

Learning Disability Partnership Board Meeting Wednesday 7th October 2009-10-08

Present: Sue Seager (Accessible Communication Lead), Anthony Hobson, Jim Barton, Martin Barton, Carl Bridden, Bob Short, Lesley Teasdale, Paula Daley (Housing Co-Lead), Liz Parkinson (Transition Co-Lead), Chris Rudd (Employment Co-Lead), Susan Bannister, Angela Seddon (PCP Co-lead), Louise Sutton (LDPB Co-Chair), Rob Hamlett, Mark Fagan, Debbie Moore, Beth Hawkes, Raveen Walton (Ethnicity Co-Lead), Irene Healey, Karen Dunn, Sheila Richards, Linda(Sheila's support), Vincent McDonnell (Graphic Resource Lead), Suzanne (SALT Student), Nathan Robinson, Sharon Glynn, Tracey Spurr, Marysia Welch, Abida Niaz, Kath Jolley, Stefan Parsons, Antony Rigby

Apologies: Pauline Mawson (PCP Co-lead), Lesley Austin, Ken Smalley (LDPB Co-Chair & Fulfilling Lives Co-lead), Terry Mann, Steve Sargent (Housing Co-lead), Dave Clarke, Lynne Hamnett (Advocacy co-lead & Family Forum Co-lead), Julie Davies, Rosanne Patterson, Bridget Hollingsworth (Fulfilling Lives Co-lead), Anthony Mohammed, Nicki March (Ethnicity Co-lead), Olive Haliwell (Advocacy Co-lead)

LDPB Guidelines

Guidelines were read out

Minutes

The 'easier to read' minutes were read out

Matters Arising

Louise will follow up the issue of PA's in in-house services.

A request was made not to use abbreviations in the minutes i.e. ELP

Correction to previous minutes:

The main point that family members were consistently asking clarity for was in relation to what Direct Payments can and can't be used for.

Family members recognise the difficulty in writing minutes and taking part in the meeting, ie providing clarity about Direct Payments whilst taking the minutes in this instance.

List for AOB

Update on Hate Crime reporting pack

Funding Steering Group

Open Evening at Oakfield College

Self Advocate Feedback

(See CD)

At the LDPB pre-meeting self advocates requested that the ice-breaker takes place at the beginning of the meeting and that it be an interactive ice-breaker that everyone joins in with.

This was agreed by members.

Family Forum Feedback

The secretary for the Family Forum has retired, thanks was conveyed to Dorothy for all her support and best wishes on her retirement.

Lesley Allsopp the new secretary at Embrace will continue in this role as secretary for the Family Forum.

Families are still confused about Direct Payments and what they can and can't be used for.

Information about this is not consistent and appears to vary depending on who is giving the advice.

It was noted that it is very difficult to reach a definitive statement given that decisions on spend of direct payments relates to individual assessment of need and individual support plans.

Families felt that a definitive answer to the 4 questions they had previously asked had not been provided.

Louise will undertake to respond to the 4 questions before or at the next meeting.

At the last meeting Anthony Mohammed said he would ask why there had been no attendance from Councillors at the LDPB meetings (Cllr Cunliffe, Cllr Ash) Louise will follow this up

The family forum reported that families are still saying they are confused about Personalisation.

Louise gave the following explanations re Personalisation:

“Individual budgets” was a government term for budget allocations used during a series of national pilots that includes for example health monies.

A personal budget is the social care funding allocated to an individual following an assessment. If someone wishes to have some or all of the Personal Budget in the form of cash then this can only be in the form of a Direct Payment. Previously the formal contractual agreement would have been with a provider.

In the case of a Personal Budget where someone wishes to have cash the contractual agreement is the Direct Payment Agreement between Adult Services between adult services and the individual receiving the direct payment.

The individual has the autonomy to spend their direct payment to meet their assessed needs eg use of assistive technology

It was recognised however that there are still ‘grey areas’.

Essentially the direct payment has to be spent according to what is outlined in the support plan and assessment of need; this is not necessarily just a physical need but can be an aspirational need as well.

For example:

- The Direct Payment could be spent on something that would otherwise prevent you from achieving something within the support plan.
- A monitoring Service – eg Disability Direct, Budget Minder

If an individual lacks capacity they can appoint someone to manage their Direct Payment.

An Individual budgets leaflet has been uploaded on the Wigan LDPB website which is causing further confusion. It was agreed that the leaflet should be removed from the site and be replaced by the one being produced by Accessible Communications Team (ACT).

Hate Crime Reporting Update

Text messaging service information is available to organisations that have requested it.

Paul Whitemoss from the Community Safety Team has written a paper on hate crime relating to disability (full paper available on website)

It is hoped that the discussion paper will provide feedback on how to take this work forward.

Recognition that disability groups are more vulnerable and at risk than other groups. ‘Getting away with Murder’ is evidence that disability groups are high risk targeted groups.

1-2 disability hate crimes are being reported per month.

How do we take this forward?

What do we need to do? How can we raise awareness/

There was a disability hate crime sub group which has disbanded; do we need to set up a disability hate crime sub group again?

Scrutiny panels need to be set up at a national & local level.
How can the LDPB support this work?

Action Points

Identify groups to form a regular overview and scrutiny group.

Strategic discussion Group – Council and GMP

Formally commission group to implement the pilot

Develop Training Programme with WLPF-regular feedback via Action Learning pack

We need to make a decision about how we set this up, take it forward and get it right

More Than Words to work with Abida about what we need to bring to the next (matters arising) to be able to make decisions and draw up an action plan.

AOB

The first LDPB Funding Steering Group meeting will take place on Friday 9th October. The group will report back at the next meeting.

Kath Jolley announced the Open Evening being held at Oakfield College on the 21st October, members are welcome to attend to promote the work of the board.

Nathan raised his ongoing concerns regarding the safety of the traffic light system in Ashton. Ken had previously written to Highways and received a response. It was agreed that we needed to look again at the response and to see how we might better address this issue.

Next Meeting

Wednesday 18th November, 10am-12.30pm, at the Soccerdome
Theme: Celebrations & Successes