



Leeds Learning Disability Partnership Board



Notes of the meeting held at St Matthias Church Centre – Tuesday 17th November 2009



Board Members - Present at the meeting

Derek Thomas, Chair
Susan Hanley, Co-Chair

Board Members - (Service User Representatives)

Chris Hill, Leeds People First
Andrew Walsh, ROOOTS
Gina Gage, Learning Disability Reference Group
Christine Barker, Learning Disability Reference Group

Board Members - (Voluntary Sector Forum Representatives)

Lisa Keenan, Voluntary Sector Forum Co-ordinator
Carol Ann Reed, Mencap Pathway
Aqila Choudhry, People In Action
Barbara Dowling, Wilf Ward Trust

Person Centred Planning Co-ordinator

Cathy Wintersgill, Connect in the North

Board Members - (Statutory)

Khalid I Arian, Joint Commissioning Service
Jane Flaherty, Department of Work and Pensions
Sheila Dunham, Leeds Partnerships NHS Foundation
Trust
Allison Johnson, Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust
Janet Wright, Joint Commissioning Service
Norman Campbell, NHS Leeds
Carol Cochrane, NHS Leeds
Michele Tynan, Adult Social Care

Board Members – (Carers Reference Group)

Harold Wilson, Carer
Liz Davis, Carer
Shirley Evison, Carer

Rebecca Rooke – Age Concern

Special Guests / Supporting the Board

Sam Clarke, Inclusion North

Scott Cunningham, Inclusion North

Hawa Bibi Rawat, Mencap - Through the Maze

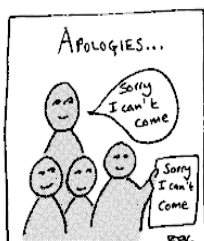
Dee Napier, Mencap – Through the Maze

Helen Brand, Mencap – Through the Maze

Louise Mills, Joint Commissioning Service

Fiona Evans, Leeds Advocacy

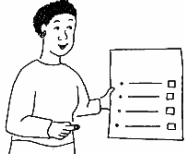
Mark Cordy, Leeds Advocacy



Members who could not come to the meeting -

David Rosser, Adult Social Care

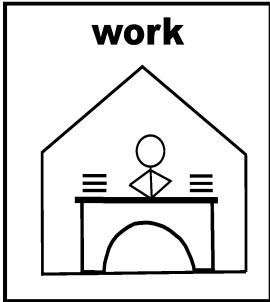
David Hansen, Home Farm Trust



Our Rules

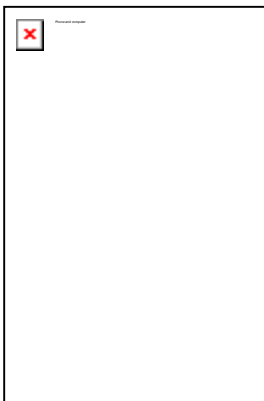
Welcome and introductions

Susan Hanley opened the meeting and reminded people about the rules of the meeting.



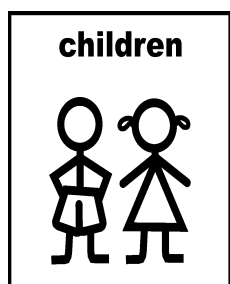
Valuing Employment Now – Sam Clarke and Scott Cunningham from Inclusion North

Scott gave a powerpoint presentation about Valuing Employment Now – real jobs for people with learning disabilities. He explained that only 10% of people with learning disabilities have a job but when asked, almost 65% said they would like one. Scott talked about people’s bad experiences, such as someone worked as a mobile gardener for 13 years but never got paid. He also described the good things about working, such as better health, more opportunities for making friends, more money to spend and more choice on where to live. There are government targets to encourage employers and remind them of their duty to employ and support people with learning disabilities, such as the Social Inclusion target PSA 16.



A lot of money is spent on people with learning disabilities and increasing employment opportunities has proved to benefit both the people with learning disabilities and councils. One example of this is North Lanarkshire; over 130 people known to services have paid jobs. The money these people have to spend has almost doubled and the council have saved money by not paying for these people to attend day centres.





Valuing Employment Now has set big targets such as -

- Children with learning disabilities will be asked what job they want to do when they grow up
- All young people will get proper work experience at school
- College courses will give people skills for work
- It will be normal for people to leave school or college and get a real, paid job
- People will be working full time and better off without their benefits
- People will use their personal budgets to help them get jobs
- More people will have jobs in the public sector such as the Council, NHS and the Police
- More people with complex needs and autism will have jobs

Sam explained that the Partnership Boards job is to set big targets for employment and check they are happening. But first of all, the Board needs to look at what's happening in Leeds at the moment.

Members split into groups to look at how well they think Leeds is doing with the big targets (a self assessment). They then came up with ideas on how to make things happen. A copy of the group work is attached to these notes.

Michele Tynan told the Board she had met with various people to discuss how to improve employment opportunities in Leeds and gave



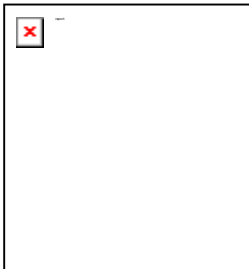
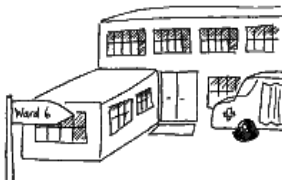
examples of pieces of work to be done.

- They would start by doing a review of current employment opportunities and support services, draft an action plan stating who needs to do what and when. The plan will be brought back to the Board for approval.
- The Partnership Board will get external help from Simon Whitehead, from NDti (National Development Team for inclusion). He is the employment lead for Valuing People and has contributed and been involved in the development of the Valuing Employment Now strategy.
- A team will visit all the day centres in Leeds and ask people with learning disabilities what they think about employment.
- The Transitions team will look at offering alternative opportunities to young people who would normally start going to day centres.
- People with complex needs will get person centred plans.
- Leeds will work with Mencap and complex needs services to see how we can support people.
- Michele has been talking to Sheila Dunham and Carol Cochrane to find ways of making sure the HR departments within big organisations make Valuing Employment Now happen. (HR departments deal with the recruitment of staff).



Michele pointed out that despite the strategy being a really good idea, there are challenges and it will not be an easy task. The country has been going through a recession; there is little money and a shortage of jobs. As the Public Sector (Council and Health etc) need to save money, the Board should think of ways to change how money is spent at the moment and move towards supporting more people in employment.

Sam and Scott were thanked for coming to the Board meeting.



Updates

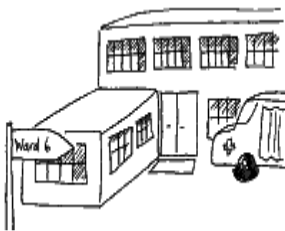
Partnership Executive – Derek Thomas

- Clare Linley, from the Acute Hospital Trust attended her first meeting. Clare will provide a valuable link to services provided in hospitals.
- The Strategic Needs Assessment (report containing information about the number and needs of people in Leeds with learning disabilities) was discussed. The Partnership Board will be asked to look at the benefits of having a learning disabilities database (register).
- The finance paper reported that whilst savings have been made, there is little money available for new care packages and any new high cost care packages would mean we could over spend this year.

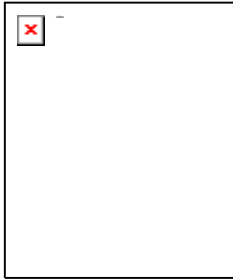


Health Task Group – Norman Campbell

- Norman handed out copies of a paper Sam Clarke has written regarding the Health Self Assessment Framework. The paper talks about how well the region is doing in reaching 4 important health targets.



- GPs have signed up to the Life Channel Project and the task group is looking at producing a short film which covers the health issues facing people with learning disabilities, such as obesity and diabetes. This film will be taken to all the GPs within the area.
- On 3rd December the Health Task Group will be presenting information about 'Pacesetters' at the Yorkshire and Humber Big Health Event. 'Pacesetters' is about research into heart conditions. Tracy Gray (Public Health) and Sharon Moore are leading on this piece of work and will send out further information to see if people want to attend.
- The Task Group have been asked to provide learning disabilities awareness training to over 70 GPs. This will start in January 2010 and the group will be looking for volunteers from the Carers and Learning Disability Reference group to help with this.
- Friday 20th November an event will be held in Harrogate to look at the Care Quality Commission performance indicators. All hospitals will be audited.
- An event is being planned to look at people with learning disabilities who need special care in secure places, such as prisons. It will also look at when people need special treatment, how do we measure and ensure it is a good standard of care.



Carers Reference Group – Harold Wilson

Harold talked about two television programmes, one was a musical written by people with autism and the other was a programme showing problems faced by carers.

He also reported back from a Hate Crime event held by the Police and Safer Leeds and produced an information pack for members to borrow. The Board discussed various Hate Crime issues and were advised to contact Gerry Broadbent who is the Divisional Commander with the Fire Service and Lead Safeguarding Officer.



Hilary Paxton, Leeds City Council's Head of Safeguarding Adults is attending the Learning Disability Reference Group meeting to ask for volunteers for the new Safeguarding Board Reference Group. This will provide a valuable link between the Partnership Board and Safeguarding Board.



Lets Rip – Cathy Wintersgill

Connect in the North will be holding auditions in December and want to create a band which includes people with learning difficulties. 10 people who pass the auditions will go on to a course in the new year. They will learn about the music business, make a CD and rehearse together. In March they will perform to live audiences in a mini tour. Cathy handed out flyers and application forms.



Meetings for 2010

Monthly Partnership Board meetings are being arranged for next year. Whilst this seems a lot compared to other Boards, it was felt that as there is so much work to do, the Board would either have to;

- meet every two months, work from 10 am until 4pm and cover a few subjects in one day **or**
- meet every month and finish at lunch time

In previous years, the Board planned 6 meetings a year but had to fit in quite a few extra meetings at short notice.




As soon as the dates of the monthly Board meetings are confirmed, they will be sent out to all members. The Board would then like all members to add dates of the Task and Reference Group meetings to this list. It would also help with future agenda planning if members could let the Chair know of any important jobs that the Board has to do, such as the Yorkshire and Humber Health Self Assessment.



If the Board felt that there was no need to hold one of the monthly meetings, they would cancel it and give members plenty of notice.

Next Meeting

Date: Tuesday 15th December

Venue: St Matthias

	Priorities from Valuing Employment Now	This shows how well the Board felt Leeds was doing in relation to the priorities ✗ means target not met ✓ ✗ means working towards target ✓ means we have reached our target			These are the ideas the Board came up with to make things better
		Group One	Group Two	Group Three	
	<p>Children with learning disabilities will be asked what job they want to do when they grow up. They will get proper work experience at school</p>	<p>✓ ✗</p>	<p>✗</p>	<p>✗</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentoring programmes • Careers and info + awareness • Inclusive education leading by example • Linking with other local/national groups – avoid reinventing the wheel • What are young Leeds peoples aspirations? Find out what they think/want
	<p>College courses will give people skills for work. It will be normal for people to leave school or college and get a real, paid job</p>	<p>✗</p>	<p>✓ ✗</p>	<p>✓ ✗</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More realistic college courses • Be creative as a board to make things happen • Personal progression qualification • Build up knowledge and information – access expert knowledge and advice (local/national) • Review representation for the Board – Further Education lead
	<p>People will be working full time and better off without their benefits. People will use their personal budgets to help them get jobs</p>	<p>✓ ✗</p>	<p>✗</p>	<p>✗</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at the money we spend on support for people • Certainty as to people being 'better off' at work • Example personal budgets – individualised • Greater integration into the mainstream • Clarity over benefits tax credit info • SDS team – make sure they use Valuing Employment Now in their pilot

	<p>More people will work in public sector services like Leeds Council, the NHS or the police</p>	<p>✓ ✗</p>	<p>✓ ✗</p>	<p>✗</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remind people of their legal responsibilities • HR Leads • Educate senior management – decision makers • IDEa website to give examples to help prepare lobby argument • Exec. Leads for HR in NHS and LCC to be lobbied • Action plan to identify how we will do this
	<p>Jobs for ALL! This includes people with 'complex needs' or people with autism and other groups.</p>	<p>✗</p>	<p>✗</p>	<p>✗</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share good stories • Work with HR to look at ways of interviewing applications to remove barriers • Rethink how we approach employment – person centred • Job sharing • Raising awareness amongst employers • Strong support mechanism • Audit how many people already have work • Obligation to provide work opportunities PSA 16 • Look at people skills when creating jobs • Scope the group to be considered – identify boundaries • How do we target wider employers – challenge/change attitudes and values • Transition – diversion from traditional day service/further education pathway

Anything else – these are other suggestions the Board put forward

- Share good news stories as people come off benefits
- Improve accessibility
- Training for travel to work
- Write to big employers and chamber of commerce
- Listen to peoples ideas
- Housing