

Newcastle Learning Disabilities Partnership Board



Notes of the meeting held 9 December 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
Tim Keilty	Person Centred Planning Co-ordinator
Bill Norman	Learning Disabilities Partnership Board
Helen Elliott	Older Carers Development Worker LDPB
Colin Douglas	Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
Lynne Gray	Parent/Carer
Les Pickering	Primary Care Trust
Liz Wright	Skills for People
Sue Hind	Interactive Development
Allison Ferris	FANE
Hazel Allen	Edward Lloyd Trust
Sally Young	Edward Lloyd Trust
Gary Fawcett	Your Voice Counts
Alex Tate	Your Voice Counts
Pat Tatters	Your Voice Counts



Who could not make the meeting?

These were members who gave their apologies

Liz Langfield	City Councillor
Cath Williams	Adult Social Services
Barbara Taylor	Mencap
Jacqui Jobson	Newcastle Advocacy Centre
Kingsley Straker	North of Tyne Primary Care Trust
Doreen McCarthy	Adult Education
Helen Milner	Northeast Special Needs Network
Hamish Hamilton	Newcastle College
Dr Rick Brannen	Learning and Skills Council
Rod Ferguson	Connexions
Karen Inglis	Adult Social Services
Dave Woolley	Your Voice Counts
Van Brunning	Parent/Carer
Nicola Hilson	Deputy Chief Exec Skills for People
Joanne Burke	Better Days
Lesley Mountain	Better Days

Guests:

Ian Oliver – Commissioning Manager, Supporting People
 Carlyne Power – Supported Living Co-ordinator

Venue

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

Brenda welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave apologies for Colin Williams who was unable to attend. Brenda also gave the good news that Ofsted had graded Workstep and Palatine at level 2 in their recent inspection.

3 stars had once again been awarded to Social Services and Brenda thanked staff for this achievement.



Rules

Chris read through the rules



Message from Deputy Co Chair

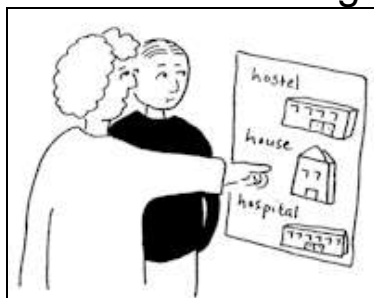
Barbara gave her message to the board.

Theme for today – Housing



Bill and Barbara did a brief presentation on what housing means to her.

- She has lived at Rosemount for 3 years she likes it there and is supported by Azure.
- She lives with one other lady.
- There were not many choices available as Barbara needs a bungalow with wheelchair access.



- There should be more choice including who you live with.
- More information should be passed on through good records which go with people as they move on so that people do not have to guess about someone's needs and likes.

- Barbara's family and day services helped out with information but not everyone has family and friends.



Bill then introduced Ian Oliver and Carlyne Power who talked about the 5 year Supporting People Strategy.

- Big plan details the most important areas to the council as a whole but one part is for people with learning disabilities.
- The vision is that every Newcastle citizen can have stable housing and sufficient support so they can become as independent as they can.

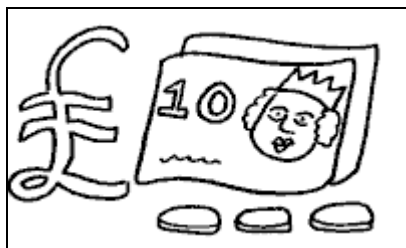


- The Council has 35 targets in the Local Area Agreement and 2 of these are supporting people targets. These are very challenging targets as some people are very vulnerable and have complex needs.
- The 1st target measures planned moves from temporary or short term accommodation and is 68%. This is to help people get stability.



- The 2nd target measures the number of people supported to maintain independence and is 97.7%.
- **If these targets are not met it could affect how**

much money the council gets from the Government.



- **Money** – the pot of money for Newcastle for Supporting people in 2008/2009 is £18 million and learning disabilities has the biggest part £5.5 million. This total will be reduced in future years.
- The plan has 9 parts, learning disabilities and equalities and diversity are the relevant 2 for the Board.
- To improve the lives of people with a learning disability we need to be flexible, give people choice about the future and make sure they have the support they need as individuals.



- Something being looked at, is a model where people have their own flat in a building which is staffed for support or help where needed, so everyone has the choice to socialise if they want or keep to their own home. There would be a concierge service at night time. This is to be piloted in January/February.
- Telecare also helps people stay in their own home but with the reassurance Telecare can bring.
- Supported Living is also going to change, it will be there if needed but in more self contained units and in nicer areas.



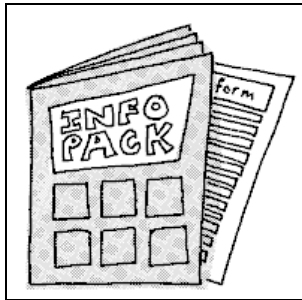
- Working with partners and buying services together will make some savings.
- **Gateway** – is a tool which is initially covering homeless people, young people substance misuse and ex-offenders. This will be a list of people looking for supported housing and make sure that the person gets the right bed space.
- **Hospital Discharge** – This is an agreement and process between hospitals and housing services which is to make sure that when people get discharged from hospital they have somewhere to go and the correct services are available.



- Ian ended by saying that the Strategy document is available on the Website, www.newcastle.gov.uk/supportingpeople. There are review groups if anyone wants to give feedback or that could be done via Bill or this email address supporting.people@newcastle.gov.uk

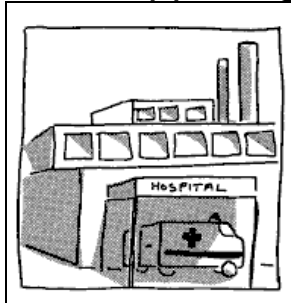
Carolyn gave an update on Supported Living services and referred back to the comment Barbara made about passing on information. Work is being done to improve communication and provide information to each other, also improve person centred planning. So, in the future

information should be there.



Ian asked if there were any questions or comments -

- Colin Douglas – Referred to hospital discharge saying that frequently no housing is available to people and they remain in hospital unnecessarily – what is happening with this?



Ian replied that not all Health Partners are signed up and work with Mental Health and Learning Disabilities needs to be prioritised. There should be a dedicated advice service for staff in hospitals to refer to. Ian suggested that Colin might be interested in attending a meeting about Hospital Discharge. Housing Services is now part of Adult Services and are working closer together.



- Sally Young – Agreed about an earlier point that information should be shared more, Health Service not sharing information about people's care. Also with regards to more choice about housing there are more and bigger private sector organisations which make it harder for smaller organisations.
- Colin made a comment about people with learning

disabilities being admitted to hospital because they are homeless and there is a shocking lack of resources.

Ian stated that this is to be addressed.

- Trevor wanted to know, had more funding been distributed to learning disabilities because this was where it was needed.



Ian said yes the funding was weighted so the right money goes to the right place.

- Trevor – with regards to Gateway, where do people with a learning disability come in the pecking order?

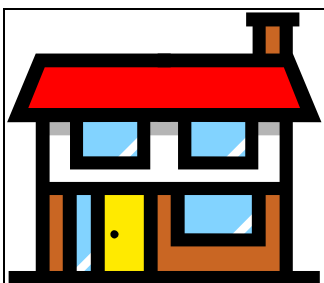
Ian stated that homelessness is the first priority, to stop people moving around, the next sector is refugees, followed by mental health then learning disabilities.

- Trevor – when will it be learning disabilities turn?

Ian thought maybe 2011 but any homeless people with a learning disability would be in this category

- Les wanted to know if any owners of buy to let had been approached for housing.

Carolyn said yes work was being done with private landlords but housing benefit rules are different in this sector.



- House purchase was also mentioned and is being promoted but money makes this more difficult.
- Ian said that as YHN has 3 stars they can look to building new housing and start looking at getting

supported housing moving forward and people with a learning disability being a priority.

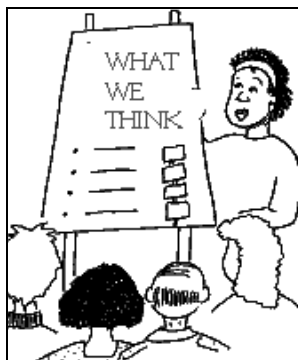
- Helen commented that older carers want to plan for the future and see housing as a problem as well as lack of resources to help plan for the future.



Carolyn mentioned a workshop at Newcastle College for parents of children with a learning disability and would **give Helen the information.**

It was felt that unless there was a crisis there was no resource. **Tim offered to help Helen with planning.**

Discussion Groups



The meeting broke into 3 groups to discuss 3 questions. The comments are listed below.

Gary and Alex from Your Voice Counts then told us about the Champions Project

- There is an event on 22nd January at Northumbria University 9.30-12 to explain the Champions job. There will be a performance by Twisting Ducks so the session will be interactive.

Events



- There is a leaflet about the job description and recruitment process and this will be publicised.
- Trying to reach people who do not use services.
- In early January there will be a visit to day centres to talk about the job
- Application packs will be available beginning January



- Early February sessions with inclusion North – about what it's like to have a job
- Interviews March



- Training and induction at end March
- In the jobs by May.
- Ian mentioned Newcastle Futures which helps people get back to work who might be able to help also.

Brenda thanked everyone for attending and wished one and all a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year.



Date, time and venue of next meeting

Extra meeting 22nd January, Disability North, 1pm-4pm to

- Make decision on LDDF and revisit some bids.
- Presentation by Colin Willams or a colleague from Transformation Team
- Discuss updated version of Valuing People Now

Next standard meeting

Tuesday 10th February 2009 10am start, 9.40 for coffee,
At Disability North, The Dene Centre, Castle Farm Road,
Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1PH

Next meeting to discuss

- **Health**
- **Local Involvement Networks – LINK**

FLIPS FROM PARTNERSHIP BOARD 9TH DECEMBER
2008

Ian Oliver Group

People being discharged from hospital

- Awareness raising
- Protocol could help prevent admissions
- Communication breakdown
- People discharged to inappropriate accommodation
- People stuck in the system
- Direction of travel
- Care management – care co-ordination, lack of intervention – continuity
- Services able to provide interim accommodation and support (pre-tenancy)
- Info structure (similar to mental health)

Board –

- Communication - share protocol
- Action plan
- Recommendations
- Monitor
- Representations

Influencing Choice of Housing

- Individual
- Robust housing (especially for people with challenging needs) – physical environment
- Clear information, not sure about choices. “Housing Options Solutions”. Access to information/services. Proactive examples to help planning.
- Type of housing – choice and options
- Message sent out to communities
- Adaptations – re cycling. (Opportunity to influence private sector).

Partnership Board

- Engage with older family carers to help protect people with learning disabilities in the future (advice – rights, trusts etc). Planning/partnership board.
- Partnership board – influence

- Planning services – “not responsive”.
Needs/assessment – scoping.
- Strategic – planning
- Health Action Plans (not happening)
- Representation on HSRG
- Champions
- Question over themed groups, could this link to housing strategy review group.
- New actions, recommendations to represent changing.

Carolyn Power Group

Being Discharged from Hospital

Making it Better

- Suitable properties and value for money (high rents)
- Sharing with people and how to move on
- Link with health and social care
- Improved funding – planned discharge

Board –

- Better working relationship with Board and health
- Improve communication
- Funding to cover this
- Shortened process of allocation.

Influencing Housing

- Bungalows/adapted bungalows
- Should be client led process
- Independent self contained flats
- Choice and control/availability.
- Look at sites to develop

Barriers to accessing housing

- Family disapproval
- Lack of appropriate housing/lack of adapted properties
- Lack of choice/lack of amenities close by
- Priced out of market in certain areas
- Understanding choices of individuals, where they want to live.
- Enough cash to provide developments

Bill Norman Group

Being discharged from hospital

- Being discharged too quickly – things not in place
- Different agendas : hospitals
- Bed blocking
- Worse if you live by yourself
- More support from social worker for people who are by themselves
- Lack of information for the provider, about the health needs of person being discharged.
- Hospital staff not given social worker to represent people when they are in hospital
- Lack of training – big words from doctors and nurses.
- No follow up information for:
 - Passports – health action plans
 - Follow up visits from nurses (is there a role here for the liaison nurse)?
 - Losing housing when you go into hospital – what happens?
 - Longer handover – halfway house – do they bring their own problems? Would they be good for some people?
 - House sitting – making sure your house is OK when you are in hospital. Goos neighbours approach.
- Halfway house –
 - Convalescence
 - Preparation for future
 - Getting used to doing things again
 - Billy – finding skills again
- What happens if people don't have families?
Prioritising people without families or friends who can help. Should take all needs into account

- Don't do the opposite extreme

Influencing Housing

- Person centred plans need to be the primary focus of housing choices – commitment
- Balancing this with
- When assistive technology, the cheaper option
- Individual budgets will have big impact – commitment to give people that choice in housing
- Billy – nice areas – how can people have more choice?
- More choices for different needs
 - People who challenge services
 - People with high support needs
 - People whose needs change
- House should fit the person

Barriers to accessing housing – view of the partnership board

- Make proactive future planning for people
- What do people think of each idea
- How can we get people more involved?
- Billy's example
 - Changing needs
 - 2nd generation scheme
 - No support now but for the future
 - Being part of --- wide regeneration
- Tell the City Council – go through Brenda – housing portfolio
- Invite Housing Portfolio leads to Feb 2010 meeting
- Board to be part of planning process
- Staying where you are – have we defined what we need to do to keep people at home? Do we have a plan?
- Champions and housing – a challenge and an opportunity.

