

Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board

**together**



# Individualised Budgets



## July Meeting



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# together



## Welcome

To issue 20 of the newsletter from Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board.

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## Dates of meetings

Meetings start at 10.30 am on Tuesday:

11 September

13 November



## Contact

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# July Meeting

## Minutes from last meeting

These were agreed to be true.

Councillor Basil Curley said Sue Coolley is now Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Committee.

We thanked Sue for all her work on the Board.

## Matters arising

Item 4 Good Health Sub Group

GP's will be offer annual screening to patients with a learning disability as part of their Primary Care Contracts.

There will be a report later in the year.

## Individualised Budgets Presentation

Julie McConnell told the board what Individual Budgets are and how they work. She looked at how they use self assessment to convert points into pounds and plan support. Individual Budgets are being tested in Manchester and 12 other councils until the end of December 2007.

A report will be made in Spring 2008 to show what parts work well and what needs to be changed.

Manchester has to have 300 Individual Budgets by March 2008, 1000 by 2009 and 3000 by 2009.

We asked Julie some questions.

Helen Johnston asked if there was a waiting list and how can parents find out about their budget? There is no waiting list. Once people worked out what they need and how much it costs, Independent Living Advisors help with the budget.

Denise Price asked about vouchers which have been popular in some areas?

Vouchers may be used in other areas in the future.



Lorraine Gradwell asked how to work out how much a point is worth?

Julie said that the self assessment questionnaire is constantly being tested and redesigned.

There is currently a price per point.

Levels of premiums may need to be introduced.

Kay Ahmed asked how the allocation of funds is being monitored?

Large amounts of money are not all paid out at once.

Money spent is audited. In the future some services may be paid direct.

Tom Mclean asked if audits would look at outcomes?

Julie said they would. The findings of research by Professor Challis would be reported next Spring.

Councillor Curley said people could change their minds once funds had been paid and pay for different services.



Bernie Wood said that parents and social workers do not always agree and that a good person centred plan is also a support plan.

Kay Ahmed said people supported by Himmat also have Urdu versions of their plans. Families should be told about the points system.

Lorraine Gradwell asked about targets and if people with learning disabilities were included?

80 older people had an individual budget, 24 were people with learning disabilities and Manchester was on track to meet the target of 300.

Janet Flood asked if she could pay her mum to work for her?

Yes she could, as long as she did not live at the same address. Julie also said that sometimes it might be difficult to employ relatives as personal assistants.

Helen Johnston told the board she had withdrawn her daughter from the day service and had been given the funds to arrange her own services. But she felt that it would be a good idea to be able to buy specific sessions in a day centre or a 'drop-in' centre.

Mark Burton agreed with Helen and said that services were looking at ways of developing some of these ideas. Julie should be invited back to present some case studies.

Lorraine Gradwell said it would be interesting to know about some of the things that went wrong.

Julie McConnell said there is no more Continuing Healthcare money for Direct Payments.

The Minister will be contacted.

### **Employment Event Feedback**

This will be talked about at another meeting.

### **Leisure Update**

Geoff Iball spoke about indoor leisure facilities.

There is a lot of work that needs to be done to improve buildings. It will cost millions of pounds so there needs to be a planned approach.

Some of the things that need thinking about are:

- Number of buildings that need improvement
- Age and condition of buildings
- How to decide what order to do which building
- How to do the work in each building

A group with representatives from MLDP are looking at user issues to make buildings accessible to people with severe learning disabilities and people who have had strokes.

Main buildings in the north, central and south of the city have been visited and improvement work has been listed.

Onsite manual handling training for leisure staff has taken place at the Aquatics Centre with Serco. Geoff said that provision of space is looked at but not the equipment needed.

Lorraine Gradwell said that commissioners need to know that the Disability Equality Duty applies to the procurement process. Much more needs to be done for the independent wheelchair user.

She asked if the Disabled People Access Group (DPAG) were involved?

Janet Flood talked about fears of slipping and falling when walking around the swimming pool.

Geoff said there had not been any involvement with DPAG but he would like parents, self advocates etc. to get involved.

Councillor Curley said if people wanted to join the group they should give their names to Mark Burton.

### **Plans for voting work for next year**

Stephen Hughes asked members for ideas on how to develop work about voting.

There had been a poor response to the training workshop earlier in this year.

People need to know why they should vote, councillors should get more involved with this project by visiting centres etc. Are people on the electoral register?

Mark Burton said it would be worth checking the level of voting. Janet Flood and Anna Fedeczko in the Quality sub group had done some work where a councillor and an MP had visited and asked questions about their local disabled population. Janet has written a report about this.

Riz Hussain offered to print something about the training in his next newsletter.



## **Promises Promises 10 years on**

Postponed until next meeting.



## **End of Life Care Pathway**

Tom Mclean explained the need identified by senior practice advisors in MLDP and other services for this work. It was helped by 'Dying Matters' by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities.

The working group included North West Community Services and Calderstones NHS Trust. Consultations took place with Talbot House and Think Quality.

Three pathways have been developed looking at 4 main concerns in relation to the end of life:

- Access to all appropriate mainstream services
- Inclusion of stages before terminal illness
- Support for people when they are bereaved
- Use of person centred approaches

The presentation was well received. Janet and Joseph talked about the people they had lost.

The need for several different types of training was highlighted.

Paul Lord said some relatives had been glad to have something to refer to.

Kay Ahmed said it would be useful for ethnic minorities too.

Riz said it should be presented to the Provider Forum.

Other issues such as access to crematoriums, and support to attend funerals of relatives and friends were raised.

Anna asked if the Board intended to adopt the piece of work and if there were any ideas as to where funding might be available for training and printing etc.

Board agreed to adopt and be informed of future developments.

Councillor Curley said lottery grants could be applied for.

### **Any other business**

Lorraine Gradwell said the Employment sub group had not met for some time. Not many people had been turning up. Paul Cassidy has asked members for ideas to get the group going again.

Councillor Curley agreed to contact Mr Shand from Economic Regeneration to invite him to a sub group meeting.

Mark Burton said the Ethnicity sub-group was also struggling. He would bring some ideas to the next meeting.



### **Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 11 September 2007

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