

Minutes of Partnership Board

18th October 2010



1. Welcoming visitors, saying who we are and an update on what we talked about last time
2. Watching a DVD about Transition and PCP
3. Independent Living Fund (ILF)
4. Thinking about the Future
5. Housing Action Plan
6. Big Health Check
7. Anything else?
8. Date of next meeting



1. Welcoming visitors, saying who we are and an update on what we talked about last time

We welcomed everyone to the meeting

- Councillor White (as the Chair of the Board) has sent over 800 letters telling people about the annual health check. They went to all the adults known to adult specialist team in the last 5 years. Some people have been in touch to find out more, Hilary and Vicky are sorting out their questions. NHS Southampton has also sent a letter out to all the doctors
- There was an art exhibition in the Marlands that people said was very good.
- The latest TAG theatre group performance went well.

2. Watching a DVD about Transition and PCP



Pete Collins came to show us the first part of a DVD about annual person centred reviews in schools. The young person felt central to everything that went on and it showed how things were changing to meet her needs.

We thought it was important that person centred plans are done to help someone to plan spending when they have their individual budget.

3. Independent Living Fund (ILF)



Carol and Kate talked to us about the changes to ILF. There is a presentation which Hilary will send out with the minutes.

They said that there was no government money for new people to join the scheme, but that the people who get this money now will carry on getting it. There could be a 2 tier system where some people get the extra money and others do not. If the money comes to the City to pay there will not be any inflation with it, so in the future the money will pay for less.

They said that in Southampton between 5 to 8 new people would get ILF each year, and the money helps to pay for the things the person has said they want to do. People have to be on the higher rate of DLA and working over 16 hours a week, this has made it very difficult to get this benefit.

We all voted to write a letter to say we wanted ILF to carry on. Kate said she would write the letter and pass it around to all of us, and then Councillor White and Matthew would sign it for all of us.

Amy said she would work with Busy People to do a pod cast to send to tell the people at ILF what we thought.

4. Thinking About the Future



Last time we thought about what we could still do with less money.

We asked people to tell us what they could do with 25% less money and they had done this. We also asked them to tell us about the good things that had happened with the money they had had from LDDF. Hilary had sent all this information out. We had done a lot of good things with the money we had and made a difference to the lives of people with learning disabilities.

- Ivan said the Board meetings were a place where people's voices were heard
- Amy thought it was the place where services were challenged about what they do and that things have changed as a result. For example we said there should be a housing strategy and not a guide, the same as other groups and this happened.
- Charles said our Board was strong as it was a third people with learning disabilities, a third voluntary sector and carers and a third professionals.
- Alan Tobutt thought it was good to decide how the money was spent together
- Eddie said it was a forum for carers and people with learning disabilities to meet with officers.
- Brian reminded us that it was jumping the gun to think it would not carry on.

Penny Furness Smith had come along and she helped us to think about what might happen next.

The comprehensive spending review (the governments plan for how things need to change to save money) is due out on 20th October. After that everyone will need to think about it. So, from the 20th October until December there will be a lot of meetings and lots of detailed thinking about how to spend the money that the City Council will have. The decision about grants (The LDDF is a grant) will not be known until January.

Penny said the direct delivery of support to vulnerable people is a priority and that won't change.

We also thought about different ways to fund the services we think are important. A lot of different parts of the Council get help from the Board so perhaps we could think about everyone giving a bit. Everyone could come together as a collective or a federation.

5. Housing Action Plan



Mandy told us about the housing action plan and how things are changing. For example a residential home is changing into supported living. An old pub is going to be supported living as well.

She talked about talking to private landlords and the changes in housing benefit. Hilary has a copy of the presentation to send out with the minutes.

6. Big Health Check



Vicky came to update us about changes in health.

She told us about the Big Health Check that the strategic health authority has been doing. We had a green light for closing the campuses and an orange light for the other things. (Keeping people safe, making services the same for people with learning disabilities and doing the work in Valuing People.) There is an action plan to make all the areas green next year.

The Health strategy group meets every 3 months. It is updating its plans.



7. Anything else?

- Kay told us about a survey for the mental capacity act and suggested we could fill it in
- Kate and Vicky said there would be a new day to think about the joint commissioning plan. It will be on December 15th from 10 until 3. She will send out more information as soon as she has it.

8. Date of our next meeting

The next meeting is on Monday December 6th 2010
We are thinking about employment.



Please let Hilary have any ideas for questions or people you want to come along.

People who came to the meeting

Ivan White – Councillor and Joint Chair
Matthew King – Self Advocate and Joint Chair
Allan Tobutt – Self Advocate
Brian Parnell - Councillor
Hilary Linssen – Valuing People Implementation Manager
Charles Hodgson – Chief Executive Choices Advocacy
Claire Petrie – Self Advocate
Heather Aspinall – Chief Executive Bradbury Centre
Jenny Strevens – Mencap Chair
Kay Labon – Parent Carer
Mark Wilford – Self Advocate
Kate Dench – LD Joint Commissioning Service Manager
Alex Iles – Manager Mencap
Carol Valentine – Assistant Head of HCC
Eddie Leach – Parent Carer
Becky Badger – Choices
Alan Lebas – Self Advocate
Jeremy Secchi – Self Advocate
Justin Dunkason – Self Advocate
Claire Royal – Choices
Alan McDougall – Self Advocate
Richard Pearce – Parent Carer
Amy Hobson – Health Specialist Trust
Sukwinder Singh – Self Advocate
Mike Stonehouse – Self Advocate
Simon Slater – Children's Social Care
Penny Furness-Smith – Executive Director
Pete Collins – Person Centred Planning Coordinator
Mandy Johnson – Senior Practitioner
Lydia Wilton – City Limits Employment Operational Manager
Vicky Thew - Clinical Governance lead for people with a learning disability
Natalie Cosgrove - PA

APOLOGIES

Jamie Schofield – Specialist Community Service Manager
Jeffrey Parker – Self Advocate
Ena Conway – Service Manager for Learning Disability, City Council
Barbara Compton – Head of Housing
Rae Barwick – Parent Carer
Paul Holmes – Councillor - Cabinet member for children's services and learning