

NOTE OF THE THIRTIETH MEETING OF THE LEARNING DISABILITY IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY GROUP HELD ON 14TH SEPTEMBER 2006 AT THE MEDIA RESOURCE CENTRE, LLANDRINDOD WELLS.

PRESENT:

David Felce – Co-chair

Cynthia Arthur (supported by Malcolm Cansdale) – acting co-chair

Members

David Allen

Steve Beyer

Jim Crowe

Evan Davies

Bethan Evans

Chris Maggs

Helen Matthews

Louise Price (supported by Graham Lowe)

Peter Woods

Pauline Young

Assembly Officials

John Carter

Alyson Collins

Jill Lewis

Others

Lis Walters – Communication Officer, Learning Disability Wales

1. Apologies & new members

1.1 Apologies were received from Chris Evans, Ian Ferris, Margaret Gregory, Mike Kerr, Liz Neal, Brickchand Ramruttun, Stephen Wade and John Williams (Members) and Peter Meredith-Smith (Assembly Official)

1.2 Members were advised that Bill Collins, Head of Adult Services in Carmarthen would be taking over from Brickchand Ramruttun as one of the Association of Director of Social Services (ADSS) representatives on the Group.

2. Further consideration of the LDIAG response to the consultation on the proposed Policy and Practice paper.

2.1 David Felce introduced the draft letter to go to the Minister on 'Consideration of the Consultation Responses on the proposed Statement on Policy and Practice for Adults with a Learning Disability'. He drew members attention to the additional comments provided by David Allen and Liz Neal. A discussion followed including whether the term 'people with a learning disability' should be used in the Statement and whether the terms 'handicaps and disabilities' should be replaced with 'impairments' as suggested by the Disability Rights Commission in their response to the consultation. Representatives of AWPf advised that 'people with a learning disability' was their preferred term.

Action

- Members to provide David Felce with comments on the draft letter by 25th September (Members).
- It was agreed the term 'people with a learning disability' should be used in any contemporary statement and that in the glossary there should be a reference to this being the preferred term at the time of writing the statement (drafting sub group).

3. Consideration of the Welsh Assembly Government's consultation document 'Fulfilled Lives, Supportive Communities'

3.1 This item was introduced by John Carter. The Group's attention was drawn to the three consultation events arranged to discuss this document and the closing date of 15 November for comments to be received. A general discussion on the document followed.

Action :

- Ad hoc sub group to draw up a draft consultation response for consideration by the group at its next meeting (David Felce & Steve Beyer).

4. Standards in Advocacy – consideration of a paper drawn up by the Strategic Planning Sub group.

4.1 This item was introduced by Chris Maggs who asked for the Group's agreement to the 3 recommendations on Page 4 of the paper : the definition of advocacy services eligible for funding; that Advocacy Wales Standards should be adopted as a basis for future work by advocacy services that work with adults with a learning disability; and that the Strategic Planning sub group should continue to work with the grant scheme managing organisation to develop management standards.

Action :

- The Group agreed with the sub groups recommendations and that it should proceed on the basis set out in the Paper. (sub group).

5. Update on the LDIAG website, communication strategy and roadshows

5.1 Lis Walters advised that :

Website

- the Welsh translation work for the website was almost complete.
- since the LDIAG Forum closed the number of visits to the site had reduced
- a revised leaflet on the website was being drawn up

Action

- The revised leaflet on the website is to be circulated to members for comments (Lis Walters).

Correspondence had been received from :

- a community nurse on peg feeding; and
- advocates who were in dispute with their local authority about 'what is advocacy'.

Action

- that the contact details of the Community Nurse should be forwarded to Ian Ferris (Lis Walters);
- that the advocates should be advised that theirs is a local matter that they should pursue with the Head of their Social Services Department (Lis Walters).

6. Sub Group Reports

6.1 Mental Health and Challenging Behaviour – David Allen said that a 1st draft of the audit tool had been drawn up for consideration by the sub group and that it would be brought to the main group in October. Helen Matthews said that the Welsh Assembly Government was undertaking two reviews of services for people with mental health problems : 'A Strategic Review of Secure Mental Health Services in Wales' and 'A Review of Mental Health Services in Wales'. She said that the scope of the first review included people with a learning disability who require secure care but that the scope of the second review did not look at mental health services for people with a learning disability as a whole.

Action

- Secure Services – for the sub group to take an interest in this review, include it in their work programme and keep the LDIAG informed (Mental Health & Challenging Behaviour sub group).
- Mental Health Services – to write to the policy lead at the Welsh Assembly Government asking for the review to look at mental health services for people with a learning disability as a whole (David Allen and Helen Matthews to draft a letter for David Felce to send).

6.2. **Meaningful Lives** – Steve Beyer said that 15 people were attending the Employment Workshop arranged for 29 September and that he expected to be able to bring the paper on Day Activities to the Group's January 2007 meeting.

7. Minutes of the last meeting (13th July 2006)

7. 1 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

8. Action Log and Matters arising

8.1 Norah Fry Research Centre Report 'Finding the Right Support – Support for parents with a learning disability' –

David Felce drew members' attention to the paper drawn up by Liz Neal in response to the letter received on this Report from Patrick Harper, Children First Team, Welsh Assembly Government. Members agreed that further clarification should be sought from the Assembly.

Action

- To write to the Assembly again. (Liz Neal).

Jim Crowe advised that the Centre had received funding from the Baring Foundation to continue this work with an England/Scotland/Wales focus. He added that Learning Disability Wales had been invited to sit on a focus group and would report back to the LDIAG on its work.

Action :

- To find out whether the Norah Fry Research Centre had contacted the Welsh Assembly Government about this work (Jim Crowe).

8.2 Private hospital provision for people with a learning disability in Wales – John Carter said that Secretariat was unable to follow up the

suggestion that Health Commission Wales was encouraging St Lukes to set up a hospital in Wales as a contact name had not been provided.

Action :

- To write to the Director of Health Commission Wales about this (David Felce).

8.3 Peg Feeding – a paper on peg feeding is expected to be drawn up for consideration at the October meeting of the LDIAG (Ian Ferris).

8.4 Forward Work Plan October 2006 – January 2007 – A Forward Work Plan was circulated to members prior to the meeting. Members were advised that the first entry for the November meeting should read 'Presentation from Health Inspection Wales on their roles and responsibilities'.

8.5 LDIAG Communication Strategy – to give further consideration to the participation of people with a learning disability in the sub-groups.

Action

- To consider and report back at the October meeting of the LDIAG (Cynthia Arthur and Louise Price).

8.6 Employment – to follow-up on the report being drawn up by the Valuing People sub group.

Action :

- To provide secretariat with an electronic version of the sub groups report to circulate to the Group (Steve Beyer).

8.7 Meeting with Geraint Martin – David Allen reported that he and Liz Neal had met with Geraint Martin to raise the profile of people with a learning disability. The meeting had been a positive one and Geraint Martin had spoken about a model on commissioning services which could be trialled in the learning disability field.

9. Any other business

9.1 E.mail from Roger Banks – David Felce said that Roger Banks (a member of the original sub group that drafted the Proposed Statement on Policy and Practice) had contacted him to ask whether he could be involved in revising the document. This was agreed unanimously by those present.

Action :

- To respond to Roger's e.mail. (David Felce).

9.2 Mental Capacity Act – John Carter said that the Code of Practice was due to be finalised in October and that the Assembly had made available £390,000 through Local Health Boards to provide advocacy services for people who did not have someone to speak on their behalf. Helen Matthews added that in the light of the Bournemouth Judgement, guidance was being issued about protecting people’s rights and that professionals were referring people more on issues of capacity.

Action :

- To provide Secretariat with the hyperlink on the guidance referred to above (Helen Matthews)

10. Date of Next Meeting

10.1 Members noted that the next meeting of the Implementation Advisory Group would take place on Thursday, 19th October at the Media Resource Centre, Oxford Road, Llandrindod Wells.

Alyson Collins