

Wakefield Learning Disability Partnership Board
Carers Delivery Group
www.wakefieldldpb.org.uk

- Date:** Thursday 15 July 2010
- Time:** 10:30am
- Venue:** Sandal Rugby Club
- Present:** Chris Clark — Carers Wakefield and District
Lucy Horobin — Learning Disability Carer Support Worker
Anne Peat — Carer
Jon Rigby - Carer
Margaret Short — Carer and Learning Disability Partnership Board Member
Tony Walker — Carer
Margaret Sparks — Carer and Learning Disability Partnership Board Member
Leona Batty — Acting CTLD Manager North
Don Teal — Carer
Barrie Warner — Carer and Learning Disability Partnership Board Member
Vince Knight — Workforce Development Manager
Tracy Johnson - Carer
Judith Arnott — Carer
Alan Stewart — Transitions Champion
- Apologies:** Sara Pearson — Admin Co-ordinator Valuing People
Mary Hick — Carer
Tony Hick — Carer
Amanda Courtman — Wakefield Down's Syndrome Support Group
Mandi Gay — Carer
- Copy for Information:** Kathleen Lockwood — Carer
Jane Tandoc — Carer
Julie Easter — Carer
Gail Merrifield — Carer
Doreen Rushworth — Carer
Ann Jackson — Carer
Liz Bousfield - Carer
Antonia MacKowski — Jobcentre Plus
Christine Gatley — Carer

Mr Chadwick - Carer
Mrs Chadwick - Carer
Lynn Carter — CTLD East
Margaret Thickett — Carer
Mandy Clifton — Carer
David Clifton — Carer

1. Introductions and apologies

Apologies listed above.

Chris did offer Mandy and David Clifton transport to attend the Carers Delivery Group when he met them at the Lightwaves Carers Market place Event.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on Thursday 03 June were agreed as a true record.

3. Matters arising

- ◆ **Self Directed Support Questionnaire** — Chris confirmed he had sent an email to Gary Wilson and Barrie brought this document to the meeting.
- ◆ **Service user led services** — Chris received an email from Michael Croft, but he was not sure where the information came from. Barrie asked why it had not gone through the Partnership Board first. Vince said he would make a few enquiries and feedback to the group.

The response time for the email was the end of July. Mike will be invited to the meeting in November so we can find out more about it.

- ◆ **Improved Communication with the Community Teams for Learning Disability** — Margaret Short asked if there was an update on the newly appointed dedicated autism social worker Martin Mullen. Martin will be coming to the next meeting to talk about his role.
- ◆ **New group members** — Lucy had invited Amanda Courtman from the Wakefield Down's Syndrome Support Group but she was unable to attend today due to illness. Hopefully she will attend future meetings.

- ◆ **Clarence Gardens** — Tony Walker asked at the last meeting if it would be possible to receive minutes from the events that Wilf Ward organised as he was unable to attend.

Tracy Johnson said she had wanted to get involved with the aids and adaptations side of things to go into Clarence Gardens as she has a wealth of experience due to her daughter having complex needs. This has 'fallen on deaf ears' as she hasn't had any response from the Community Teams for Learning Disabilities.

Chris said he has a Short Breaks meeting on Wednesday 21 July where he will raise these issues.

- ◆ **Day Opportunities review** — No update available.

Barrie wanted to know how people were selected for the review, and why it is only for council run Day Opportunities and not the independent sector.

Tracy Johnson said she felt that Day Opportunities offered at weekends would be a benefit for her daughter. She did not get the opportunity to have her say as she wasn't included in the review because her daughter has only just started in the Day Opportunities service.

Lucy Horobin suggested reviews of the service should be completed on a regular basis so they include new service users and their carers, especially those going through the transitions process.

- ◆ **Signpost** — Tracy said she had difficulty obtaining a Signpost Directory from Normanton CTLD as the Social Worker she asked said she was not entitled to one. Chris agreed to make sure the teams are aware of the function and distribution of the Signpost.

4. Valuing Older Families Now

Chris and Lucy attended an event on 09 June at the Cedar Court Hotel in Wakefield.

Wakefield has a long way to go to meet the needs of older families, and this was raised at the Partnership Board. Dalia Magrill (Caring Sharing Project) from Mencap in Sheffield has been invited to a future Partnership Board meeting.

5. Updates from other groups — news/events

Patient Experience Group — Margaret Sparks gave the following update.

Phase 1 Pinderfields Hospital — Margaret visited the newly opened Pinderfields Hospital as part of the Access Group.

There is a big problem with the hydrotherapy pool, which has a very steep slope into the pool. Margaret asked if service users would be able to roll in and roll out as the pool did not seem to be full when she visited. They confirmed this would be possible as the pool was not yet full with water.

There are also no individual changing rooms, just a changing area, which could present problems in the future. Tracy asked if there was a changing table.

Single wards or 4 bed wards have an Ensuite, which wheelchair users find difficult to use due to things like the towel rail being too high.

There are also problems with the colour scheme for visually impaired service users.

Margaret will visit phase 2 when it is finished.

Housing Event on 21 June at the Agbrigg Community Centre — This was poorly attended due to poor promotion and very short notice.

Previous housing events have been very successful and a DVD is being developed to help adults with learning disabilities become more aware of housing choices available.

Complex Needs Delivery Group — Tracy asked what is happening with this group as she really wants to be involved. Leona Batty confirmed that Sharon Watson is still on bereavement leave and she will take this concern back to the Family Services management meeting which is taking place later this week. She will feedback at the next Carers delivery Group.

Carers Week and Learning Disability Week — The shop was a great success with 103 new carers identified.

In Learning Disability Week the shop made over £200 from the sale of goods made by people with learning disabilities.

The Wildcats event was also a great success with over 2500 leaflets handed out. There was also an information tent in the ground and field announcements.

Chris said the links with Wigan Carers Centre and the Learning Disability Partnership Board were really positive. They run a buddying system called 'never watch alone', which he is really keen to promote in Wakefield.

Learning Disability Development Fund — We have spent a small proportion on a feature in the Express and other promotion for Carers Week and Learning Disability Week.

We need to think about how to spend the rest of the money, which must be spent by March 2011. The group agreed the following.

- Develop a carer's database through Family Services
- Subscribe to and put in another press feature in Learning Disability Today and Community Care
- Pay for carers to attend a Learning Disability Today event in Manchester in February 2011
- Promote interest of younger families and carers in the Carers Delivery Group. For example, respite and schools etc.

Chris said he would find out if we could use money from our budget to pay for another Carers Development Day.

6. Transitions Champion — Alan Stewart

Chris welcomed Alan and thanked him for coming.

Alan introduced himself and talked about his past career and experience.

He said there is an event called 'Moving On' at Wakefield College on 14 October 2010, which will be promoting housing, employment and work style opportunities.

A mail drop is being organised for families going through the transitions process and if the Carers Delivery Group want to promote the group, he is happy for a leaflet to be included in the mail drop. Chris said this will be very helpful and agreed to design a leaflet.

Part of Alan's role is to build a picture of where Wakefield is with transitions. Unfortunately it is not very good.

Tracy Johnson said she felt transitions was non-existent as her daughter was kept out of the loop as she went to a school in Barnsley and no information had been forthcoming. Tracy also said respite care wasn't available for her daughter as the service cannot meet her complex needs.

Alan said he has identified 3 priority groups that needed attention within the transitions stage. These are health (parent's biggest worry), person-centred planning (PCP) and transitions protocol, for which a summary document has been developed to describe the different stages through the transitions process. Such things as the Life Planning meeting could be reviewed.

Judith Arnott said she felt she was not listened to in her son's review and she found it very intimidating. The impression was 'professionals know best!'

Tracy Johnson asked why children's services and adult services couldn't work more closely together. She felt the handover was very difficult and needs to be improved.

Alan said he would like to dedicate more time in another Carers Delivery Group meeting to gain more input from carers and the issues they face. Chris confirmed he can come to the meeting on Thursday 07 October.

If anyone would like a home visit from Alan to discuss individual cases please give him a ring.

7. Any other business

Treasury website — Margaret Sparks said this was a very good website to comment on or view comments regarding spending challenges.

Carers WorLD — Tracy said there is a good 'Changing Places' in Blackpool and asked for the information to be included in Carers WorLD. She will bring information to the next meeting.

Carer's discounts — Jon Rigby said there is a website developed by Martin Lewis (money expert) that has information about carer's discounts. The website is forums.moneysavingexpert.com.

A few years ago Carers Wakefield produced a local leisure directory showing carers and/or disabled discounts. The aim was to update and redistribute this for Carers Week. Unfortunately although all the research work was completed, we ran out of time to get it to print.

Some areas have a carers ID card to get the discounts, and one uses it for people with learning disabilities, to encourage them to join a register. Chris is getting more information on the other schemes before a decision is made about how and when to re-launch the directory.

Microboards — Chris and Lucy received information from Inclusion North about this. Unfortunately there was not enough time to discuss it in the meeting. Please see attached for more information.

8. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting is on **Thursday 09 September** 10:30am to 12:30pm at Sandal Rugby Club.