

Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board

together



Three Years of Together



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Free • Published every two months

www.partnershipboard.org

together



Welcome

To issue 18 of the newsletter from Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board.

We have now been publishing our newsletter for 3 years. You can download any issue from our web site at: www.partnershipboard.org



Dates of meetings

Meetings start at 10.30 am on Tuesday:

8 May

10 July

11 September

13 November



Contact

Together is produced for the Partnership Board by Manchester People First and is printed by Trinity Press.



Partnership Board Newsletter
Manchester People First
Unit 21 Wilsons Park Business Centre
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March Meeting

The following changes to the minutes were agreed:

Minute 2.1 Centres for Independent Living
Breakthrough UK will be holding a conference to talk about about Centres for Independent Living (CIL) and not “Disabled Living Centres”.



Minute 2.2 PCT Board Representative
Mark said that the Manchester Primary Care Trust representative on the Partnership Board will be Joe Rankin.

Matters Arising

Access to Leisure and Swimming Facilities

Edward talked about access to leisure. He said that he agreed with Sue Menzies and Mike Craven that a lot of work had to be done to get access to the level the law says it should be. There should be work done about ‘meeting and greeting’ and how staff act with people with disabilities. A sub group has been formed including Serco. They will have regional meetings and look at what adaptations and training are needed at leisure facilities. Sue Menzies has offered to help with training.



The sub group will first pick 3 main centres which will be used as examples of very good practice.

Edward said Serco like this idea and are setting short, medium and long term goals.

The inspections will look at older Victorian centres and newer buildings to make sure they are all up to a good standard.

At the moment the group meets every 6 weeks.

They have talked about changing rooms and agreed to improve flooring and put up rails for health and safety.

It is also important to have hoists.

The North West Swimming Centre has the best hoist in place.



Person Centred Plans (PCPs)

The Way Forward

About 220 people have a Person Centred Plan, which is one in every six. The Board's main aim is for more people to have a plan.

Until recently Mencap had the contract to do the person centred planning. They have agreed to withdraw from this, so there will be about £40,000 to spend. This will go towards a scheme where the Joint Commissioning Team (JCT) Adult Social Care, will pay a provider or person £50 for every plan they develop.

Kay said that Himmat do plans, but were not recognised for the plans they did. A plan could take up to 4 months to do. There was a lot of work involved as they had to translate things into different languages.

The Board talked about privacy in plans. It was agreed that people who check the plans must keep them private. Bernie said that when plans were presented for evaluation they should not include the private section as the rest of the plan is a very positive document with nothing very sensitive in it.

Helen said some of the plans she has seen are not adequate and careful thought needs to go into how the plans will be presented for monitoring.

Sue Cooley said the monitoring group that is set up to assess the plans could also look at:

- Amount paid for each plan.
- Movement of plans from the organisation and individual to the monitoring group.
- Who would get paid, the individual or the organisation?
- Working in partnership with the children's team.

Report from Children's Services

Jean went over the very positive progress report by Pam Eckesley (Parents in Partnership Service).

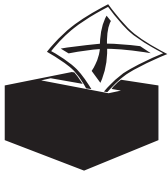
This had been presented to the Children's Partnership Board. The report was about the work being done with Special School head teachers and staff on how person centred approaches and principles could be built-in to all school leavers reviews.

During this pilot project, there have been some possible problems. It is important to stay flexible:

- Legal needs about issues which must be covered in reviews, for example, IEP and review of SEN Statement.
- Students will not be able to refuse someone's attendance if reports must be discussed.
- Student confidence varies. Some students have a full review at a younger age, others with communication problems are working towards this. Some are unable to keep involved for the full 1-1 1/2 hours of a review.
Some find meeting people from home and from school in the same place distressing.
- Reviews are often the only chance for a wide range of key professionals and parents to meet. Often parents wish to discuss private family issues without their son or daughter being there.
- Helen Sanderson's materials would need a lot of changes. They are only right for independent learners.
- Record of meeting and follow up action for student.
- Briefing before the meeting so all professionals can be part of a full PCP review.
- Telling parents about the new way of doing things.
Reports must be available before the review and parents hopes based on this.

This will be talked about again by the pilot project group in March. The Board agreed that things are going well and asked if Pam would tell us about how things work out.





Learning Disability Service Plan

Mark and Jean talked about the two papers sent out with the minutes about the areas that their services will be investing in. Sue Cooley said it would be a good idea if all learning disability services could be listed and brought to the board.

Votes For Disabled People

Richard talked about the 'voting' workshop that will be held on the 12 April at Manchester People First.

Sue Cooley promised to send a memo and ask councillors to visit Day Centres to tell people what a councillor does.

Sue will also look at ways to help with the information Manchester People First is giving.

Mencap Physical Activity Service

Hanna told the Board about all the things her group does. She showed pictures from the walking, dance, yoga and bocher groups.

The activities are being held in the evenings and weekends so people who go to Day Centres can still take part.

A leaflet about the service was given out.

Helen said none of these activities were for severely disabled people and that hour long activities were not suitable when having to get a severely disabled person out.

Hanna said that people who used wheelchairs did come and she talked about the financial limits and the remit of the project.

A bid had been put in to the National Lottery for more funding so the group could carry on.

Bernie said that the Partnership Board should back up the issues of funding and the lack of opportunity for socialising. Mark told the Board there are other similar services in place.

Any Other Business

Housing Sub-group Report

Jean talked about the Housing Sub group document that has been done by Riz. It was agreed that 2000 copies should be printed and sent to all Board Members.

Carers Break

Mary Shaw reported on the Manchester's Carers Forum break to Cardiff in Wales. It was a wonderful positive experience.

Observer at Next Meeting

Janet asked if John Ridings from a group called Focus could come to the next Board Meeting to observe.
Jean will send John the details.

Future Chair of the Partnership Board

Councillor Sue Cooley talked about the end of her term of office and said either Councillor Basil Curley or Councillor Mary Murphy would be taking over the role of Chair of the Partnership Board.

Basil Curley thanked Sue for all her hard work and her dedication to the work of the Partnership Board.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Partnership Board is on:
Tuesday 8 May 2007 from 10.30am to 12.30 p.m.



Questions

Your view ▶ How have we done?



We have tried to make this newsletter easier to read by using big print and easier words.

We really want this information to be easy to understand.

Please tell us if you found any parts hard.

Tell us what we can do to make it better, things such as:



• Was the print too small?

• Were there words you did not understand?

• Was it too long?



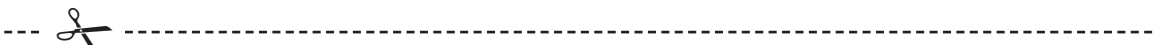
• Would you have found it easier in another format?

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☐ Send to Manchester People First, Unit 21 Wilsons Park Business Centre

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