

Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board

together



**Self-advocacy for Black and Minority Ethnic
adults with a learning disability**

Minutes of the July Meeting



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www.partnershipboard.org

On board

- ▶ At the last meeting Karin Rodgers spoke about her trip to Denmark. We spoke to Karin earlier this year about her work.

Karin Rodgers is a Disability Employment Advisor at Jobcentre Plus. She has worked for the Department of Work and Pensions for 8 years. She works with employers, partners and customers to help people with disabilities or health problems get into work.

Karin sits on the Partnership Board and takes a particular interest in employment.

People on benefits, or employers who want advice on employing someone with a disability can get in touch. All Job Centres have a Disability Employment Advisor linked to them.



Cover shows Hamaira Ashraf, Asian Development Worker with Manchester People First.

together



Our Address

Partnership Board Newsletter
Manchester People First
Unit 21 Wilson Park Business Centre
Newton Heath
Manchester
M40 8WN



July Meeting

Meeting held on 11 July 2006

At the meeting:

Kay Ahmed	Himmat
Anna Fedeczko	MLDP
Janet Chadwick	Adult Education
Lorraine Gradwell	Breakthrough UK
Cllr Sue Cooley	Chairperson
Riz Hussain	Manchester Housing
Delia Murphy	North West Community Services
Karin Rodgers	Jobcentre Plus
Denise Price	Joint Commissioning Team
Paul Cassidy	Assistant Director, Adult Social Care
Mark Burton	MLDP
Janet Flood	Self Advocate
Joseph Rooney	Manchester People First
Richard Hughes	Manchester People First
Stephen Hughes	Manchester People First
Kath McDermott	Manchester MENCAP
Mike Craven	Fighting Fit Co-ordinator
Louisa Burton	Manchester People First
Bernie Wood	Talbot House
Paul Branwick	Manchester People First
Paula Collins	Student Social Worker
Sarah Rooney	Person Centred Planning
Russell Kirby	Disabled Children's Team
Hamaira Ashraf	Manchester People First
Phillo Christopherson	Manchester People First
Paul Lord	Calderstones NHS Trust
Nicola Jennings	Landridge House
Joan Asghari	Manchester Supporting People
Claire Gorton	Manchester Supporting People
Duncan Mitchell	MLDP
Jean Roper	Joint Commissioning Team



Apologies for not being able to come to the meeting:

Mary Shaw	Parent/Carer
Elly Johnston	Talbot House
Sarah Hubbard	Children Services
Andrew Cavanagh	Self Advocate
Cllr. Curley	MCC Elected Member
Cllr. Murphy	MCC Executive Member

1. Skills City Feedback Update

Manchester People First had said this event was not accessible.

Paul Cassidy has written to Skill City about this but not had a reply. Paul would write again. It was agreed that Stephen Hughes would contact Skill City before next year's event and tell them again about the problems.

The Disabled Access Group and accessibility staff from Manchester City Council could do an access audit on the next event.

2. Denmark Presentation

Report ▶ Karin Rodgers told the Partnership Board about the trip to Denmark she had been on, to look at how services for learning disabled people were run.

Andrew Cavanagh also went on the trip. He was not able to attend the Board meeting because his support and lift did not arrive. Yvonne Kincaid from MLDP would find out why. Andrew will come to the next meeting to tell us about the trip.

Karin told us about the different ways services were run in Denmark and the UK and gave us ideas for changes, which could be made locally.

We will send out the details of Karin's talk with the minutes of the meeting.

It was agreed that Modernising Day Services and Employment sub groups will look at what can be done in Manchester.



3. Keeping People Healthy

Mike Craven, the Fighting Fit Co-ordinator came to the Board to talk to the members about keeping fit and a healthy diet.

More people with a learning disability are overweight

9% of learning disabled people have diabetes.

Nationally 2 of the 11 Valuing People Targets are not being met. Health is 1 of them.

Janet Flood talked about having diabetes, and the impact that this has had on her life along with the changes she has had to make because of it.

Mike Craven gave out a document:

- The health needs of learning disabled people needs must be looked at.
- Services must encourage healthier a lifestyle.
- Health Action Plans and the National Service Frameworks are important.
- Lack of exercise is a big cause of people being overweight.
- People with a learning disability face problems taking part in exercise opportunities.

It was agreed that over weight learning disabled people need to be targeted, but people must have choices and information must be accessible.

Lots of work is being done, such as:

- Food at Day Services is going to be healthier.
- Training is available for parents and carers

It was suggested that learning disabled people could be helped to buy healthier things with for example 'buy one, get one free' offers.

Bernie Woods and Mike Craven would look at trying to get people to offer this kind of financial encouragement.



Richard Hughes told the Board that his local sports shop would not allow him into the store. It was agreed that this would be dealt with outside of the meeting.

Mike Craven gave out copies of 'Healthy Eating, Diet and Exercise are a Major Concern', 'Health Action Plans' and 'Healthy Living'.

People agreed that 'Healthy Living' should be more accessible.

Paul Cassidy asked that Man-Media and Manchester People First say how it could be made more accessible.

Bernie Woods said a lot of things for parent/carers are not accessible.

It was agreed that the Joint Health Unit be asked about making things available in other languages.

4. BME Advocacy Service Presentation

Phillo Christopherson and Hamaira Ashraf came to the meeting to tell members about the Black and Minority Advocacy Service that Manchester People First now runs. They told us how the groups had been set up and what they were doing.

Parents and carers thought the groups were good. A lot of the self-advocates have made friends.

5. Valuing People Targets Update Traffic Light Document

Jean Roper told the Board where we were up to with all the Valuing People White Paper targets. She gave out one document that listed which targets had been met and one which told people what work was being done at the moment. It was agreed that the Board would be told every 3 months about what work had been done.

6. Employment Sub-group Update

Lorraine Gradwell from Breakthrough UK, talked about what the Employment sub-group was doing. A big aim is to get more learning disabled adults into paid work.

There are problems finding out how many people with a learning disability are getting work, because Stepping Stones, Jobcentre Plus and Connexions do not record this information.

It was agreed that Board members would try to think of a way around this problem before the next meeting.

7. Any Other Business

7.1 Adult Protection

It was agreed to invite a speaker to a Partnership Board meeting to talk about adult protection.

The possibility of an identification card was suggested, like for example the Citizen Card Identification. This is available on the internet from www.citizencard.com.

7.2 Items for the next meeting

It was agreed Riz Hussain would give a 10 minute accessible update would on the Housing sub-group.

Andrew Cavanagh will be invited to tell us what he thought about the trip to Denmark.

8. Next Meeting

Tuesday 12 September 2006, 10am
at Wilsons Park Business Centre
Monsall Road
Newton Heath
Manchester
M40 8WN.

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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Unit 21, Wilson Park Business Centre, Newton Heath, Manchester M40 8WN.