

Carers Reference Group
Friday 14th February 2020
Carers Leeds, 6 The Headrow, Leeds
Notes from the meeting

Present at the meeting Ian Brooke-Mawson, Strategic Commissioning Manager (Carers) Yvonne Ugarte, Family Carer Louise Mills, Adult Social Care Patricia Hardwick, Family Carer Shirley Evison, Family Carer Kausar Iqbal, Family Carer Lynn Bailey, Family Carer and Facilitator Jackie Hartley, Family Carer Maire Sykes, Family Carer Maureen Lumb, Family Carer		Apologies Elaine Wilkes, Mental Health / Learning Disability Carers Leader Madeleine Fahy, Through The Maze
1.	Welcome and introductions	
	Lynn opened the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves. The apologies were recorded as above. The group was advised that Elaine has a new job and will not be attending any more meetings.	
2.	Liz	
	Following the sad death and funeral of one of the group's dedicated members, Liz's family had passed on their appreciation of the friendship and support given to Liz by fellow carers and asked that they continue raising awareness of learning disabilities, on behalf of her. Yvonne read out a poem she had written about Liz. <i>Who is this lady before us right here What is it that makes our eyes shine An incredible person, a wonderful friend Who was confident, honest and kind</i> <i>To her family and friends She was one of the best Gentle and loving and caring As fierce as a tiger, as meek as a lamb Adaptable, confident, daring</i> <i>A champion defender in the disability world For each boy who was different Each girl A prayer up to Heaven Who has gained a new star</i>	

	<i>But her light will still shine in our world</i>	
3.	Minutes of the previous meeting held 22nd November 2019	
	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and will be available on Through the Maze. Matters arising Stay safe on-line training – 13th March 10:30 – 12:30. Venue: Carers Leeds office (carers referred choice). Action: all carers wishing to attend to contact Lynn or Louise to confirm their place. Blue Badge leaflet (and disability parking) – Shirley has spoken to Carers Leeds about the inaccurate information on the leaflet. Ian Brooke Mawson explained the national legislation framework around disability parking. Action: Ian agreed to contact Carers Leeds regarding the blue badge scheme. There followed a discussion about how many people find on-line applications very difficult and some carers do not use the internet. Members of the Leeds Carers Partnership have also expressed concern over the decreasing number of disabled parking spaces in the city centre and how some are too far out of the centre for carers pushing people in wheelchairs. Carers were advised to submit a paper containing their shared negative parking experiences to their elected members. Carers involvement table – this item will be completed at a later date.	IBM All
4.	Carers Leeds Partnership – update by Ian Brooke Mawson	
	Leeds Carers Partnership – the previous meeting held 7th January was well attended and minutes available here. The next meeting is 22nd April 11.30 until 1.30. Ian invited the reference group to send a representative to the partnership meeting. Carers Partnership Strategy – the draft strategy was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board in September 2019 and will go back in June 2020 for the final sign-off. The consultation exercise is still underway. Carers wishing to share their views can do so either by visiting www.carersleeds.org.uk/tell or by completing the attached forms. Ian provided an overview of the 6 priorities and examples of how these might be supported. Professionals are invited to an event March to help identify ways of implementing the priorities. Lynn is attending this event on behalf of carers. Carers Emergency Scheme – Adults and Health undertook a market sounding and commissioning exercise and will be awarding Comfort Call with a 2 year contract starting in April 2020. Slight changes to the service mean that carers can now complete their own emergency plan and send it to Comfort Call who will register the carer with the scheme. Carers will receive a registration number and card to keep in their wallet. It is recommended that carers name up to 3 emergency contacts in their plan. Where carers do not have an emergency contact, Comfort Call will source alternative staff in the event of an emergency. In all cases, when Comfort Call receive a request for emergency care, they will notify Adults and Health so they are aware support may be required. The first 48 hours emergency care is provided free of charge but where subsequent hours are needed, charging rules may apply. It is important that carers	

	keep Comfort Call updated when contact details change. Carers were advised to contact Comfort Call to check whether they are registered with the scheme and ensure their details are updated. The contact details for Comfort Call are 0113 205 2990 Adults and Health emergencies <u>out of office hours</u> contact the Adults and Health Emergency Duty Team on 07712 106378. Or email edt.ss@leeds.gov.uk; For Adults and Health enquiries <u>during normal office hours</u> (Monday to Thursday - 9am to 5pm, Friday 9am to 4.30pm) contact 0113 222 4401. Or email general.enquiries@leeds.gov.uk Community Based Short breaks– New contracts started in November 2019 and must be accessed through social worker assessment. Although the services are predominantly used by older people, they can provide a break for carers of people with learning disabilities/Autism. If carers have difficulty in getting this support, please contact Ian. GP practices – work is underway to improve awareness of carers and caring with GP practices. West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnerships are looking at the GP system codes as there are currently different codes for carers in use. Respite paper – Ian explained the legal basis around respite and gave examples of some of the current types of respite. A respite report is being drafted and will be shared with the group in due course.	
5.	When things go wrong	
	Louise distributed leaflets about the Council's complaints process but due to the meeting running out of time, this item will be added to a future meeting agenda.	
6.	Partnership Board meeting 10th March 2020	
	The agenda is being drafted by the Being Safe Task Group and will include an update about the Safe Places scheme.	
7.	Ribby Hall training	
	Lynn reminded attendees of the travel arrangements and training content, including some preparation work required before the event.	
8.	Any other business and dates of the next meetings	
	Learning Disability Rave – Maire shared details of an event on 9th April, at The Headrow House https://www.facebook.com/events/480357405956277/ Dates of next meetings • 10th March – Learning Disability Partnership Board • 13th March – webwise training • 22nd April – Leeds Carers Partnership • 1st May- carers reference group	

