

**NOTE OF THE TWENTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE LEARNING DISABILITY
IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY GROUP HELD ON 15TH SEPTEMBER
2005 AT RHAYDER LEISURE CENTRE.**

PRESENT:

David Felce – Co-chair
Glayne Walker – Co-Chair (supported by Yvonne Hedges)

Members

David Allen
John Collinson (attending for Margaret Gregory)
Jim Crowe
Evan Davies
David Edwards (supported by Peter Wakeford)
Ian Ferris
Mike Kerr
Chris Maggs
Helen Matthews
Liz Neal
Sean O'Reilly
Louise Price (supported by Yvonne Hern)
Ann Thomas
Stephen Wade
Bryan Williams
John Williams

Assembly Officials

John Carter
Alyson Collins

Others

Lis Walters – Communication Officer, SCOVO

1. Apologies

1.1 Apologies were received from Julie Caffell, Bethan Evans, Margaret Gregory, and Brickchand Ramruttun (members) and Mick Fisher and Pat Vogt (Assembly officials).

2. Presentation and discussion on the National Patient Safety Agency's current learning disability work programme – Vicky Stobbart.

2.1 Following the presentation Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and a discussion followed. The Group thanked Vicky for her clear and helpful presentation.

Action :

- Mike Kerr, Liz Neal, Stephen Wade and Glayne Walker (on behalf of the Swansea Peer Health Group) volunteered to assist Vicky in her work and in particular in developing the acute hospitals book.
- It was agreed that the Secretariat should write to Stuart Bartley, NPHS suggesting that he may wish to contact Vicky about her work.

3. The Bryn y Neuadd Resettlement Programme

3.1 Jim Crowe said that he had sought clarification on the local concerns over the Bryn y Neuadd reprovisioning programme. The particular concern seemed to be over the 8 people assessed as in need of continuing NHS care who were to be accommodated in purpose built bungalows on the hospital site. It had been queried how the Human Rights Act and the Bournemouth Judgement fitted in with these proposals as the people concerned did not appear to have been offered any choice over their accommodation. Also other people with similar disabilities had been resettled into the community. A discussion followed. Members were concerned about the size of the facility being considered and that it was on the hospital site and had the potential to grow. Concern was also expressed about the development of other large scale independent residential facilities in Wales and out of area placements.

Action :

- It was agreed that David Felce should write to the North West Wales Trust seeking their rationale for siting the 8 bedded continuing care unit and a 6 bedded treatment and assessment unit on the Bryn y Neuadd site and asking whether the views of the 8 people concerned and their families had been taken into account. In addition that he should write to the Minister about the growth of large independent residential facilities in Wales and propose that the Assembly instigate a more strategic approach for dealing with out of area placements. David Felce to prepare drafts of both letters and circulate to members for comments prior to issuing.

4. Discussion on the draft National Service Framework for Older People in Wales consultation document (included the related draft Medicines and Older People Document).

4.1 The Group discussed the NSF for Older People (and associated document) and in particular: the 5 questions posed in the consultation document; how to make the document more accessible and relevant to older people with a learning disability; whether there were any resources associated with the NSF; and whether an easy read version of the final document would be available. It was noted that in the Medicines Document there was no reference to Adult Placement Schemes.

Action :

- David Felce and Mike Kerr offered to put together a draft response to the consultation document for the Group's consideration. Members were asked to send any comments they had on the document to David by 22 September.
- John Carter agreed to suggest to officials working on the NSF that they may wish to speak to the National Association of Adult Placement Schemes about medicines related aspects of Adult Placement Schemes.

5. Discussion on the Link-Age in Wales consultation document

5.1 The Group discussed the Link-Age in Wales consultation document and in particular how it could be delivered for a person with a learning disability.

- **Action :** Liz Neal offered to put together a draft response to the consultation document for the Group's consideration. Members were asked to send any comments they had on the document to Liz by 23 September.

6. Minutes of the last meeting.

6.1 The draft minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.

7. Action Log and Matters arising

7.1 Paper on Continuing Health Care

Action

- Members were asked to send any comments they had on the draft paper to David Allen by 28th September to inform the work of sub group 2.

7.2 Paper on People with a learning disability accessing Mental Health Services. David Felce advised that he had written to Phil Chick, Director of Mental Health following the last meeting.

Action

- David Felce agreed to provide Secretariat with a copy of his letter to Phil Chick to circulate to members.
- Members were asked to send any comments they had on this issue to Helen Matthews by 20th September to inform the work of sub group 2.

7.3 Revised Terms of Reference – Minister’s agreement to the revised Terms of Reference to be sought following the co-chairs meeting with the Minister to discuss the Policy Statement.

Action :

- David Felce to write to the Minister

7.4 Improving the Life Chances of Disabled People – The letter sent by Jane Davidson, Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning to David Felce was circulated at the meeting. Liz Neal advised that she was meeting the Minister along with the Wales Association for Supported Employment Agencies (ASEA Wales) to discuss how the changes proposed would affect people with a learning disability. Glayne Walker asked if he also could attend and Liz said that she would speak to ASEA Wales about this.

Action

- Liz Neal to report back to members following the meeting with the Minister

7.5 Communication sub group – meetings notes, terms of reference and work plan to be circulated to members

Action :

- Lis Walters to circulate to the Group

7.6 WAGSEN – how to improve the LDIAG’s interface with WAGSEN.

Action :

- Members to e.mail David Felce with their ideas.

7.7 Education – Equal access to education – Liz Neal advised that the relevant document was ‘Success for all’ but that it was not particularly relevant to people with a learning disability.

7.8 Collation of responses from the LA audit returns – David Felce advised that he hoped to look at this for the October meeting.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 Health Checks for people with a learning disability – John Carter read out a statement provided by officials in the Assembly's General Medical Services Branch. A discussion followed. Members were concerned that they did not know what new learning disability indicators for the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) were being discussed. They indicated that if the new QOF indicators fell below what could be achieved through the introduction of a Local Enhanced Service (LES) then they would continue to press for the LES health check to be introduced as well.

Action :

- John Carter to relay the Group's comments to Derek Fishwick in the GMS Branch.

8.2 Service Principles & Service Responses Monitoring Report for 2004-05 – John Carter advised that the LA monitoring reports would be copied to the Group. In answer to a query he advised that a decision on the future of the grant scheme would be made in the next 6-9 months and that the views of the Group would be sought.

Action :

- Secretariat to copy around the monitoring reports in due course.

8.3 Advocacy – John Carter advised that BILD's Evaluation Report would be put on the LDIAG agenda for the October meeting so that the Group could add its comments. The matter would then be referred to the Minister. A final decision on the future of the grant scheme was expected in December..

Action

- Secretariat to: ask BILD to send a round robin letter to grant recipients advising them of the present position and the likely date for a decision on the future of the grant scheme; and put on the LDIAG October meeting agenda

8.4 Analysis of the LA Service principles & Service Responses data – David Felce advised members that the analysis was nearing completion and could be considered at the October meeting.

Action :

- Secretariat to add to the LDIAG October agenda meeting.

8.5 LDIAG Website – Lis Walters said that the LDIAG website was being developed.

Action :

- Lis Walters to send the website link to members for their comments in due course. Members to send Lis their pen pictures for inclusion on the website.

8.6 Future meetings – Members indicated that they would like 10 LDIAG meetings to be arranged for 2006.

Action

- Secretariat to draw up a meeting schedule for 2006 for consideration at the October meeting.

9. Date of Next Meeting

9.1 Members noted that the next meeting of the Implementation Advisory Group would take place on Thursday, 27th October 2005 at the Media Resource Centre, Llandrindod Wells starting at 10.15am. Sean O'Reilly offered his apologies for this meeting.

Alyson Collins.
Secretariat to the LDIAG