

Minutes of Partnership Board

7th September 2009



1. Welcoming visitors and saying who we are
2. Housing Guide update
3. Carers training update
4. Quality
5. Our regional priority
6. Anything else?

1. Welcoming visitors and saying who we are

As there were some new people at the meeting we started by saying who we were.

Mike Geerhaert from Health has left and Malcolm Campbell came as he is doing Mike's job for the next 3 months until the new person arrives.

Rae Barwick, who is a carer, is going to join the board.

Sue Perry came to talk to us about the housing guide and also because Barbara could not come.

Kate Dench is back from maternity leave



There were some updates from the last meeting.

- College questions

We had some questions at the end of our last meeting and there will be a workshop for all the people suggested at the meeting on October 27th to start working out the answers.

- Employment

Some people with learning disabilities were going to a full council meeting in July. This did not happen but is planned for September 16th.

- Campus Money

Kate has made a meeting for October 6th to start thinking about what the important things are to spend the money from health (the Department of Health) in 2010.

2. Housing Guide update



Sue Perry came to tell us about the update to the Housing Plan that was written in 2003.

An important part of writing the housing guide was the consultation that Choices ran for Housing in August, when people with learning disabilities came and talked about what they wanted and what was not working for them at the moment.

Charles has written a report from the meeting but it has not gone to all the people who came along. When they have seen it will be sent to the Board. Sue went through the summary she had sent around before hand. If you have not got a copy then ask Hilary for one.

30 people were invited to the meeting and 18 came along. Invitations were sent to people living in all sorts of different housing. Most of these people rented, living with others or on their own.

No one who lived their family came, and no one knew why this was. No one was invited who lived outside the city as they did not know who would support them or how they would get there. Kate said she would think about how to make sure these people had the chance to be included.

People wanted the same things everyone does; a decent home that is safe in a good place near shops friends and family.

They said they had little choice about where they lived and who they lived with. This is the same picture as a nationwide survey, where 67% said this.

People wanted more support to find somewhere to live, they said there were lots of forms and things to read which made it hard.

No one knew about buying a house or joint ownership schemes.

The idea is to ask more people what they think; Sue will add their thoughts to the report. She is then going to write a housing guide that will have lots of different parts.

She will think about how to provide choice, what choice of housing there is at the moment and how to make information clearer and easier to understand.

She will also talk about how many people there are with learning disabilities in the city, how old they are and any health issues.

She is going to write a draft by the end of this year and will send it to the Board.

People asked what was different from the last plan. Sue said:

- People expect more choice
- The last report talked about moving people from Tatchbury and this has now happened. Now people want to move on to their own place.
- There is more emphasis on having choice and the support to make a choice.
- People want information to be easier to understand and for more information about all the different things they could do.

Mandy Johnson (who works in the care management team and lead on housing) is going to the carers' lunch in January to talk about housing. This might help more carers to support the person they care for to think about housing.

We thought about what is happening in parts of Europe. Villages especially for people with a learning disability are being built. We thought this would be difficult in the city because there is little spare land and also most people so far have asked for their own place. We agreed it is one of the options for people to think about.

3. Carers Training update



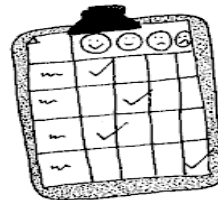
Rae and Richard went to the carer training that Mencap ran with money from the Learning Disability Development fund. It was to think about behavioural problems and to “help carers become better carers”.

8 of the 10 people came for all the sessions. They all gained different things and everyone learnt to be calmer and less emotional when there were problems. They said it would have been good to have more time to talk about their individual issues, however they tried out some things between the meetings in a different way and everyone found this helped.

They also said that it was good to talk to other carers and share the issues they have. They were able to help each other, for example when someone had been through something someone else was struggling with.

The group have decided to keep in touch with each other. There is another group planned but it has been hard to find carers who can come along. They were not sure if this is because carers are too tired, too busy caring or perhaps they didn't like the idea of training. The group said there was not enough training to support someone physically. Kate said there is an advert out for a "Carers Commissioning Manager" in the City Council and this could be something for the person to think about. Alex will send Hilary the full report to send out with the minutes.

4. Quality



We had asked for an update on the work to make sure that services are a good quality.

Kate told us about the different things happening in the council and in health (NHS Southampton) for adults.

- A job for an assistant commissioning manager to think about quality in the contracts with residential providers.
- Matt Ring in the adult team is working with Kate about safeguarding issues.
- There will be some meetings to think about workforce (the people who support people with a learning disability) and quality will be part of this.
- The high cost team are also thinking about quality.

All this work will help to decide what the important things to do are.

We talked about what happens to complaints, especially those made to PALS for health. Amy said they are sorted and the general issues are reported so they can see if there are any trends with the same thing happening to different people.

The bigger providers have special meetings about quality as part of their contract.

This work is all for people with learning disabilities but there are links for other groups then they talk together.

5. Our regional priority



The regional team for Valuing People have identified some priority areas for “Valuing People Now” and have asked us to think about the one we think is important for Southampton that is not on the list.

Hilary has a copy of the list so ask her for a copy.

All the Partnership Boards in the South East have been asked to think about a priority and at the meeting on the 9th September in London (the Regional Implementation Group) Hilary will tell them what ours is. The one that gets the most votes will be added to the regional priorities.

We all said we wanted to add:

- Diversity and Hate Crime
- Transition
- Making sure people with complex needs have a voice
- College training and courses
- Quality
- Breaking down the hidden barriers

We voted on one thing that we thought was the most important. Making sure that people with complex needs have a voice and breaking down the hidden barriers each got the most votes with 5 votes each. We decided to ask Hilary to say that Southampton’s priority is breaking down the barriers for everyone, especially those with complex needs.

6. Anything else?



- Ivan and Hilary went to meet Jimmy Chestnut at the Chamber of Commerce to talk about jobs. He suggested that we needed to think about what we can offer employers. We thought about a short presentation or a DVD. Ivan has written to the vice chancellor at the Solent University to ask if the media students would be interested. He will let us know when he hears anything.
- During the break Hilary put photos from the Special Olympics out for people to look at.
- Ivan asked if the 5 or 6 governors at Hampshire Partnership Trust could come along to watch a meeting. We agreed this was ok, and suggested the heath meeting in December.

Next meeting:

Monday October 19th



What time it starts: **1.15**



What time it ends: **4.00**

**Where it is: The Meon Room Bradbury Centre
300 Aldermoor Road Lordshill Southampton**

People who were at the meeting

Ivan White	Councillor/Joint Chair
Matthew King	Joint Chair /Self Advocate
Brian Parnell	Councillor
Hilary Linssen	Valuing People Implementation Manager
Kay Labon	Parent Carer
Kate Dench	Commissioning and Service Development Manager
Alex Iles	Manager, Mencap
Becky Badger	Choices
Alan Lebas	Self Advocate
Sukwinder Singh	Self Advocate
Michael Stonehouse	Self Advocate
Charles Hodgson	Chief Executive, Choices Advocacy
Clare Petrie	Self Advocate
Mark Wilford	Self Advocate
Malcolm Campbell	Hampshire NHS Trust
Jeremy Secchi	Self Advocate
Alan McDougall	Self Advocate
Claire Royall	Choices/Supporter
Richard Pearce	Parent Carer
Amy Hobson	Health
Rae Barwick	Family carer

People who could not come

Jamie Schofield	Service Manager
Ena Conway	Service Manager to Learning Disability, City Council
Jeffrey Parker	Self Advocate
Jane Elderfield	Chief Operating Officer, NHS Foundation Trust
Justin Dunkason	Self Advocate
Carol Valentine	Assistant Head of Adult Services – City Council
Barbara Compton	Housing Solutions, City Council
Jenny Strevens	Mencap
Heather Aspinall	Chief Exec Bradbury Centre
Allan Tobutt	Self Advocate
Parvin Damani	Councillor and Health
Eddie Leach	Self Advocate
Ruth Chiva	Head of Service Safeguarding, City Council

Visitors

Sue Perry	Housing Solutions, City Council
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