

Leeds Learning Disability Partnership Board

Notes of the meeting held at St Matthias Church 11th March 2008



Board Members - Present at the meeting

Ray Wilk, Independent Chair
Michael Cass, Co Chair

Board Members - (Service User Representatives)

Gina Gage, Learning Disability Reference Group
Susan Hanley, People First
Christine Barker, Learning Disability Reference Group
Andrew Walsh, Roots

Board Members - (Voluntary Sector Forum Representatives)

Bill Walton, People in Action
Scott Cunningham, Voluntary Sector Forum
David Hansen, Home Farm Trust
Fran Jeffries, Mencap Pathways
Lisa Keenan, Voluntary Sector Forum

Person Centred Planning Co-ordinator

Cathy Wintersgill, Connect in the North

Diversity Director

Kashif Ahmed

Board Members - (Statutory)

Paul Broughton, Adult Social Care
Janet Wright, Joint Commissioning Service (Chair)
Khalid I Arian, Joint Commissioning Service
Sheila Dunham, Leeds Partnerships NHS Foundation Trust.
Jane Flaherty, Department of Work and Pensions

Board Members – (Carers Reference Group)

Harold Wilson, Carer
Rebecca Rooke, Age Concern

In attendance

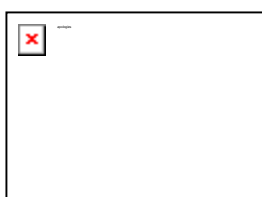
Sue Lindsey, Leeds Advocacy
Fiona Evans, Leeds Advocacy
Louise Mills, Joint Commissioning Service

Special Guests

Jenny Anderton, Valuing People Regional Advisor
Dave Rigby, Learning Disability Strategy Consultant

People who could not come to the meeting

Carol Cochrane, Leeds PCT
Gordon Kerr, Connexions
Peter Vickers, Vine/Learning and Leisure Department





Welcome and introductions

Ray Wilk and Michael Cass welcomed everyone to the meeting, including the two special guests: Jenny Anderton and Dave Rigby.

The purpose of the meeting was to check the Partnership Board response to the main priorities in *Valuing People Now* and look at the other important things in the document.

Valuing People Now – Janet Wright

Janet reported that Commissioning Managers have met to discuss the proposals in the draft document. She talked about things that will have an impact and other issues that were raised.



- There will be a transfer of some Health money to the Local Authority and Janet agreed to circulate more information about this later.

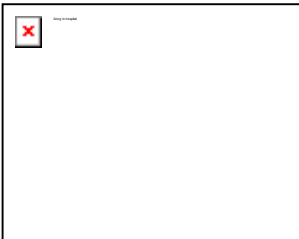
Janet Wright



- The Local Authority and Primary Care Trust have asked Dave Rigby to pull together all the work done previously around the learning disabilities strategy and write a paper that will help make *Valuing People Now* happen in Leeds.



- There is confusion over the transfer of funding of the specialist services (such as those for people with learning disabilities who are detained) and where these services will sit. More guidance is due out soon.



- The document does not show the distinction between landlords and support providers
- Learning Disability Development Fund money should be ring-fenced.
- Paul Broughton has been asked to present a briefing to Elected Members highlighting the fact that many people and organisations have a responsibility to make things work.

Ray Wilk asked the Board;

- Do you feel you have had enough time to consider the main priorities?
- Have you been given enough information about the money?
- Who will make it happen?
- Who will deliver the Health agenda?
- What and how will Ivan Lewis and Jenny Anderton do to hold people to account?

Janet pointed out that the monitoring of progress will take place in different ways. Next year there will be 2 new health performance indicators, which will look at the number of people in employment and supported accommodation. In addition to this, Leeds will have to set its own targets and this is something the Partnership Board will have to discuss. She reminded members that they still had the opportunity to submit any final comments to the Joint Commissioning Service before the questionnaire is sent to Valuing People.



Jenny Anderton said there will be new guidelines to strengthen the Partnership Board and make other organisations use the Board as a Reference Group. Each year the Board will be asked about its progress.

Janet gave a brief overview of the remaining sections of the draft document and raised issues for the Board to consider.



Advocacy and Rights

- Organisations – should the money sit with the Local Authority?
- Organisations will have to make information more accessible
- The points made in the easy read version differ to those in the main document



People As Local Citizens

- Home Office to issue guidance on Hate Crime
- It was suggested Leeds Partnership Board should invite Safer Leeds Partnership and the Police to a future meeting
- Need to raise awareness of issues for people living in the local community
- Transport Plan – should we invite Passenger Safety Executive to a future meeting?
- Government have a policy on parenting issues which the Board should look at



Transition to Adulthood

- £19 million is spent on transitions.

Dennis Holmes (Leeds City Councils Commissioning Chief Officer) is to take a lead on transitions.



Person Centred Planning

- Training people how to do reviews. Should they be more prescriptive (have a clear set of rules)?
- Person Centred Planning reviews centre around education.

Board Members split into groups to discuss the issues in more detail and capture their thoughts on flip charts. (see attached notes)



Learning Disability Reference Group

Sue Lindsey read through a report handed out which explained what happened when the group met to discuss the document. The group looked at all the priorities in the document and voted for what they thought should be the most important things.



Choice and Control came out as the number one priority although the phrase 'Personalisation' was not very accessible or helpful. It was agreed more time needs to be spent explaining what it means.



The Reference Group have decided to submit a questionnaire from the group, with a covering letter explaining that they also have representatives on the Partnership Board.

Ray Wilk thanked Sue and the Reference Group for their efforts with the consultation and continued excellence in the work and reports that they produce.



Learning Disability Strategy – Dave Rigby

Dave has been asked by LCC Adult Social Care and Primary Care Trust to draw up a strategy for learning disabilities in Leeds. This will include;

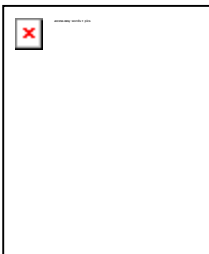
- the previous work done by Peter Lister, the Joint Commissioning Service and the Partnership Board
- the recommendations from Valuing People Now
- plans on what Leeds needs to do to make things happen
- the time it should take to see progress
- targets to measure how well we are doing

The deadline for completing the document is end of May by which time he hopes to have done more detailed consultations with many people, including the Partnership Board. One document will be produced which has easy read information on one page with the main text on the opposite page.

After the presentation, the following issues were raised;

1. Who will own the document?

Answer: The Interim Partnership Executive requested the document but both the Partnership Executive and Partnership Board will own it. They should ensure it is workable and that the provider organisations with Primary Care Trust, Adult Social Care and Voluntary Sector, have an understanding and are able to use it.



2. Where will the document go?

Answer: the document will be available to anyone and will be kept in places where people with learning disabilities gather.

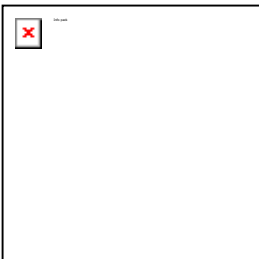


3. The document should be available via multimedia/Through the Maze to widen the source of information and allow people to track progress.



4. Last time, there was no financial information and we signed up to a wish list. Some people want to know about the money and resources.

Response: It is unlikely there will be financial details but there will be headline figures. The important thing will be to have a mechanism for deciding on priorities, how we use the money, how we can re-allocate it.



5. The document should explain all the different people involved with learning disabilities and all the plans that have been written.

6. People want to see a plan that brings about change. This is Leeds chance to get things right and as there are so many other plans, we need to see it being done in joined up thinking.



Dave said he would like to meet with all groups and asked them get in touch with Louise Mills in the first instance. The Board will be invited to check the draft document to make sure the focus is right. It was agreed this item would also be added to the agenda for April.



Leeds “Live It, Lav It” Campaign – Scott Cunningham

Scott talked about the campaign to get proper changing facilities for adults with learning disabilities in Leeds. Bradford has managed to get 6 and a group in Hambleton used guidance in the Disability Equality Duty to get facilities in their district.

A carer gave a personal account of the difficulties faced because of the lack of facilities in Leeds.

The Board agreed the campaign should be added to the April agenda and people who could help and take responsibility, invited to attend the meeting. Further information on the Disability Equality Duty will also be brought to the next meeting. Christine Barker handed out a petition for the scheme and asked members to sign up.

Ray thanked everyone for contributing to the meeting and reminded people about the next events. As the agenda for 8th April was now full, he asked all Reference Group Members and other Board members with updates, to send them to Louise Mills for inclusion in a handout.

Next meetings:

13th March 2008

Special Board Members meeting

8th April 2008

Partnership Board meeting



Group Work Feedback

Including Everyone

The needs of BME communities should be a high priority

Develop a common database

Every area should have a hate crime-reporting centre, which includes learning disability

Partnership with families

Work closely with all families to make sure support is relevant

Less emphasis on short-term breaks

The staff that support (workforce)

Staff are paid better as professionals

Skills for health to be included

Major investment needed in PCP approaches training

Secures best expertise in all services

Advocacy and Rights

Different types of advocacy required

Advocacy services are better – its not just about the money

There are other ways of funding advocacy

Partnership Board needs to know what is happening with advocacy

Should money sit with government or go local (advocacy development programme)

Its hard getting everyone to make information in an accessible way

sometimes easy read versions miss things out.

People as local citizens

Use the guidance and see what is happening in Leeds around Hate Crime

Training should be for everyone – including Police and Nurses

The way people think is a big barrier for transport

Transition to adulthood

Money should go with the person

Cut off point at 18 years

Timing

Better handing over of CA framework

Under resourced

Better Commissioning (Planning and Buying Services)

Race equality needs to be embedded with commissioning /contracts e.g.

Race Equality/Service Level agreements. Needs to be developed and performance managed