

## Newcastle Learning Disabilities Partnership Board



### Notes of the meeting held 4 November 2008

#### Who was at the meeting?

Councillor Brenda Hindmarsh	Councillor , Chair
Graham Newton	Self Advocate, User Forum
Barbara Chapman	Self Advocate, User Forum, Deputy Co Chair
James Todd	Self Advocate, User Forum
Chris Anderson	Self advocate, Co Chair
Peter Miller	Self Advocate, User Forum
Trevor Moon	Parent/Carer
Louise Moon	Guest
Kingsley Straker	North of Tyne Primary Care Trust
Colin Douglas	Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
Karen Inglis	Adult Social Services
Allison Ferris	FANE
Barbara Taylor	Mencap
Helen Milner	Northeast Special Needs Network
Gary Fawcett	Your Voice Counts
Alex Tate	Your Voice Counts
Dave Woolley	Your Voice Counts
Bill Norman	Learning Disabilities Partnership Board



## Who could not make the meeting?

These were members who gave their apologies

Liz Langfield	City Councillor
Cath Williams	Adult Social Services
Les Pickering	Primary Care Trust
Jacqui Jobson	Newcastle Advocacy Centre
Doreen McCarthy	Adult Education
Tim Keilty	Person Centred Planning Co-ordinator
Hamish Hamilton	Newcastle College
Sue Leake	Interactive Development
Dr Rick Brannen	Learning and Skills Council
Rod Ferguson	Connexions
Hazel Allen	Edward Lloyd Trust
Sally Young	Edward Lloyd Trust
Lynne Gray	Parent/Carer
Van Brunning	Parent/Carer
Liz Wright	Skills for People
Nicola Hilson	Deputy Chief Exec Skills for People
Joanne Burke	Better Days
Lesley Mountain	Better Days

### Guests:

Yvonne Fox – New Prospects

Caterina Hackney-Huck – Keyring

Margaret Lester – Safeguarding Adults

### Venue

Disability North, The Dene Centre, Castle Farm Road,  
Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1PH

Brenda welcomed everyone to the meeting.



## Rules

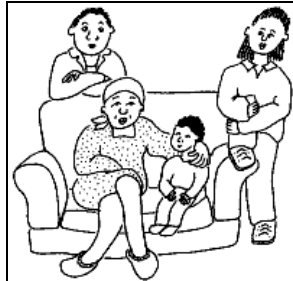
Chris read through the rules



## Message from Deputy Co Chair

Barbara gave her message to the board.

## Theme for today – Families and Carers



Bill said the report today was going to look at

- What does this theme cover
- Issues we want to report on
- Issues we need the Board's help with
- Issues we think carers need more information about

See attached presentations for the main points

Helen and Trevor were going to do sections of the report

There were a number of points that were really important

- Newcastle City Council is taking carers issues seriously. This is shown by Alex Dunlop, Carers Lead Officer coming into post and the work that has been done around the Carers Strategy
- Trevor told everyone about Alex's team and the role they would play
- Work is being completed on the Carers Assessment Information pack.



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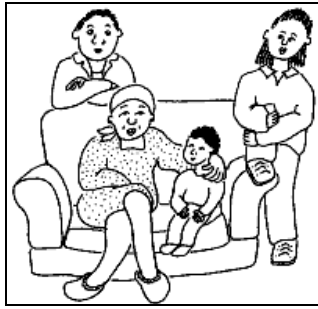
### **Carers need help before a crisis occurs.**

- There is scheme called the George Hardwick Foundation whereby carers carry a card so that if they have a problem e.g. an accident, there is a reference number to show who they are and make sure that the person they care for is not left alone. This is for all carers not just those who receive Local Authority services. Alex Dunlop is commissioning this at the moment



- Two courses are available locally to help carers find out information and learn how to gain confidence about speaking up in all situations. One course is called Stronger Voices – offered by the Carers Centre and the other, run by Northeast Special Needs Network is to help parents through transition. A leaflet is available from NSNN with further information.

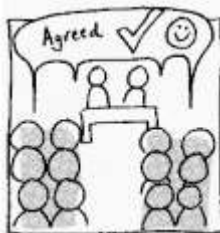
## PLAN



Trevor gave a brief outline about PLAN a scheme in Canada involving groups of families and carers who band together and manage care. The people own the plan and it's independently funded with help from sponsorship and member contributions. There is a launch day on 20<sup>th</sup> November at Skills for People. This will provide more information and provide an opportunity to sign up to the pilot. As Trevor pointed out "The biggest worry to parents and carers is - What happens when I've gone?" Contact Nicola Hilson on 2818737 to find out more



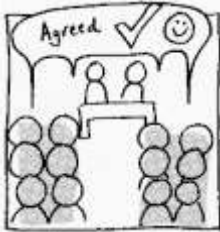
- Changes are being made to the allocation of money for carers needs; this used to be dealt with by the Local Authority but is now handled by the Primary Care Trust. We need to make sure the right amount of money is available and that carers have a say in how this is spent. Bill said this could be a national issue and wondered if we should ask the Valuing People Support Team to see if this had been raised elsewhere and could it be answered as part of the launch of Valuing People Now



**ACTION: BILL**

## What carers want to know about

Carers also need information about brokerage and the use of individual budgets. There was a series of questions that the group wanted some answers to and Bill said he would send these to Colin Williams, who was coming to talk about this at the next Partnership Board meeting



**ACTION : BILL**

## Older Carers



Helen Elliott the Board's Older Carer Worker gave a brief presentation on her job and what she has achieved so far in her role.

- She contacts carers aged over 70 who care for someone with a Learning Disability.
- Leaflets have been distributed all over the City.
- She offers them support if they want it and talks to them to find out what they need.
- So far she has contacted 47 families but would like to find ways of contacting more.



- All the carers she has visited have been happy to get information from her.

- They all tell her they are worried about the future for the person they care for.
- They want to know what will happen in an emergency.
- Helen works with other departments and agencies swapping information which will help older carers.

## Respite Care/Short Breaks



### Clayton Road short break service

Brenda told everyone about plans are under way for the replacement of Clayton Road short break service, with a provisional opening in July 2009.

In a survey lots of carers said that all they need is a little time for themselves maybe 2/3 hours a week. There are other ways to have a short break, have a holiday or weekend away. Individual Budgets can make people more creative in this area.

### Events



### Carers Rights Day

5<sup>TH</sup> December between 10am and 2pm, Collingwood Suite, Civic Centre

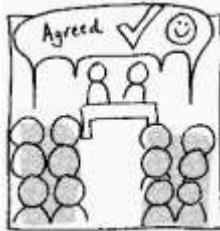
The idea of this event is to provide information to carers.

### Elected member theme champion



This was one of the things the Theme Group said it wanted the Board's help with .Bill said there was a problem as George Johnson who had been a Councillor and who had agreed to be elevated member champion , was no longer

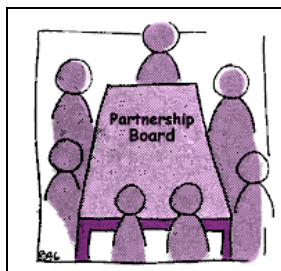
Brenda had said she would talk this through with other Councillors but this was no reason to stop George being involved in the group's work if he wanted to. She said Georges background and commitment would be a great asset to the group , whether he is now a Councillor or not



The Board agreed that this was an excellent idea

### **ACTION : BILL and BRENDA**

### **Carers Involvement in the Board**

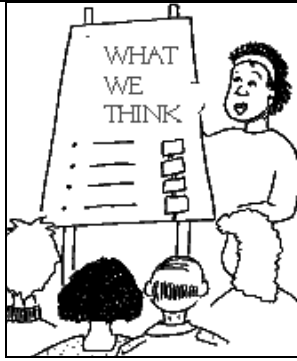


We want carers and families to feel empowered and have a strong voice on the Board. The Board currently has three carers as members.

We also want to identify Older Carers and make sure they have the right information to help them when they need it.

We need to get more carers involved with the Board. The discussion groups looked at this question further to see what could be done. The ideas are listed below.

### **Discussion Groups**



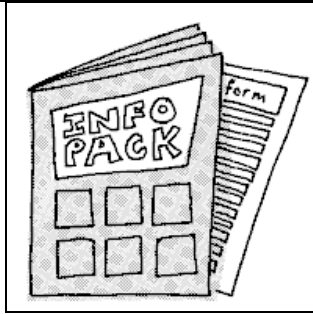
The meeting broke into three groups to discuss the following three questions.

### **1. How can we make sure Older Carers needs are met?**

- Need to find more carers – Helen has contacted GPs and had some replies. It might help to offer GP's £10 for every person they identified. Other places to contact/advertise are :- City Life (low key, friendly article but mention success story and time commitment), Ward Committee's Newsletters, Mea House - Elders Council Newsletter, Chiropodists, Eldon Square Tea Dance etc. hospitals and older persons day services. Shopping places, youth clubs, schools and colleges, social events, Interactive Development, Long term – meet carers when younger, trusting others to care, partnership working for future plan.

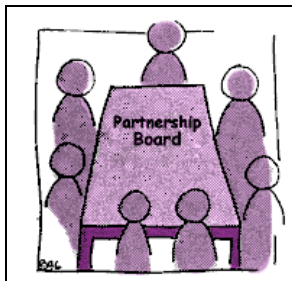


- How do we support when people might not want help.
- Alternatives to being at home can work
- Too much information – leaflets.

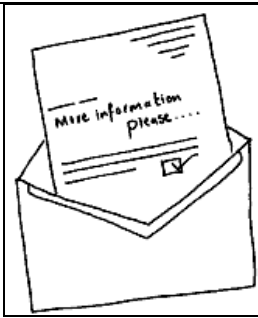


- Simplify focal point
- Direct information
- Not co-ordinated
- If you live on boundary who helps?

## **2. How do we get more carers interested in the Board?**



- Let them know what the Board can do for them – benefits, what trying to achieve
- Need to have core plan for people to get involved.
- Need to link courses e.g. Stronger Voices/Partner in Policy to the Board
- Link to people involved with Alex Dunlop's carer groups.
- Have themed discussion to give information and ask for people to be involved e.g. Emergency Carers Card/Training Fund
- Publicise the LDPB dates more widely – City Life every 6 months.
- Can LDBP be linked to Ward Committee leaflets?
- Send more information – day centres where people can take home



- Information with social workers
- Newsletters to one and all – GP's
- Carers events – make sure we have a presence
- Give information to Gateshead and North Tyneside
- Email newsletter

### Newsletter



- Use the champions
- Other organisations HQ's – piggy back – Age Concern
- Luncheon clubs, universities.

### **3. What can you do to help make this theme happen?**

- More people involved
- Information re LDPB's at every event e.g. PLAN on 20<sup>th</sup> November/Carers day 5th Dec.

### Events



- Need stronger connection with Carers Centre and Themes
- Could offer carers sitter service to attend the Board and help with transport.
- Explain people can come together or separate,
- Possibility of an evening meeting – questionnaire to ask opinions

- Partnership Board website – needs to happen. In short term it could be on the Council’s website.

## **Safeguarding Adults**

Presentation by Margaret Lester

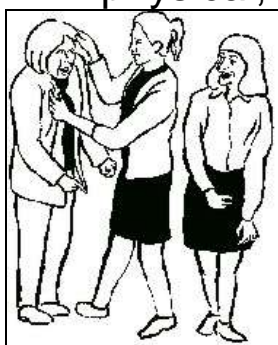
Margaret gave a presentation on

- What the Partnership Board needs to know and do about safeguarding adults
- What the Board wants to do about being asked for its views on revising No Secrets , the Government ‘s guidance on safeguarding adults

Please see the presentation.

Margaret stressed a number of points

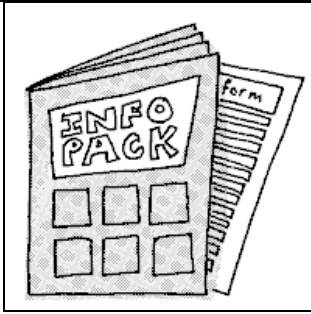
- An Information pack is available to stop abuse from happening and help people who have been abused.
- Abuse is always wrong, there are different kinds – physical, sexual and emotional.



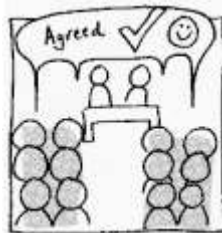
- Neglect is another area of concern - when someone looking after you does not help you at all.
- People with disabilities are often targeted for abuse.



- We all have a right to live our lives safely.
- We should talk about abuse regularly at Board meetings and maybe consider a lead person for Margaret to report to about abuse in Newcastle.
- Make sure families get information about abuse.



- Make sure staff and personal assistants get training about abuse and protection.
- Learn from abuse that has already happened.
- All services should have good policies about abuse and take action when people are abused.

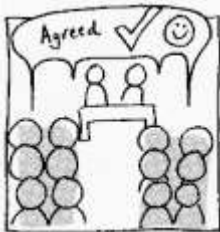


The Board agreed that  
We need a Safety and Quality Theme Group to co-ordinate and lead on this work

**ACTION : Bill**

- “No Secrets”, a guide to keeping people safe was introduced in 2000 and is now being reviewed. There is a consultation process asking nine questions. An event for professionals is being held on 15<sup>th</sup> January. The consultation process is meant to end by the end of January
- We need to think about what we have done really well around safeguarding in Newcastle and tell the Government about this in the consultation
- There was a difference of opinions about how much the NHS listen to people - some said the NHS don't

- listen and others said people in the NHS do god jobs
- Members said the police don't respond to people all the time - they are not consistent in how that treat people with learning disabilities
- One guest said that people who do nasty things should be locked up
- Margaret said a key question in all of this was do we need more power to make things better
- Margaret asked the Board how we can make sure that our views are heard
- People want to feed into the big meeting,



The Board agreed that We need to have a meeting for people with learning disabilities , ideally before then to get the Board's views so they can be passed on to the professionals' meeting.

**ACTION: MARGARET/BILL**

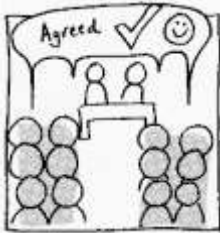
**Theme Champions**

Bill told everyone that Your Voice Counts had been awarded the contract to support the future paid champions, who will cover the nine themes of Citizen's First. The selection process involved assessment of a written plan and two interviews.



Gary, Alex and David were introduced from Your Voice Counts. Their role as supporters will involve helping recruit, train and develop the skills of the champions,

enabling them to report at meetings and work with others. The next stage is to recruit the champions and hopefully have them in place for April 2009.



The Board agreed that we would have an update at the next meeting

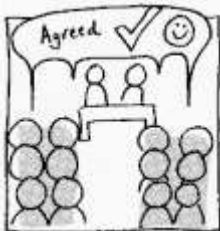
**ACTION: Your Voice Counts**

## Launch Day



Bill told everyone about the Launch Day, which went well, involving a good mix of people. New people who had not been involved in the process had come along and

- Everyone has been really positive about the day, especially the Twisting Ducks.
- There had been lots of opportunities to make new contacts and pledges had been made by people to help make Citizens First happen



The Board agreed that  
**Bill to send round presentations and photos.**

## Health Assessment Framework



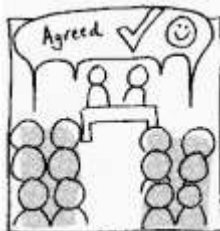
Bill reminded the Board that two days were held in September to ask people how we thought we are doing with the things that the Health Assessment Framework says we should be doing

This information was gathered together with

- information we already had from consulting on Citizens First
- a response from the Carers Centre

Les and Kingsley sent our report off by 31 October to the Strategic Health Authority

We expect a response by January and the Board meeting in February is about health so we will report back then.



The Board agreed that

**ACTION : Bill will send round the document**

## Beyond the Boardroom



Inclusion North are holding an event on 20<sup>th</sup> November at Central Square. Bill and Karen are attending and will talk

about how the Board has been involved with other organizations.

Brenda thanked everyone for attending



### **Date, time and venue of next meeting**

Tuesday 9th December 2008 10am start, 9.40 for coffee,  
At Disability North, The Dene Centre, Castle Farm Road,  
Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1PH

### **Next meeting to discuss**

- **Housing theme**
- **Colin Williams, Head of Strategic Projects, Adult Services will talk about Individual Budgets – think of some questions to ask him.**