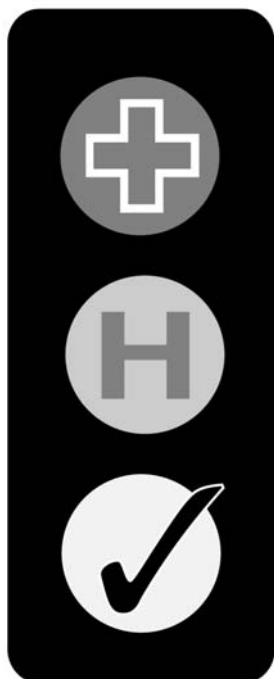


# together



## Hospital Traffic Lights



Individualised  
Budgets



Hydrotherapy



Promises Promises...



## Minutes of the September Meeting



Issue 21 • Nov and Dec 2007

Free • Published every two months

# together



## Welcome

To issue 21 of the newsletter from the Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board. This is our last issue of 2007. We will return in the new year.

You can download any issue from our web site at: [www.partnershipboard.org](http://www.partnershipboard.org)  
You can also download an audio version of the newsletter.



## Next meeting

Tuesday 13 November 10.30am  
at Manchester People First's office



## 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  
Monsall Road  
Newton Heath  
Manchester  
M40 8WN

# September Meeting

## Minutes of the last meeting

These were agreed.

## Matters arising

A letter has been sent to Councillor Sue Cooley to thank her for her hard work on the Partnership Board and to wish her well in her new role as Chair of Manchester City Council's Scrutiny Committee.

## Employment event feedback

Julie Hicklin and Peter Hughes were not able to go to the meeting to give feedback on the Employment Event. It was agreed that we would talk about it at the next meeting.

## Individualised budgets

Bernie Woods said there is not enough clear information on Individualised Budgets.

There is a need to keep statutory services for certain groups of learning disabled people.

There are 25 learning disabled people in Manchester taking part in the Individualised Budgets pilot.

If a person is offered an Individualised Budget, they have 3 choices:

- Take cash and make their own arrangements.
- Virtual budget.
- Individual Service budget, where the individual tells services where they want to go.

New people coming into services will be financed through the Individual Budgets scheme. It is harder for people already getting services, due to contracts.





Bernie Woods felt that people getting statutory services have a back up service, but people with direct payments do not. Lorraine Gradwell agreed and felt that Manchester should tell Government Ministers.

Paul Cassidy said the pilot scheme allows for close working with Ministers and for raising problems etc.

They have been told about block contracts and the need for bridge funding. Once the pilot scheme has been reviewed the information can be shared.

Paul Cassidy will write to the Government on behalf of Councillor Curley and the Partnership Board to tell them what we thought.

Bernie Woods said she will be having a meeting with Ivan Lewis to raise her concerns.

### **Ethnicity Group**

Mark Burton and Kay Ahmed presented a report about the old Ethnicity Group. Not many people were coming to the meetings, so they have stopped.

In Manchester 18% of the adults see themselves as members of ethnic minorities. This population is growing, so it is important for the group to restart.

It needs to be led by someone from an ethnic minority and have members from communities who have an interest in learning disability services.

The Board agreed the structure and support for the group. If anyone is interested in becoming involved in this sub group or can nominate someone, please tell either Kay Ahmed or Mark Burton.

## **Promises, Promises 10 years on**

The Promises book was done 10 years ago by Manchester People First, Manchester Social Services and Mancunian Community NHS Trust.

The promises made were about how the service would support people to:

- Make choices
- Learn
- Have good support
- Grow stronger

It was felt that the book was too big and it was not possible to produce a pocket size booklet.

The book has not been reviewed.

All the providers who originally signed the Promises Book were contacted at the beginning of 2007 to get an update. But services are very different to 10 years ago and staff have moved on. It was agreed that each sub group should be asked for their plans to help think about Valuing People and Our Health Our Say.

A small sub group will be started with Anna Fedeczko, Richard Hughes, Stephen Hughes, Jean Roper, Joseph Rooney and anyone else who is wants to be involved.

Links can then be made with the Chairs of each sub group. A statement of promises can be made which will say what has been achieved since the book was first written.

## **Hydrotherapy**

The Friends of Withington Hospital are concerned that the hydrotherapy pool at Manchester Royal Infirmary is still closed for refurbishment.

Hydrotherapy is not just for treatment, it can also prevent health problems. Janet Flood told us about how she has used hydrotherapy for rehabilitation.





Mark Burton met Joe Ranson from Manchester Primary Care Trust a number of years ago. It was agreed the PCT fund some hydrotherapy sessions.

Joe Ranson said the PCT before it was reorganised, worked with a private fitness company to commission a hydrotherapy facility in Manchester. But the PCT does not want to do this any more. It is looking for a city-wide facility.

Work needs to be done to find out how many learning disabled people and physically disabled people in Manchester need hydrotherapy.

Some Board members were surprised the Primary Care Trust needed to be convinced of the need.

It was agreed that once we find out the numbers the Commissioner from the Primary Care Trust should be invited to a Partnership Board meeting.

Stephen Hughes told the meeting that Manchester People First have been working for 2 years on a business plan to build a facility to meet the needs of vulnerable people and those people with complex needs. The service will be at a local community level and all about preventative health.

Stephen has met Chris O’Gorman from the Primary Care Trust, Councillor Basil Curley, Denise Price and Paul Cassidy. A bid has been placed with Future Builders which is a Government group that support new projects that are innovative and progressive.

It was agreed that it would be very helpful to get a commitment from the PCT and it would very helpful if Chris O’Gorman and his colleagues were to be involved with the development of the project.

It was agreed that access to hydrotherapy needs to be looked at short term; but Manchester People First’s proposal will go some way towards meeting long term needs.

Joe Ranson said that Chris O’Gorman could get a good idea of what was going on in the city by working with the Partnership Board. So he will be invited to a meeting.

Things to be done:

- Chris O’Gorman to be invited to a Board meeting.
- Primary Care Trust Commissioner to be invited.
- Find out how many learning disabled and physically disabled people use hydrotherapy.

### **Hospital traffic light document**

The Traffic Light document was given to Board members. It has been used by the Clinical Governance Team and tried at Wythenshawe Hospital.

It breaks down information about people into 3 sections:

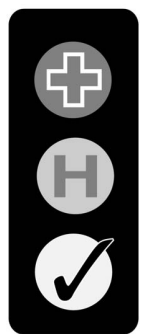
- Red: Things you must know about me
- Amber: Things that are really important to me
- Green: What you need to know about me

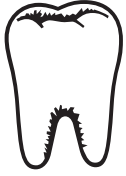
If it works well it can be used in other hospitals.

Bernie felt it would help parents who normally have to give the same information to different people. It could help any group of people such as young or old.

The Partnership Board agreed to support the document and felt it was important use it across the city as a person centred approach.

A launch day will be held at Wythenshawe Hospital on Friday 14 September.





### **Dental project**

Melanie Chapman from MLDP and Darren Chadwick from Manchester University have done research about adults with a learning disability getting dental care.

The presentation showed how and why the study was done and the results.

There is still a lot of work to be done, but it is on hold till the end of the year due to funding.

It is hoped that a dental student will be able to do more work, such as seeing what happens throughout treatment and why more learning disabled people have their teeth taken out than people who do not have a learning disability.

Action: The Good Health sub group could look at funding through the PCT to pay for this work.

### **Any other business**

Louisa said she was interested in becoming a member of the People's Parliament.

It was agreed that Helen Johnston talk about the Older Carers Project at the next meeting.



### **Date of the next meeting**

Tuesday 13 November 2007, 10.30 am  
at Manchester People First's office.