, Tulsa McLain, and Sian Scholes Red Cross, Phil Hetherington Royal Mencap.

**2. Items for any other business**

Workforce Planning

Respite review and single access to Learning Disabilities Services (NB this was not covered due to time constraints)



The notes from the last meeting were agreed.

### **Matters arising**

Cllr Johnson said that they had now visited Brooklands Hospital and the visit had gone well. They travelled by train and walked from the station as the bus driver had told them the hospital was closed. The walk to Brooklands from the station could be done in 5 - 10 minutes, and there was a bus if you knew the number. They found the facilities at Brooklands were excellent.

Ellen said that the films shown at the last meeting were available on the Grapevine website which is:  
[www.grapevinecovandwarks.org](http://www.grapevinecovandwarks.org)

Quality Project - the information collected from the quality audits would be sent directly to providers, and they would be given a timescale for putting issues right. It is hoped these could go with Contract review reports but the dates do not always match up.

Zandrea said that the Board will be developing a new learning disability strategy. Some work had been done at previous Board Meetings. The information that was recorded on flip charts, would be put together and circulated as a draft and shared with Board members when ready.

### **Matters arising (continued)**

Carol said that the show at Warwick University on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2009 was being run by Royal Mencap.

Suki said that the Health Facilitation Team still offered the same level of service. Sherryl Gaskell, Lead Nurse, would be happy to attend a Carers meeting. Suki advised Sandy Nightingale was still the acute liaison nurse at University Hospital, Coventry and Warwickshire, and her name could be given upon arrival at the hospital in an emergency situation.

Chris Scholl (Lead - Valuing People) had given Cllr Johnson and the Chief Executive very positive feedback on their visit to the Board.

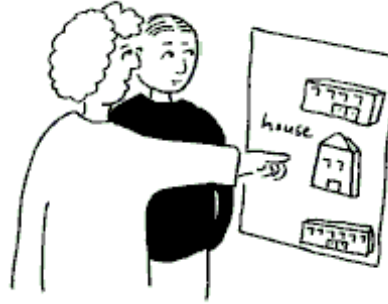
Janita said that the National Co-Director for Valuing People Now wanted to visit so she had sent a list of Board meeting dates.

Zandrea said that all action points, except 7, voluntary/private sector representation on the Board and 8, developing timetable for new strategy were completed, and these would be progressed.

Minutes are available in CD format.

You can also access the minutes by logging on to our website. The address is [www.ldpb.info](http://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.



#### **4 Feedback from Citywide**

##### *Giz a Job!*

Citywide had spent their meeting talking about Valuing Employment Now.

Information was circulated at the PB meeting detailing what people wanted from employment and on the jobs some people were in now.

Karen from the Employment Support Service, whose role was to help people into work, attended the Citywide meeting.

- By 2025 people wanted to be in paid jobs or getting real work experience. For this to happen more work was needed to overcome barriers including communication, parent/carers misconceptions, people's attitudes, transport, benefits etc.
- People needed support to get jobs and stay in work.
- Younger people have higher expectations of achieving employment, as in the past people often only had experience of voluntary work

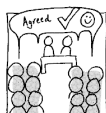


## 5 Feedback from Carers

- Janita said that Lil and Jaspreet from the Carers Centre both report to her and she would update the Board when needed.
- Lil supports older carers to think about the future and to support planning for this, including housing options. Jaspreet provides support to families from Black and Minority Ethnic Communities.
- Gurcharan Sahota has been appointed as Carers Breaks Co-Ordinator to cover the secondment of Emma Mold.
- Marie Wilkin, has been appointed as an additional Carers Break Co-Ordinator. This is the post funded from Learning Disabilities Development Fund. Marie started on 1 August and the post ends on 31 March 2010.
- Jaspreet's hours had increased from 14 to 30 per week
- Cllr Johnson said that Elizabeth Edwards had now been appointed as the Carers Lead for the City Council and is due to start later this year.
- Mary Lucas would be unable to attend for a few months due to ill health. Members sent Mary their best wishes.

## 6 Partnership board business

- The board had a chance to look at the Learning Disabilities Housing Options Guide before it goes to print. It has been to the PB before - the only change was a new cover and the phone number being replaced with a new partnership board email address.



**It was agreed that the guide could go out.**

- Janita said there was a course for Family Carers on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 from 10.00am to 1.00pm. It was run by the Council of Disabled People and would take place at Binley Woods.
- The Equalities Action Plan is being reviewed. There was a consultation day on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009 and Janita has information on feedback from the day. Please contact Janita if you would like any further information.
- The Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities Network had written a booklet. Zandrea said that this will be a key priority in the new LD strategy.
- Green Paper - the Case for Change. Zandrea asked people to read the information that had been passed round the table on this, and to send any comments directly to the Department of Health.

## Partnership board business (Continued)

- As part of the Personalisation Agenda there is a responsibility to
  - enable people to access universal services
  - provide people with opportunities to get employment
  - provide support with education and training

Zandrea proposed relooking at membership of employment group so it became a new bigger group covering City Services, Regeneration, Health, and representatives of local communities to look at access to universal services eg job clubs.

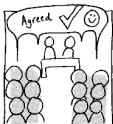
She proposed the Employment Group focused on 3 key areas:

1 Moving forward on employment across the whole of Community Services

2 Developing and supporting Social Enterprises so people get work experience to help them get into employment.

3 Looking at how Day Centres, in future, could support the development of individuals into employment.

This Employment Group will be called Pathway to Employment. Transition would be a key point in terms of young people developing skills and looking for jobs earlier.



The Partnership Board agreed to developing a Pathway to Employment Group.



### **7 Supporting People into employment and the development of Social Enterprises**

Jo Ann Dundas, Manager, Brandon Wood Farm and Workforward Company Social Enterprises updated on the progress of Social Enterprises:

- Social Enterprises has been set up as a separate company, run as a business so people could be trained and develop skills which would help them get paid work.
  - Brandon Wood - shop and café, school visits
  - Coombe - Café
  - Curriers - Woodcraft, Textiles, Gardening, Pantry
- Service users are going through a recruitment process to get jobs, for 9 of 10 people of this is their first job, and it should be a stepping stone to other employment
- Helen told the meeting about her job at Coombe Café where she worked at the weekend - it was hoped Social Enterprises would progress to having contracts for staff and pay the minimum wage

## **Supporting People into employment and the development of Social Enterprises (continued)**

- There were benefit issues involved when people got paid work and TESS would do a benefit audit for people looking for work.
- Workforward aimed to help people achieve the outcomes they wanted, working on the principal of supporting choices and decision making and keeping everyone involved.

Zandrea said social enterprises needed to develop links and not work in isolation. This would support people to obtain employment outside the enterprise.

Clarity was needed about role of social enterprises in training provision, and at what point training developed into work.

The transformation grant has funded a paid business manager who was looking at what is or is not business, and what is education and training opportunities.

## **Supporting People into employment and the development of Social Enterprises (continued)**

Dean Atkinson presented an Employment Update

The Supported Employment Services (TESS) is part of the Council's Regeneration Services

- TESS is based at Curriers and its targets for 2009/2010 are to support 10 people to gain paid work, support 8 people to access work experience placements and to support some people to become volunteers
- So far TESS has supported 3 people who use services into work, supported 7 people to gain work experience and supported 4 people to become volunteers
- TESS are also currently supporting 55 people with learning disabilities who are in work
- EAST (employment, access, support and training) is a partnership with Henley College, which is part of a project funded by the Learning and Skills Council.
- TESS wants to find ways of encouraging people to try different things, like work tasters and visits.

- They wanted to do more work with parents/carers around employment and supporting individual choices

### **Supporting People into employment and the development of Social Enterprises (continued)**

- TESS will be part of the Pathways Group, Enterprising Coventry, Department of Work and Pensions New Work Choice Programme and the Right to Control - Trailblazers
- In Valuing People Now the expectation is that people with a learning disability gained employment.

**Gerard Fletcher, supported by Karen Bentley (TESS) told the meeting about how TESS had supported him:**

- Gerard had attended Curriers for 25 years.
- He had gained experience at Benedict's and Morrisons
- He now has been in a paid job at McDonald's for 2 years
- His role involves collecting trays, cleaning windows and mopping up
- He enjoys meeting customers and staff and being paid!
- Karen advised that Gerard's manager said he was one of their best workers.

### **Any Other Business**

- Janita advised that Workforce Planning was a Valuing People priority

- Coventry's plans were agreed in 2005 and needed to be reviewed
- The plans need to involve the Voluntary and Independent Sector
- Janita and Sarah had attended a workshop in Birmingham about supporting Partnership Boards to develop a new plan.
- A new plan needs to be presented to Partnership Boards and the Strategic Health Authority by April 2010
- We need to start to look at the old plan and identify the areas for change, decide who needed to be involved, and how comprehensive it needed to be given that it had to be completed in 6 months.
- Workforce planning would be on the Agenda for the next meeting.

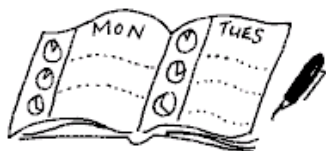


### **Red Cross - First Aid Programme**

Tulsa McLain, British Red Cross, showed a video and spoke about first aid training for people with learning disabilities.

- The video demonstrated how people with learning disabilities could achieve certificates in first aid
- The Red Cross had trained 381 students with since last year
- They had run first aid courses at Brandon Farm
- Students could achieve certificates by describing what needed to be done, if they were unable to do it themselves
- Courses were done at a speed to suit the students needs
- There were 10 modules but students did not have to all of them - they could choose the ones they wanted to do
- The size of the group would be set to students needs and there would be lots of practical work so students got involved and were not bored.
- The courses were run by volunteers who provided the training for free, only expenses were paid.
- The cost of 3 modules was about £7.50

For more information please contact Tulsa on: 02476 511 357



**Date of next meeting:-**

**Thursday 29 October 2009.**

**10.30 - 1.00pm**

**Welcome Centre**

**Parkside**

**Coventry**

