

Carers Reference Group
Friday 9th June 2017
Minutes of the meeting

Present at the meeting Lynn Bailey, Better Action for Families Louise Mills, Adult Social Care Maureen Lumb, Family Carer Maire Sykes, Family Carer Shirley Evison, Family Carer Kausar Iqbal, Family Carer Liz Davis, Family Carer Jackie Hartley, Family Carer Becky Mitchell, Family Carer Madeleine Fahy, Through the Maze		Guests Leanne Moorcroft, Adult Social Care Fiona Martin, Adult Social Care Stuart Morrison, Healthwatch Leeds Apologies Kath Lindley, Tenfold
1.	Welcome and introductions	Action
	Lynn welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Leanne and Fiona from Adults and Health.	
2.	Minutes of the meeting held 3rd March 2017	
	It was agreed that future minutes would be checked at the end of the meetings. If the meeting ran out of time, the minutes would be sent to Through the Maze after 2 weeks, allowing time for people to request amendments.	All
3.	Strength Based Social Care – presentation by Fiona Martin, Service Delivery Manager, Learning Disability Services and Leanne Moorcroft, Senior Project Officer within the Adults and Health Service Transformation Team (presentation notes attached with these minutes).	
	Fiona and Leanne came to ask Carers what they thought of the Three Conversations Model, which is a new approach to social care. This model has been tried in other parts of the country. Leeds has set up a ‘Being Me’ Project Team to adapt the model for Leeds. Fiona gave an overview of the three main work streams within the new model which are; supporting people in crisis, new referrals and transitions (post-18 reviews). After the presentation, there was a discussion about difficulties carers have experienced and some of the things Leeds is doing to make things better;	

	• Shortage of emergency respite beds - A carer had to discharge herself from hospital because there was no one to look after her son. • Need for information and support planning - A carer doesn't know what will happen to her daughter's funding and support when her daughter turns 18 (she is now 17). This is very worrying. • Carers need more support – carers need more support so they can continue to look after their loved ones especially when carers are not well / getting older. • Paid support ○ Carers have some concerns about unreliable / inexperienced paid support workers looking after their vulnerable family members. ○ Carers feel support / activities specified on care plans are not always being provided. • Outcome focus monitoring - Adults & Health are looking at how they can support providers to monitor if the support provided is making a difference to a person's life. • Market Place Event 4th July - this event will showcase third sector, health and social care provider services and activities on offer in Leeds. • Leeds wants to find ways to identify carers and encourage them to utilise the support available such as Carers Leeds. • Fiona agreed to look into some of the individual issues raised by carers and feedback later. The Being Me Project Team wants to work with a variety of stakeholders and receive feedback from experts by experience. A feedback form is attached to these minutes.	Fiona Martin
4	Preparation for the Partnership Board meeting 20th June – what 'Being Connected' means to family carers	
	Kath Lindley, the Partnership Board 'Being Connected' Lead, was unable to attend the meeting to cover this item. Louise reminded everyone about the priorities within the Being Connected part of the strategy and asked Carers to prepare their feedback for the meeting. Here are some of their key points; • Direct Payments used to fund a few hours of 1:1 support hour a week is providing a carer with a much needed break and her daughter is enjoying the time too. • Carers are concerned that no one seems to be checking the quality of paid support workers and whether they are doing what they are supposed to do.	

	Some of the adults with learning disabilities are enjoying paid work/volunteering and carers have noticed the increase in their confidence and self-esteem.	
5.	Carer's priority agenda items for future meetings	
	There was a brief discussion around items on the future meeting planner. Louise agreed to invite guest speakers and/or confirm peoples attendance. Items to cover include; - What to do when actions listed in support plans do not happen. - Shared Lives – speaker already invited – Louise to chase up availability - Responsibility for agreeing to health / dental treatments – Max Naismith has asked her staff to attend a meeting. Louise to chase up.	LM LM
6.	Any other business and future events	
	- National Carers Week is 12th to 18th June. - National Learning Disabilities week 19th to 25th June. - Carers would like there to be more Carers Reference Group meetings. Louise agreed to talk to Janet Wright. - The Partnership Board strategy expires in 2018 and each theme has had two meetings dedicated to them. Board members need to agree on the next steps in terms of the agenda and format of the meetings. The September Board meeting may be used to answer these questions. - Future Carers Reference Group meetings may be held 3 weeks before each Board meeting to allow more time to prepare feedback. The provisional date of the next Carers Reference Group meeting is Friday 1st September but this may change.	LM
7.	Healthwatch Leeds - Stuart Morrison	
	Stuart came to talk about how Healthwatch can help people get the best out of their local health and care services. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 gave Healthwatch a responsibility to share the views of the local community. The NHS and Local Authority has a legal responsibility to listen and respond to those views. Carers shared their experiences of using local health services. Stuart invited carers to contact him if they had any further queries.	

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