

WIRRAL LEARNING DISABILITIES PARTNERSHIP BOARD

NOTES of the MEETING HELD on

7TH MARCH 2011

at WALLASEY TOWN HALL

PRESENT

BOARD MEMBERS:

Bob Moon (Co-Chair)	Councillor and Cabinet Lead,
Russell Kennedy (Co-Chair)	Enabling Fulfilling Lives
Howard Cooper	Interim Director DASS
Sheila Hillhouse	Head of Strategic Partnerships NHS Wirral
Rick O'Brien	Head of Branch DASS
Vicky Forfar	Enabling Fulfilling Lives
Linda Hicks	Enabling Fulfilling Lives
Eddie Griffiths	Enabling Fulfilling Lives
Russell Grant	Integrated Commissioning Manager DASS/NHS Wirral
Jayne Marshall	Principal Manager DASS
Sheila Jacobs	Regeneration Dept. – Housing
Joan Studdart	Carers Development Committee
David Devey	Enabling Fulfilling Lives
Norman Bird	Enabling Fulfilling Lives
Maura Noone	Head of Branch DASS
Jenny Garnet	Merseytravel
Steve Rowley	Head of Finance DASS
Peter Curtis	Enabling Fulfilling Lives

VISITING PRESENTERS

Dave Biddle	Reform Manager DASS
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BOARD SUPPORT TEAM

Karen Bingham	Secretary DASS
Jenny Carter	Enabling Fulfilling Lives

VISITORS

Tricia Moroney	Programme Manager, NHS Wirral
Julie Kelly	Merseyside Fire Service

APOLOGIES

Ian Flanders	Enabling Fulfilling Lives
Ian Platt	Head of Housing
Pauline Toohey	Enabling Fulfilling Lives
Annette Roberts	Voluntary Community Action Wirral
Peter Edmondson	Children's and Young People's Dept

1. Notes of Meeting 9th November 2010

Agreed as a true record with two matters arising:

1.1 Self Advocacy

Jenny Carter, Russell Kennedy and Vicky Forfar had set up a self-advocacy group, but it had been difficult to get other people with learning disabilities to attend. Councillor Moon asked Board Members to suggest how support could be found to assist the development of self-advocacy?

Howard Cooper, recognised that it was critical to develop a much stronger voice for people with learning disabilities. There were a lot of staff leaving the Council over the next two months, so work was being done to make sure that people with the right skills were in the right places. Towards the middle of May, there should be some clarity about who would be available to support this work.

The Learning Disability Partnership Board agreed that

- a) the development of self-advocacy was a priority and should be progressed by the proposed 'People as Citizen's' Sub-committee of the Learning Disability Partnership Board (see item 3 below) and
- b) That one of the proposed 'Board development sessions' should look at how to make the voices of people with learning disabilities stronger.

1.2 Equality Impact Assessment update – Steve Rowley

Steve Rowley reported that since the last meeting of LDPB, he and Russell Grant had met with North West Training and Development Team (NWTDT) representatives who have now provided us with a revised proposal to address Equality Impact Assessment of the Learning Disability Strategic Commissioning Framework, and linked to this, agreed to work with us over the next two to three years to develop robust arrangements to involve a wider spectrum of people with learning disabilities, e.g. people from the BME community and other groups of people such as people with complex needs or challenging behaviour.

Steve proposed that the Learning Disability Partnership Board should agree in principle with the proposal asked that he go forward to agree terms for its delivery with NWTDT.

It was also proposed and agreed to have a Partnership Board 'Developmental' session with NWTDT representatives before July to start the process. This session would also make the links to the Board's ambition to promote self-advocacy.

2. Development Day Report on Revised Terms of Reference and Sub-Committee Arrangements

2.1 Russell Grant circulated an in-depth report with the agenda about the Development day, the proposed revised Terms of Reference for the Board and its sub-committees and a summary of the work that needed to be done. He also tabled a summary of his presentation.

2.2 Terms of Reference

Norman Bird and Eddie Griffiths were both concerned that this was the third set of new arrangements in as many years.

Russell responded that at the Development Day everyone had agreed that the Board needed to be much more business-like.

Councillor Moon confirmed that after the CQC Inspection in 2010 there was now a much stronger expectation on the Board to lead the implementation of Valuing People Now.

Howard Cooper said that several steps were needed to make things move ahead more effectively. The Terms of Reference offered a rational structure to start from. Howard considered that the role and function of the proposed sub-committees was a key feature; his experience was that big boards rarely got things done; Work should be done through committees accountable to the board.

The five sub-committees and their chairs would be :

Health – Sheila Hillhouse
Housing – Ian Platt
Employment – Rose Boylan
Personalisation – Rick O'Brien
Citizenship – Maura Noone

Peter Curtis said concern was expressed at the Development Day that 5 sub-committees reporting back to the Board would take a long time. Howard agreed and suggested that there should be a similar approach to the Safeguarding Board where a composite report was produced but with a focus on one or two key areas.

In response to a question from Jenny Carter, Jayne Marshall said that whatever came back to the Board through the sub-committees needed to be representative of people with learning disabilities. It was agreed that the self advocacy work was critical and needed to be supported.

Howard Cooper would also chair an Executive Group, with the Chairs of the sub-committees and other key managers. The Executive Group would make sure that there were appropriate managerial arrangements, expertise and action to support the Partnership Board's aims and objectives. The Terms of Reference referred to a 'Joint Strategic Commissioning Group' and its proposed functions would be assimilated into the Executive Group. The Executive Group would meet regularly between Partnership Board meetings.

The Board agreed the report on the Development Day and agreed to adopt the new Terms of Reference. Russell Grant outlined the next steps to bring the new Board into being:

- Set dates for the Partnership Board Business and Development meetings from April 2010.
- Also set dates for pre-meetings for Board members who have a learning disability and the Executive Group
- Invite new members and explain the role of the Board to them
- Make sure Sub-Committees have clear priorities and plans in place for approval at the next Board Business meeting
- Agree topics to be discussed at the Board Development Meetings

There was some further discussion about the involvement of General Practitioners in the Partnership Board because of the Government's planned changes in Health Services, which Sheila Hillhouse agreed to take forward.

2.3 Work of the Sub-Committees

Russell Grant's paper had set out the key tasks for the various sub-committees identified in Valuing People Now, Wirral Strategic Commissioning Framework, The VPN Delivery Plan 2010-2011, Valuing Employment Now, and more recently the Wirral DASS Improvement Plan and The

Learning Disabilities 2010 Health Self Assessment and the Department of Health Operating Framework 2011-2012. Chairs of Sub-Committees were asked to

- a) consider whether all relevant policy advice and guidance had been identified ?
- b) Identify priorities and develop an implementation plan for the next Business meeting of the Partnership Board.

Howard advised he was interested in the spectrum of need that service users might have; low, moderate, critical, substantial and what each of the groups do for each of the needs. It was agreed that each Sub-Committee should address the whole spectrum of need in its priorities and plan.

3. Integrated Community Learning Disability Team Model - Implementation Plan

Howard Cooper said that better outcomes for people with learning disabilities would be achieved by professionals working together more closely. There had been very positive work between DASS, NHS Wirral and Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CWP) since the Learning Disability Partnership Board in November 2010. Jayne Marshall had taken the work forward to develop an Integrated CLDT model in Wirral, which would combine DASS and CWP staff.

Jayne presented the key actions needed in 2011 to have the fully integrated service in place by the end of the year.

Key Actions:

- Move DASS specialist LD team to Girtrell Court in April
- Work out the joined up management structure between DASS & CWP By September
- Work out the model, principles, procedures, pathways and operations by September
- Agree the over-arching commissioning plan (so that we know that the outcomes expected from the service are being achieved) by September
- Do an option appraisal and co-locate by November
- Run a fully integrated specialist LD service by December

In response to a query from Eddie Griffiths about the residential facilities at Girtrell Court, Jayne Marshall confirmed that the plan for relocation was for the office space, not the residential units.

The Board agreed that there was a lot of work to be done and asked that Jayne provide regular reports on progress.

4. Presentation on the Governments plans for people with learning disabilities set out in the 'Operating Framework 2011 – 2012'

Every year the government says what its plans are in the coming year for health and social services in an Operating Framework. This was published in December 2010. Russell Grant tabled a report that showed that the Operating Framework had something to say about a lot of things affecting people with learning disabilities. The areas were

- Better Access to Health Services
- New Health and Well-being Boards in every Council
- Keeping on with Personal health budget pilots
- Developing services for people with Autism
- Support for carers

There was also a new 'Learning Disabilities and Health Reform Grant' for social services, but this was not new money for learning disability services. It was how money, previously given to the NHS was being transferred to social services to better reflect its intended use.

Russell Grant also tabled a statement from Health Minister Paul Burstow that was published on 7 March 2011 setting out continued government support to help improve the health and lives of people with learning disabilities. There was a promise of further 'practical tools and material that will help local authorities and other partners drive employment for people with learning disabilities'.

The Wirral Learning Disability Partnership Board

- a) noted the content of the Operating Framework report and the Health Minister's statement
- b) agreed that the appropriate Board sub-committees should ensure that they incorporate relevant actions in their workplans
- c) agreed to receive a short report at the next Business meeting that confirmed appropriate steps have been taken.

5. 2010 Learning Disabilities, Health Self Assessment and Performance Framework

The positive letter of 21st January 2011 from North West Strategic Health Authority, on the outcome of Wirral's the Health Self Assessment and Performance Framework was circulated with the agenda.

Sheila Hillhouse presented an update explaining the changes in commissioning of Health services. There were 3 new GP consortia on Wirral that will replace NHS Wirral by April 2013. The consortia were being asked how they would wish to ensure their representation on the Learning Disability Partnership Board, for example whether one person would be able to represent all three? It was also agreed that this would also need to link in to the new sub-committee arrangements. Howard Cooper considered that it would be of benefit to have a GP as a member of the Partnership Board. Sheila agreed to keep LDPB informed of the three Consortia's intentions in this regard.

Councillor Moon welcomed the positive response from the Strategic Health Authority and thanked Sheila for her update on local developments.

Eddie Griffiths recognised that the time for Sheila's presentation had been short and asked that Health to be moved forward on the agenda at times.

6. Wirral Council Second Improvement Plan Update

David Biddle tabled a report on progress with regard to the Improvement Plan. There was progress across all areas. 63% of all milestones had been completed. The Improvement Plan Monitoring Group continued to review progress and there was recognition that service improvement needed to be an ongoing process. One milestone that was awaited related to the Big Society Unit, which was a Council Cabinet initiative. It was anticipated that all milestones outstanding will be completed on time, although this would need to be monitored carefully given the number of Council staff taking advantage of EVR scheme.

Councillor Moon thanked David for his report and was pleased that Improvement plan was going very well.

7. Dates of Meetings in 2011

Russell Grant advised dates had already been set but needed to be reviewed in light in the changes in Board Membership that would follow approval of the new Terms of Reference.

It was agreed that the next meeting should be in May (date to be confirmed) and that

There should be a meeting of the new Executive Group in April (date to be confirmed)

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