

**NOTE OF THE TWENTY- EIGHTH MEETING OF THE LEARNING
DISABILITY IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY GROUP HELD ON 15TH
JUNE 2006 AT THE MEDIA RESOURCE CENTRE, LLANDRINDOD
WELLS.**

PRESENT:

David Felce – Co-chair
Louise Price – acting Co-chair (supported by Graham Lowe)

Members

David Allen
Cynthia Arthur (supported by Malcolm Cansdale)
Steve Beyer
Jim Crowe
Caroline Eayrs
Chris Evans (supported by Linda Jones)
Margaret Gregory
Mike Kerr
Helen Matthews
Liz Neal
Stephen Wade
John Williams
Pauline Young

Assembly Officials

John Carter
Alyson Collins
Jill Lewis

Others

Lis Walters – Communication Officer, SCOVO

1. Welcome and apologies

1.1 Chris Evans, representing All Wales People First was welcomed to his first meeting as was Caroline Eayrs, representing the North Wales Health Trusts Learning Disabilities Network.

1.2 Louise Price was thanked for agreeing to act as Co-chair for the meeting.

1.3 Apologies were received from Julie Caffel, Evan Davies, Bethan Evans (and Chris Hughes who was due to attend on her behalf), Ian Ferris, Chris

Maggs, Sean O'Reilly, Brickchand Ramruttun and Ann Thomas (Members) and Peter Meredith-Smith (Official)

2. Update on the LDIAG Website, communication strategy and LDIAG Roadshows – Lis Walters

2.1 Lis reminded members that the next LDIAG Roadshow was to be held in Llandudno the following day. Lis confirmed that the Welsh Assembly Government had agreed to fund the translation into Welsh of the parts of the site as previously agreed and that this work was underway. She said that the LDIAG Forum was attracting adverts rather than being used for what it was intended and a discussion followed about the merits of keeping the forum open. Lis said that two queries had been received on the LDIAG website : one from a professional in Torfaen enquiring about representation on the Group and the other from a parent/carer about whether local authorities should pay them expenses when attending local authority forums/discussion groups.

Action

- It was agreed that the LDIAG Forum should remain open and be monitored. (Lis Walters)
- Pauline Young suggested that the query from the parent/carer should be passed to the All Wales Forum for Parents & Carers for consideration of whether the Forum would wish to take up on an all Wales basis.

3. Sub Group Reports

3.1 **Strategic Planning** – Liz Neal said that the sub-group was on target to produce the paper on 'Standards in Advocacy' for consideration by the Group at its September 2006 meeting.

3.2 Health

Mental Health and Challenging Behaviour – David Allen said that the sub-group would produce an interim paper on the audit tool for consideration at the September 2006 meeting of the LDIAG.

General Health Issues – Mike Kerr said that the sub group was on target to produce the paper on the work of the National Patient Safety Agency for the November meeting and the other papers for the January 2007 meeting.

3.3. **Meaningful Lives** – See 4 below.

4. Meaningful Lives sub-group paper on Day Activities – Steve Beyer.

4.1 Steve Beyer said that following the workshop held in March the sub-group was drawing up a document on what people could be doing during the day, how it could be organised and how it could be staffed. The emphasis being on moving to community based activities based on the assumption that the majority of people with a learning disability are able and willing to participate in work based activities. A single document is to be drawn up containing procedural guidance and barriers to implementation etc which could be broken down into shorter papers at a later stage if necessary.

4.2 Planning is now underway for a second workshop to be held this September on Employment. Invitees will include employers of people with a learning disability, Valuing People representatives, Social Firms Wales, Job Centre Plus and Assembly officials.

4.3 This sub-group has a large agenda and is planning to look at one topic every 3 months until the end of 2007.

Action :

- To bring a paper on Day Activities to the September 2006 meeting (Sub-group).

5. Discussion on the consultation exercise on the Care Standards Act 2000 and the Children Act 1989 (Regulatory Reform and Complaints) (Wales) Regulations 2006 – Liz Neal

5.1 A suggested consultation response drawn up by Liz Neal was circulated at the meeting and a discussion followed on other areas that should be included in the document such as inter-relationship with the Protection of Vulnerable Adults; outcome of complaints; termination of capacity; involvement of Health Inspection Wales.

Action

- Comments on the consultation paper to be e.mailed to Liz by 23rd June. (members).
- Liz to send in the final consultation response and copy to the Secretariat for circulation to the Group (Liz Neal/Secretariat).

6. Discussion on the Norah Fry Institute Report ‘Finding the Right Support? : support for parents with learning disabilities’ – Liz Neal

6.1 The subject was introduced by Liz Neal and a discussion followed. The Group agreed that this was an area that it had not previously considered and as a result it was not included in its work plan. Pauline Young added that this

was a client group that the All Wales Forum of Parents and Carers was not linked into and that it needed to be.

Action:

- It was agreed that the Group should write to the Minister to bring the Report to his attention and to ask what action the Assembly would be taking in response (Liz Neal to draft a letter for the Group to consider at its July meeting).
- Members to cascade the document to other people/groups that may have an interest.

7. Forward Workplan and 2007 dates for future meetings.

7.1 The draft workplan was discussed and a number of changes and additions highlighted as set out in Paragraphs 3 & 4 above. Also as the Disability Rights Commission is not now reporting until the autumn a discussion on its Report will take place in the October/November meeting. Additional items identified included : a sub-group paper on Education; a presentation from Health Inspectorate Wales; consideration of the review of the Adult Placement Regulations and National Minimum Standards; 'Through Many Eyes'; Mental Health Act amendments/ the Bournemouth judgement; an update on the implementation of the Care Programme Approach; and the lighter touch inspection regime being introduced by Care Standards Inspectorate Wales.

7.2 The following dates for LDIAG meetings in 2007 were agreed :

January 11th

March 1st

May 10th

June 28th

September 13th

October 25th

December 6th

Action

- To draw up a revised workplan and circulate to the Group (Secretariat)

- To advise absent members of the agreed dates for LDIAG meeting in 2007 (Secretariat).

8. Minutes of the last meeting (27th April 2006)

8.1 Cynthia Arthur said that the minutes did not reflect the discussion held on the need to send members papers for the meeting as early as possible. Otherwise the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

9. Action Log and Matters arising

9.1 The membership list for the Unified Assessment Process (UAP) Advisory Group was circulated at the meeting. Members again expressed concern about the lack of service users and providers on the Group. After a discussion it was agreed that rather than seek to widen the membership the LDIAG should write to the Minister on this matter.

Action

- To write to the Minister to : ask where matters stand on the implementation of UAP; outline the concerns of the LDIAG; ask what plans there are to review the UAP; and indicate that the LDIAG would be happy to contribute to any review (David Felce).

9.2 **Challenging Behaviour : a unified approach** – Helen Matthews said that there was still time for members to send her their comments on the consultation report drafted by the British Psychological Society/Royal; College of Psychiatrists.

Action

- To send Helen any comments by 30th June (Members).

9.3 **Mental Capacity Act 2005 Draft Code of Practice** - Helen Matthews confirmed that the response to this consultation had been sent. Malcolm Cansdale said that All Wales People First had been granted some extra time to respond to the consultation.

Action :

- Consultation response sent from the LDAIG to be circulated to members (Secretariat).
- Consultation response from All Wales People First to the consultation to be circulated to members in due course (AWPF/Secretariat).

9.4 Healthchecks – John Carter advised that the Assembly’s discussions with the British Medical Authority and the Association of Directors of Social Services were hopefully nearing conclusion.

Action :

- Members can find details of the arrangements and the healthcheck on the Assembly’s GMS Website under “Contract Revisions from 2006/7 at <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/home.cfm?orgid=480&redirect=yes>.

9.5 **Private Hospital provision for people with a learning disability and challenging behaviour or dual diagnosis in Wales** – the reply sent by the Minister to David Felce’s letter was circulated. Jim Crowe advised that some Trustees from Learning Disability Wales were meeting representatives of the St Luke’s Group on 19th June. Work was in hand on obtaining further information on the private sector re-opening an NHS hospital in Wales.

Action :

- To write back to the Minister asking whether there are any proposals to review the regulations and national minimum standards for private hospitals and whether there is any intention to insert clauses about restricting the size and remit of such places to bring them into line with Welsh Learning Disability Policy (David Felce).
- For the Group to receive a report back on the meeting with the St Lukes Group (Jim Crowe)
- To consider sending a further letter on the private sector re-opening an NHS Hospital in North Wales (David Felce/members).

For the Group to receive a presentation from Health Inspection Wales when the issue of private hospitals setting up in Wales can be raised (Secretariat).

9.6 **Designed for Life** – Liz Neal advised that the meeting arranged for her and David Allen to meet with Geraint Martin, Strategy Unit, Health & Social Services Department at the Welsh Assembly Government had been postponed until July.

Action :

- To let Liz /David know of any matters they would like brought up with Geraint Martin (Members).

9.7 **Co-chair vacancy** – Malcolm Cansdale advised that a meeting would be held shortly to agree who would fill the vacant position of co-chair.

9.8 **Liz Withers, National Autistic Society (NAS)** – request to join the LDIAG. Liz Neal advised that a representative of the NAS was a members of the Strategic Planning sub-group.

Action :

- To review the request once the Group has considered the Autism Action Plan (Members).

9.9 **Advocacy Grant Scheme** – As a follow-up to the discussion at the April LDAIG meeting, John Carter advised that the Advocacy Grant had been withdrawn from Cardiff People First and Merthyr Tydfil First.

Action :

- To provide members with more detailed information on why grant funding to these organisations has ended.

9.10 **Making the Connections** – Jim Crowe and Liz Neal said that they had not heard anything further about this.

Action

- To contact the Making the Connections Team (John Carter)

10. Any other business

10.1 **Learning Disability Week** – Liz Neal said that 18th to 23rd June was learning disability week. She outlined a number of the events that Mencap Cymru was holding during the week and asked any members interest in attending to contact the Mencap office.

10.2 **Abbreviations** – Cynthia Arthur asked if members could avoid using abbreviations in meetings and the secretariat in the minutes.

10.3 **Management of the Advocacy Grant Scheme** – John Carter advised that 'Expressions of Interest' for the management of the Advocacy Grant Scheme were being sought through the Buy4Wales site. To date 4 organisations had expressed an interest and been sent a pre qualification questionnaire to complete.

10.4 **Carers Champion** – John Carter said that John Griffiths had been appointed Carers Champion on 14th June and that Assembly officials would be meeting with him shortly to discuss a range of Carers issues.

11. Date of Next Meeting

11.1 Members noted that the next meeting of the Implementation Advisory Group would take place on Thursday, 13th July at the Media Resource Centre, Oxford Road, Llandrindod Wells.

Alyson Collins