

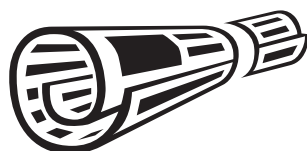
Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board

Partnership



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Issue One • July / August 2004 • Free
Published every two months



Welcome

Introduction

Welcome to the first newsletter from Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board.

We want to tell you about who we are and what we do.



We have tried to make this newsletter as easy to understand as we can by using big print and simple words.

We can also send it to you in other ways such as on tape or in Braille.

This newsletter has been produced for the Partnership Board by Manchester People First who are a self advocacy group for learning disabled adults.

Competition

Think of a name

We have called this first issue of the newsletter 'Partnership'. But we want you to think of a name for all the future issues.



Tell us what you think and we will give the person who comes up with the best idea £25 of Boots vouchers.

Send your entry to:
Partnership Board Newsletter
Manchester People First
c/o BEVC
Aked Close
Manchester
M12 4AN

Councillor Sue Cooley

“The White Paper Valuing People said that every district must have a Partnership Board made up of learning disabled adults, Carers and people from different organisations and that we must work together to make services for learning disabled people better. We have been lucky in Manchester, we have worked together and we have met a lot of the targets that we have been set.

“We talk and listen to the views and opinions of people who use learning disability services and carers; we encourage people to be involved in planning and developing services. However, we want more people to know about the Board and the work that is going on in Manchester and that is why we are sending out Newsletters to you. We have developed a lot of strategies and we now have groups that will continue to review and update these plans.

“We are also thinking about the needs of people from minority ethnic communities and we are currently developing an ‘Ethnicity and Cultural Diversity Group’ to develop a local framework to help us to identify needs, to plan services that will meet these needs and to give people more choice. It will also help us to do the things that the Race Relations Act 2000 says that we must do. We know we still have a lot of work to do, but there are a lot of people who want to make services better and they are working hard to do this.

“We are always happy when someone who is supported by services, their families or carers, takes time to tell us about their views on current services, or, on how we can make services better in the future. If you want to talk to us there are lots on contacts in this newsletter, please get in touch. We hope you enjoy reading this Newsletter and we look forward to hearing from you”.

**Message from
the Chair of
the Board**



Minutes of May meeting

What was decided

▶ The Partnership Board meets every 2 months. It last met on 17 May 2004 at the Kath Locke Centre which is in Hulme. These are the main things that went on at the meeting. Tell us if you want a copy of the full minutes. Everyone agreed that the Minutes of last meeting were true.



The first Partnership Board newsletter produced by Manchester People First, should be ready in July/August. If people want a copy they should email peoplefirst@another.com with their name and address.

Board membership:

The Board has to look at its members every 3 years. It has 22 link members. It was agreed to ask someone from Children's Services to join and look for someone from an independent advocacy service. People agreed to think about other groups that could get involved and send suggestions.

Ethnicity Framework—Presentation by Mark Burton, Acting Head of Manchester Learning Disability Partnership:

- 1397 people get a service.
- 75% have told us what their ethnic background is.
- 86% of those are white.

It was agreed that we need to look at what we need to do about this. Mark will organise a meeting to look at making sure people from minority ethnic communities are involved in all the work the Board does.

Person Centred Planning-Helen Johnston:

The Visioning Day was not as good as it could have been. Some people are still not sure what Person Centred Planning is about.

It was agreed to plan what groups to target for training to help them know more.

Workforce Training and Development Planning Group:

Not many people have been coming to the group and so they have not yet done a plan. The council's Human Resources section will be contacted about what information is needed, and Bernie Gibbins who is leading this work will be asked to look at the problem.

Respite for Children–Presentation by Sarah Hubbard, Child Health and Disability Service:

Children with disabilities are offered 2 days a month (45 days a year) with a link family or in a residential home. The service also has workers so children can go to clubs etc. Most people want Respite care with a link family. In Manchester, there are 60 link carers who support 72 children. But there are still 40 families waiting for support. Problems: The service costs a lot. There are not enough carers, especially those with adapted homes or from ethnic communities. The service is planning to get more workers.

Adults on the Autistic Spectrum Working Group:

The Board was told about the work of this group.

Other Business:

Mark Burton is chairing the Good Health Sub-Group. Paul Cassidy will ask Leisure Services about them getting someone to chair it.

It was decided that each of the strategy groups who were developing plans would tell the Board about where they were up to. The Strategic Planning and Commissioning Body was now called the Core Strategy Group.

Next meeting will be held on 19 July 2004 at the Kath Locke Centre.



About the board

What we do ▶ The government said in the White Paper 'Valuing People' that they want people to work together to make life better for all people with a learning disability.



Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board started 3 years ago. This is where different groups such as people who use services, groups who give services, carers and parents, meet and try to make life better for people with a learning disability.

In Manchester we are planning how we do this:

- Plan for Person Centred Planning/Approaches.
- Plan how to make sure good quality services are given.
- Make sure Community Learning Disability Teams work well.
- Look at how to make it easier for learning disabled people to get Direct payments.
- Support carers.
- Do a plan for training workers.
- Do a plan about housing.
- Do a plan about jobs and working.
- Do a plan about Day Services.
- Do a health action plan for every learning disabled person who wants one.
- Bring everyone who lives in the Complex Needs Unit at Calderstones out into the community.

Over the past 3 years we have tried hard to do these things. We will be giving other people a chance to be in the group.

Housing

Debby Bolding works for Manchester Housing Department as a Review Officer. She is a member of the Partnership Board. The Partnership Board has produced a plan for housing over the next few years.



We have made a version using big print and easy words. You can get a copy from us, or Supporting People's website:

 <https://www.e-manchester.gov.uk/speople>

In the plan we give some facts about housing in Manchester for people with a learning disability.

Locally

In Manchester since the 1970's, institutions such as hostels and long-stay hospitals have been shut and people have moved into normal houses. Council services like domiciliary and respite care have helped people live at home with their family and the adult placement service has helped people live with families or carers. Since the 1990s, more services have come from the independent sector.



Today in Manchester:

- 539 learning disabled people live with 24-hour support.
- 394 of them live in housing paid for by housing benefit.
- 145 are in registered accommodation.
- 373 are in the independent sector.
- 166 are in the statutory sector.
- 96 people get support outside Manchester funded by the Council.
- 27 more people each year will need 24 hour support.

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?

If you got your copy in the post, was the name and address right?
If not, write the proper address on the envelope and send it back.

Your copy

If you got the newsletter at a day centre etc. but want a copy sent to your own house, please fill in the form and send it back to us.



Please send me a copy of the newsletter

Name:

Address:

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Telephone/Fax/Email:



I want it in this format: Print Braille Tape Computer file

(We may contact you to ask you more about what format you need)



 Send to Manchester People First, c/o BEVC, Aked Close, Manchester, M12 4AN.