

**NOTES OF  
THE LEARNING DISABILITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

**8<sup>th</sup> April 2009**



**Present:-**

Ken Smalley (Chair)  
Dave Clark – Nugent Care  
Roy Potter – Self Advocate  
Elizabeth Hawkes – Self Advocate  
Bridget Whittell – Adult Services  
Colin Reynolds – Adult Services  
Carole Williams – IAS  
Julie Davies – W&L People First  
Angela Seddon – Adult Services  
Marysia Welsh – Family Forum  
Lynne Hamnett – Family Forum  
Liz Parkinson - Adult Services  
Nicki March – Adult Services  
Terry Mann – Adult Services

Deborah Gent (Minutes)  
Bridget Hollingsworth – Adult Services  
Tracey Spurr - PCT  
Olive Halliwell - ACE  
Susan Bannister – Self Advocate  
Glynn Leery – Social Work Student  
Paul Tandy – Royal Mencap  
Abida Niaz – GM Police  
Raveen Walton – Adult Services  
Lesley Teesdale – Family Forum  
Pete Harrison - PCT  
Andrea Stevens – Connexions  
Sheila Robinson – CYPS

**Apologies:-**

Louise Sutton – Adult Services  
Paula Daley - Adult services  
Lesley Austin - PCT

Roseanne Patterson – WLCT  
Steve Sargent – Housing Strategy  
Sian Jay – Chief Executives

**ACTION**

**1. Minutes of the last Meeting and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record

Julie volunteered to take responsibility for the distribution of the meeting cards at all future LDPB meetings.

The Highways Department has confirmed that it would be extremely difficult to install audible puffin or pelican crossing signals at the staggered junction in Ashton. An alternative vibrating button has been fitted to help people with a visual impairment when crossing the road.

Wigan and Leigh Disability Forum are hosting an event on how to improve accessible transport in Wigan on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at St Peter's Pavilion, Hindley. To book a place please e-mail: [ireneyates50@btinternet.com](mailto:ireneyates50@btinternet.com) or call 0783 598 8361  
Bridget has spoken to Joan Crook about night time activities

<p>supported by Day Service staff. Joan clearly stated that the involvement of day staff in supporting people outside their contractual working hours was not in the Council's influence as staff were providing support on a voluntary basis.</p>	
<p>Raveen will explore the possibility of developing a buddy system, where friends and family members could offer support during the evenings.</p>	RW
<p>Angela, Carol, Julie and Sue are working with ACE to deliver courses for self advocates. ASDAN offer a suitable recognised qualification to develop advocacy skills.</p>	AS, CW, JD, SS & OH
<p>Bridget and Olive will ask all providers on the Contracts Framework to work with self advocates at the next Network meeting.</p>	OH & BH
<p>A meeting is being planned to write a short Easy Read article about Personalisation. Input from self advocates and family members would be appreciated. Please e-mail Bridget H to register your interest.</p>	ALL
<p>The Housing Sub Group has requested the attendance of a manager at their meetings to help formulate the PATH and offer advice.</p>	
<p>Whilst the Fulfilling Lives Sub-Group agreed in principle to a merger with the Person Centred Planning Sub-Group, members of the Person Centred Planning Sub Group voiced their concerns. Colin felt that Person Centred Planning was a key issue and a manager should chair and attend this separate Sub-Group meeting.</p>	
<p>Bridget H will explore the possibility of a lead from each LDPB Sub-Group attending the Learning Disabilities Team Managers Meetings.</p>	BW
<p><b>2. <u>Self Advocate Feedback</u></b></p>	
<p>On 1<sup>st</sup> April, members of W&amp;L People First visited the Houses of Parliament for a 'dialogue event' with the Minister for Disability, Jonathan Shaw. The visit, organised by RADAR, will be publicised in the local press.</p>	
<p>W&amp;L People First will move to the new premises of Wigan Family Welfare at St. Catherine's, Scholes in the week beginning 27<sup>th</sup> April. The move will provide dedicated office space for the group with the potential to hold meetings.</p>	
<p>The self advocates raised the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Why has the reception area at Broadmead Day Centre been screened off?</li> </ul>	

- ⇒ Will the specialised Learning Disability Social Work Team be lost following the Adult Service restructure?
- ⇒ Can advocates see the 3 year plan for residential services at the Pines as mentioned in the CSCI Inspection Report?

In response:

- ⇒ No one at the meeting could provide an answer to query one.
- ⇒ It was suggested that Louise was the most appropriate person to respond to query two. However, it was explained that the whole structure of Adult services was being looked at to ensure it could meet the requirements of the Transforming Social Care/Putting People First agenda.
- ⇒ Raveen stated that there is no 3 year plan for the Pines and that this had been mistakenly reported by CSCI in their report. A request has been made to remove this statement. Clear criteria are now being developed for those people with aspirations to leave the Pines. We need to be realistic about alternative housing opportunities and available housing stock. It was emphasised that this is an area which requires careful and sensitive consideration.

Angela reported that there have been a number of changes made at Mayfield which have been introduced without consultation with the individuals affected. Raveen will ask Graham and Joan to explain why this has happened.

### **3. Update from the Family Forum**

Marysia reported that the March 2009 Cabinet Report 'Meeting the Needs of People Eligible for Social Care', accessible on the internet, indicates that £313,000 will be cut from the budget in 2009/10. The Report states that it had been agreed everyone will be considered for reablement before a Personal Budget is set. The Family Forum feels that people need to be made aware of these large Council decisions.

The Family Forum would like feedback on the Cabinet reports, clarification on how the reablement process will work and information about possible alternatives. The group would like further discussion about this at the next LDPB meeting and a response from Louise Sutton, author of the Cabinet report.

Bridget assured the Family Forum that consultation on Personalisation is not closed and there will be many opportunities for further discussion, consultation and learning.

Members of the Family Forum recently attended a workshop on

LS

Direct Payments and how they can be used creatively and effectively.

They met Lesley Tyrer the Community Engagement Officer from Adult Services who is developing a Disability Register similar to the directory for older people detailed below.

<http://www.wigan.gov.uk/themes/olderpersonsdirectory>

Organisations are encouraged to register with Lesley on 01942 404501.

#### **4. Partnership Board Structure and Membership**

Angela gave a Powerpoint presentation showing the current membership and structure of the Learning Disability Partnership Board.

The members formed 4 small groups to discuss the following issues:

- ⇒ How could the meetings be better?
- ⇒ How could we better include and involve everyone?
- ⇒ Do we need new and different members?
- ⇒ How long should membership last?
- ⇒ Do we need some new guidelines?

##### Group One

There are many transport issues and lots of people leave the meeting early;

Members should be sent copies of the structure;

People should explain who they are and what they do;

There should be an Induction Pack for new members;

The ice breaker should be done before the start of the meeting.

##### Group Two

Meetings should be longer and timed;

There should be discussion about issues before the meeting;

People should make a firm commitment to attend;

Members should receive a map of the venue.

##### Group Three

Need a roving mike, audio loop and people to speak up;

Keep to time and have a realistic agenda;

Appoint a time keeper;

Prioritise agenda items;

Do we need to rethink ice breakers? Are they effective?

Name badges;

Use a graffiti wall;

Small group discussions work well;

Need an agreed membership which is reviewed annually with people invited to come along;

Reminder of guidelines to support self advocates.

Group Four

An agreed number limit;  
Commitment from the Senior Management Team to attend;  
Quarterly updates from LDDF funded projects including financial information and outcomes – perhaps develop a pro-forma;  
Easy Read minutes to ensure everyone is included;  
Include more self advocates;  
Have a pre-meeting for self advocates;  
Make better use of meeting cards;  
Be clear about the capacity in which you're attending and who you are representing;  
Annual review of membership;  
Ensure decision makers are present at the meetings.

Angela will collate and distribute the information detailed on the flipchart papers for discussion. At the next meeting small groups will be used to encourage more discussion and attendees will be asked to say who they are and where they are from.

AS

**8. Any Other Business**

Ken was asked to speak about the LDPB at the launch of Go West (Wigan Employment Support) Group. This new project links with the Councils Worklessness Strategy.

Abida distributed telephone and e-mail contacts for police officers operating within the Wigan Townships. These are printed on small cards which will be distributed throughout the Borough. Abida asked for feedback on the style and accessibility. Please forward your comments to: [Abida.Niaz@GMP.police.uk](mailto:Abida.Niaz@GMP.police.uk)

All

Raveen and Andrea have been developing an accessible template for Equality Impact Assessments. They would like to work with a member from each LDPB Sub-Group to ensure the format is easy to use.

ALL Sub-Groups

Bridget W asked for information on a LDDF funded Autism Project from a number of years ago. Lynne questioned the accountability of the project as she believed it had ended prematurely before the completion date without findings and outcomes. Lynne and Bridget will try to find out more.

LH & BW

A steering Group will be formed to think about how we can best use the services of the National Autistic Society in Wigan. Anyone interested in participating should contact Bridget Hollingsworth.

ALL

Following a series of complaints to Andy Burnham MP a changing bed, hoist and samhall turner have now been installed in the changing rooms at Leigh Sports Village.

There have been a number of incidents of disability hate crime at the Monaco Ballroom recently. This issue will be discussed further at the Family Forum.

**9. Date and Time of the Next Meeting**

10am – 12.30pm on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at JJB Soccer Dome.