

Carers Reference Group
Friday 7th September 2018
Carers Leeds, The Headrow, Leeds

Present at the meeting Jackie Hartley, Family Carer Louise Mills, Adult Social Care Lynn Bailey, Family Carer and Facilitator Kausar Iqbal, Family Carer Becky Mitchell, Family Carer Maureen Lumb, Family Carer Maire Sykes, Family Carer Elaine Wilkes, Mental Health / Learning Disability Carers Leader – Leeds and York NHS Partnership Foundation Trust Madeleine Fahy, Through The Maze Suzanne Jackson Bailey, Family Carer	Apologies Liz Davis, Family Carer Shirley Evison, Family Carer Diana Barnes, Family Carer Ian Brooke-Mawson, Strategic Commissioning Manager (Carers) Naseem Akram, Family Carer
1.	Welcome and introductions
	Lynn thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and welcomed Elaine Wilkes to the group. Elaine explained that she is the Carers Leeds Learning Disability and Mental Health Lead, funded by Leeds and York NHS Partnership Foundation Trust. The apologies were recorded as above.
2.	Minutes of the extra meeting held 8th June and matters arising
2.1	Everyone checked the minutes and agreed they were an accurate record of the meeting.
2.2	Matters arising Emergency support for Carers – There was a further discussion around who had been contacted by the organisation now running the scheme and whether carers contact details were up to date. It was reported that there was a waiting list for new carers wanting to join the scheme. Action: Louise to invite Ark Health to a future carers meeting. Ark contact details: 0113 205 2990. http://arkhealth.co.uk/
3.	Carers Leeds – Elaine Wilkes
	Elaine provided an overview of the support provided at Carers Leeds and answered a range of individual questions. Here are some of the services Carers Leeds provides • Carers advice line 0113 380 4300: Mon – Fri 9am-4:30pm. Email: advice@carersleeds.org.uk • Appointments and home visits with Carers Support Worker for one to one information and advice, for someone to talk to about caring issues. • Support with completing attendance allowance and PIP forms. • Thinking/planning ahead guidance

	Carers Assessments – if cared for person doesn't have a social worker. If they do, Adults and Health will undertake the assessment. Elaine distributed copies of the September/October carer's newsletter which includes dates of forthcoming events and is also available on line. Click here for the link. Maire gave an example of difficulties faced by someone who became a carer and suggested there was a list or 'tool box' for new carers. The list could include where the money comes from, the carers card and where to get help from. The group agreed this would be a good idea although it was acknowledged that as everyone's situation could differ, any list could only provide general information.
4.	Future Carers Reference Group meetings
4.1	Carers Reference Group meetings – - Friday 30th November 2018 followed by festive buffet, venue to be confirmed (please note this is a change of date from 23rd November). - Carers wellbeing session – Action: Lynn to contact Geeta and confirm the date (it <u>may</u> be on 23rd November). - Carers training at Ribby Hall in February 2019 – Action: Lynn to confirm details later. - Carers meetings 2019 -To allow more time for the preparation of reports to the Board, Carers agreed to hold next year's reference group meetings 3 weeks before each Board meeting, instead of the current 2 weeks. The future dates are as follows; - Friday 22nd February 2019 - Friday 31st May 2019 - Friday 6th September 2019 - Friday 22nd November 2019
5.	Membership
	There was a brief discussion around ensuring the group is representative of all family carers. There appears to be underrepresentation of male and BME carers. Action: Elaine offered to look into who else might want to attend. Carers to share information about the group amongst their networks.
6.	Events and any other business
	- Thursday 20th September - Health and Wellbeing Day on. Over 15 different organisations attending to help members stay healthy. Venue - The Old Fire Station in Gipton. - Tuesday 25th September 2018 - Leeds Learning Disability Partnership Board meeting. The Board is waiting for news of who will be the new chair. 11th October - Connect in the North event for women with learning disabilities to learn how women got the vote, why it is important to vote and writing questions to ask politicians. - October 12th- Connect in the North. Local members of parliament and councillors will be there to answer questions.

	• 15th November - Inclusion North event in Leeds. The session brings together findings from the Learning Disabilities Mortality Review and provides a way for people to share best practice ideas and challenges. • A carer raised concern regarding a support worker asking for a lot of personal medical information about her family member. Action: Louise to obtain clarity around what should happen.
7.	Good news
	Carers shared good news stories about their loved ones, which included one carer becoming a grandma, a daughter with learning disabilities winning a prize in a magazine for a piece of art work and another loved one attending college and volunteering.