



Reading Learning Disability Partnership

Meeting Notes
7th December 09
2.30-4.30pm
Committee Room 1, Civic Offices

Who was there.

Elsa Saranga - Co-Chair
Sylvia Cogliatti - Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust
David Griffiths - Service User Representative
Peter Brown - Service User Representative
Carol Marengi - Service User Representative
Dom Gray - Talkback
Debra Cole - Reading Learning Disability Partnership
Keith Irwin-Hill - New Dimensions
Sue Wykes - Transitional Planning Co-ordinator
Dennisha Villaverte - Princess Royal Carers Trust

Who couldn't make it.

Lyn Harrington - Co-Chair
Janette Searle - Strategy Team Manager
Christine Edwards - Community Learning Disability Team Manager
Hayley Edwards - Berkshire Autistic Society
Jane Woolridge - Royal Berkshire Hospital
Lynne Whiting - Webcas
Stephen Wise - Transport
Stephen Wellings - Family Carer Representative
Chris Stevens - Service Manager, Children and Families
Sarah Tapliss - Strategy Officer, Housing and Community Care



New members.

Chris Stevens, Children and Families Service Manager and Sarah Tapliss, Housing and Community Care Strategy Officer have agreed to be members of the Partnership but are unable to join us today.

Dennisha from the Princess Royal Carers Trust is also joining us today to help us get more carers as members. Debra will send Dennisha information about the work groups and what the Partnership does.



Telecare open event.

We held our Telecare open meeting today at Christchurch Court, Christchurch Gardens, Reading.

We had a variety of equipment for people to try out and a quiz to find out how much people know about Telecare and what they thought of it.

We advertised this event through our newsletter which we sent out to lots of people but we were disappointed that only a few people came along.

We thought that the bad weather and Christmas shopping were some of the reasons people didn't come along. We also thought that the venue being out of the town centre was another reason although we all agreed the venue was very good.

We need to make sure that people get information about our events and other events that are going on as it seems that people are not reading or passing on the information. Keith said they are going to make someone in their organisation responsible for gathering all this information and making sure people know about it. Dennisha also suggested that we make sure we include information about the Partnership in other organisations newsletters like the Princess Royal Carers Trust.

We would like to say a big thank you to the tenants and staff at Christchurch Court for welcoming us and

we were very happy that some of the tenants joined us for a cup of tea and to find out more about Telecare.



Feedback from conferences, meetings and forums.

South East Regional Health meeting -

This focused on people with learning disabilities who have Dementia and Portsmouth presented their good practice guidelines. People are now being prescribed medication to treat their dementia the same as everyone else but we need to make sure that G.P's are aware of Reading's care pathway and know where to refer patients who they think may have dementia.

Housing Pathway Workshops -

Housing and Support Partnership ran two workshops in November with the first looking at what happens when people with learning disabilities apply for housing at the council and what support and help they get from social service and housing to get the home they want. We looked at what works well and what the problems are and this gave us a current pathway to housing which we looked at in the second workshop. Peter has a lot of experience around housing so it was very useful to have Peter come along to tell us about his personal experience.

Carers forum -

Housing and Support Partnership came along to the carers forum to talk about different housing options and how to fund them for people with learning disabilities.

Carers were very interested and were given a guide to housing options to take away with them.

Future guests.

We would like invite other organisations to come along and talk to us about their service and what they are doing. Some of the organisations people would like to invite are -

- Care Quality Commission (CQC)
- Health



- Readibus
- Jobcentreplus

We will be inviting Jo Poynter from the Valuing People Support Team to the open event on the 19th March and to the Partnership members meeting in the afternoon. Jo will be talking about Surrey's transition toolkit and will be finding out what we are doing in Reading for young people in transition.

We will also be inviting Sarah Gee, Head of Strategy & Performance Management at Reading Borough Council who has asked to attend our next Partnership members meeting to see what we do.



Partnership Board Guidance.

The government wants all Learning Disability Partnerships to send a report every year telling them what they are doing. The template for this report is included in the Partnership Board Guidance which we will need to complete by the end of March 2010.

Debra has sent the guide out to the members of the Partnership but will send it out again together with the easy read version.

Some of the information we need to complete the report will be gathered by learning disability managers at Reading Borough Council but we will also bring the report to the meeting in March so that we can all look at it and finish it off.

We will also contact other people to gather some of the information we need.



Valuing Employment Now.

The South East Region held a conference in London in November to tell us about Valuing Employment Now. The main aims of Valuing Employment Now are -

- Getting people into real jobs where they work more than 16 hours.
- More people need to believe that people with

learning disabilities can work.

- We need to give people the information and support they need to get real jobs.
- We need to make sure that people know they will be better off working more than 16 hours.
- Public organisations like the council and NHS need to set a good example and employ more people.
- We need to use the resources we have much better to achieve better outcomes for people.

The Learning and Working group will be looking at Valuing Employment Now at it's next meeting and will make sure that what we need to do to make this happen for people in Reading is in our action plan.

To get a copy of Valuing Employment Now please go to www.valuingpeople.gov.uk



Any other business.

Hate Crime - local Community Police Officers will be going into our day services so that people will become more familiar with their local officers. It is also hoped that people will feel more confident about telling the officers about any of their experiences that make them feel unsafe when they are out in the community.



The next open event will be held on 19th March 2010, the venue will be arranged in January

The next members meeting will be held on the 19th March 2010 from 2.00-4.30pm in Committee Room 1 at the Civic Offices in Reading.