

Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board

together



**New service for
older people**



Minutes of September Meeting
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together

New service

Landridge House and Manchester People First have started a day service for people with a learning disability who are aged over 55. The project is funded by the Learning Disability Development Fund and will be run for 9 people for 1 year to see how it works.

The service is from 10.30 am to 2.30 pm on Tuesday and Thursdays at Harpurhey Neighbourhood Centre and on Wednesdays at Harpurhey Community Church. Both are on Carrisbrook Street.

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Our Address

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



September 2006

1. Minutes from last meeting

Approved.

2. Matters arising

None.

3. Modernising Day Services

Mark Burton gave the report for Dave Ruane from the Modernising Day Services sub group. The report was about:

- Finding out what people wanted from Day Services. This would be done in October.
- Looking at the Standards for Day Services.
- A pilot project that has been set up to look at day service needs of older people. Run by Landridge House and Manchester People First.

There is a need for more services for people with profound and multiple learning disabilities.

A scheme giving healthier meals is being tried at Northfields. The new menus will also be used at Oakwood and Millhouse by the end of September and at all the other Day Service Centres by January 2007.

70% of people in Day Services now have a Better Day Plan. The target is 100% by Christmas.

Richard Hughes asked to see the format used for a Better Day Plan.

14 board members were interested in visiting the day centres. Visits could be arranged to go to Landridge House and Ellen Kerr. Mark Burton would see how this could be done.



3.1 L'Arche

L'Arche is a project in Liverpool. It is based on a community founded in France, where people with learning disabilities and people without disabilities live together and help each other. Sue Cooley, Jean Roper and Bernie Woods visited L'Arche in Liverpool.

They hoped to get good ideas that could be used in Manchester. Sue said there was a spiritual part to the service and a sense of community. Staff and people lived and worked together. It was easy to see people respected each other and there was a general feeling of 'more space'. Sue felt that the services we had were more about health and safety. At L'Arche, activities are done, then assessed for safety etc. This way of doing things fits in with the person centred model. Staff look at ways to help people do all they can.

3.2 Wythenshawe Park

The future for people working at Wythenshawe Park is good. People working there have taken over the horticultural centre and there are plans for them to run the café as well. The Partnership Board said it would be good to have a presentation about the park.



Break

4. Housing sub group update

Riz Hussain, Chair of Housing sub group, told the Partnership Board what the sub-group was doing.

The group has been reviewing the Learning Disability Housing Action Plan and will be reviewing the Learning Disability Housing Strategy.

The Action Plan aims to:

- Give more choice and better quality in housing.
- Make long term planning of services better.
- Get the most funding and look for other new funding.





- Involve learning disabled people, parents, carers and advocates in planning housing services.
- Make the group bigger. Janet Flood and Bernie Woods have now joined.
- Produce a Housing Options Leaflet in an accessible format.
- Update the Learning Disability Housing Strategy 2003-2006. The leaflet will include information about the future of council houses and the consultations that will be taking place, taking over tenancies, how to register for re-housing, equipment and adaptations, buying the home you rent, shared ownership, the Manchester Housing Register, and, how to find out more.

Sue Cooley said we needed to be more careful over the language used in information about for example housing transfers, as this had caused people to be worried.

She did not know of any way that had been set up to ask learning disabled people in South Manchester about the transfer of housing stock to Parkway Green.

Delia Murphy said that consultations are now taking place and people supported by North West Community Services are becoming involved.

Janet Flood said she had received an information pack and found some of the questions upsetting and very personal. She will bring the pack along next time.

Riz Hussain invited board members to come to the next Housing sub group on the 3 November 10.30-12.30 at Manchester People First's office.

Paul Cassidy said 'shared ownership' was something he had started looking into, and has heard of schemes in the south where people with learning disabilities are getting help with mortgages. They have a secure long-term income on benefits, which makes them good customers for Building Societies.

The agency he has spoken to are called 'For Ability'. Delia Murphy said that in Liverpool some people supported by NWCS have 60% ownership of their properties. These schemes are ideally a partnership between a building society, a housing association and a care agency. This would mean more adapted houses would be built and give people more choice. Paul would see what could be done in Manchester. Other things need to be looked at, such as using capital from a family home to buy an adapted property. It was thought that it would be good to have a meeting between the Housing Department and the Partnership Board to draw up a paper.

5. Cornwall Inquiry

Duncan Mitchell gave a presentation on the inquiry. He said why the investigation was carried out, what some of the findings were, and what it means for partnership boards. For a long time the local Mencap had said there were problems. A big problem was that the NHS Trust was saying 'where people lived, who they lived with, how money was spent, and who cared for them'. There was a poor standard of care and allegations of neglect. Complaints were not being dealt with.

The investigation said these complaints were true. Assessment services had become long term homes, there was little or no understanding of choice, dignity etc. Some people had suffered abuse, and the Trust were running care homes but were avoiding regulation.

The investigation also found there was poor leadership, poor inter-agency relationships, commissioning of services and the Local Authority did not deal properly with the protection of vulnerable adults.

It was felt that responsibility lies with the commissioners who are the Primary Care Trust, the NHS Trust who provide the service, the County Council, the Partnership Board and the Strategic Health Authority.



In Cornwall, their Partnership Board had no overall view of what was happening. The inquiry is still going on. But there are some recommendations for other partnership boards to follow.

- All services must register with Commission for Social Care Inspection.
- Community care assessments must be offered to everyone who has completed assessments and treatments.
- Supported living funding should be paid to individuals and not providers.
- Decisions must be clearly recorded with who is responsible.
- Boards must oversee the joint commissioning strategy.
- Boards must oversee Community Care Assessments and assessments for carers.
- Boards must be sent reports on protection of adults with learning disabilities.

Duncan said it was important that the Partnership Board had been looked at.

Sue Cooley said it is difficult to know how Manchester would be seen in the way it does things and how effective it was.

Paul Cassidy said the board should wait for guidance from the Department of Health. Manchester already had procedures in place. He said the Annual Adult Protection Report could come to the board in future.

Sue said it was about being accountable and responsible.

Paul Lord said the Partnership Board could write to Rob Grieg at Care Services Improvement Partnership for advice.

6. Denmark visit

Andrew Cavanagh supported by Yvonne Kincaid, gave his report on the visit to Denmark. He brought his photo album and went through it with Yvonne. He said he enjoyed the trip and found the people nice.

Everything was new and specially built. People did woodwork with machinery we would think was dangerous in this country.



Andrew told people he enjoyed his job at Withington Hospital, and also worked in a charity shop in Withington two days a week.

7. Any other business

Richard Hughes asked what had happened to the Promises Book. Sue Cooley asked him what he would like to see happen. Richard said it would be good to see if services had kept their 'promises'.



8. Date of the next meeting

Tuesday 7 November 2006, 10.30am,
at Unit 21 Wilson's Park Business Centre

Your copy



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