

**NOTE OF THE THIRTY FIRST MEETING OF THE LEARNING DISABILITY IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY GROUP HELD ON 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2006 AT THE MEDIA RESOURCE CENTRE, LLANDRINDOD WELLS.**

**PRESENT:**

David Felce – Co-chair  
Chris Evans (supported by Celia Lewis) Co-chair

**Members**

David Allen  
Steve Beyer  
Jim Crowe  
Evan Davies  
Bethan Evans  
Ian Ferris  
Linton Gower (for Louise Price supported by Malcolm Cansdale)  
Margaret Gregory  
Mike Kerr  
Chris Maggs  
Helen Matthews  
Liz Neal  
Sean O'Reilly  
Stephen Wade  
Glayne Walker (for Cynthia Arthur supported by Malcolm Cansdale)  
Peter Woods  
Pauline Young

**Assembly Officials**

John Carter  
Alyson Collins  
Jill Lewis

**Others**

Roger Banks – part of the time  
Lis Walters – Communication Officer, Learning Disability Wales

**1. Apologies & new members**

1.1 Apologies were received from Cynthia Arthur, Bill Collins, Louise Price, Ann Thomas, John Williams (Members) and Peter Meredith-Smith (Assembly Official)

1.2 Linton Gower and Glayne Walker, substituting for Louise Price and Cynthia Arthur, were welcomed to the meeting.

1.3 Members were advised that: Julie Caffel the NPHS representative on the Group had resigned and that her place would be taken by Judith Tomlinson; and that Brian Brayford had also resigned and that he would be asking the Association of Special Schools Headteachers to nominate a replacement.

## **2. Report back on the Minister's response to the letter on the Proposed Statement on Policy and Practice'.**

2.1 This item was introduced by David Felce. He reminded the Group of the Minister's request for the Group to work with Assembly officials : to further develop the statement into a contemporary policy document to be submitted to the Minister by mid January 2007; and to provide advice on future new investment priorities by the end of February 2007. Some concern was expressed about whether a new contemporary statement could be developed, agreed and issued before the Assembly elections in May 2007.

### **Action**

- to develop the statement and consider investment priorities (original drafting sub group of Roger Banks, David Felce, Chris Maggs, Liz Neal and Stephen Wade working with Assembly officials)
- to give a progress report at the November meeting and to bring the revised statement to the LDIAG Meeting in January for agreement (drafting sub group/secretariat).
- to take into account Steve Vaughan's (SSIW) work on commissioning when considering priorities (drafting sub group)

## **3. Further consideration of the Welsh Assembly Government's consultation document 'Fulfilled Lives, Supportive Communities'**

3.1 The suggested draft response to the consultation document drawn up by David Felce was discussed.

### **Action**

- to send any suggested amendments to David Felce by 8 November (members)

#### **4. Consideration of the Disability Rights Commission (DRC) Report on Accessing Primary Care.**

4.1 This item was introduced by Mike Kerr and a general discussion followed.

##### **Action**

- It was agreed that the Group should send a letter to Dr Brian Gibbons about the DRC's Report (Mike Kerr to draft a letter and send to Secretariat to circulate to members for comments)
- to consider the Welsh Assembly Government's response to the DRC Report when it is available (Secretariat).

#### **5. Mental Health & Challenging Behaviour : 1<sup>st</sup> draft of the audit tool – sub group paper**

5.1 This item was introduced by David Allen who passed on his thanks to sub group members for their input and assistance. The Group considered that the self assessment checklist produced was clear and very helpful. David Allen agreed that the paper could be shared with interested people in the Welsh Assembly Government.

##### **Action**

- To produce a final version of the audit tool (sub group)
- To share the document as a 'work in progress' with Assembly officials in Health Commission Wales and Mental Health Policy (Secretariat)

#### **6. LA Service Principles & Service Responses monitoring reports 2005-2006.**

6.1 John Carter reminded members that local authorities were required to submit annual reports on the Service Principles and Service Responses grant scheme and that the reports circulated to members related to 2005-06. He advised that 3 reports were still awaited - Blaenau Gwent, Gwynedd and Merthyr Tydfil. It was agreed that the reports could be shared outside the Group. Chris Maggs said that it was evident from reading the reports that one of the major difficulties faced by authorities was recruiting staff. He suggested that consideration should be given to holding an event at the end of the third year of the grant (2006-07) to share practices and lessons learned. Group members supported this proposal.

## **Action**

- To send members the outstanding monitoring reports when received (Secretariat)
- To discuss any issues members wish to raise about the monitoring reports at the November meeting of the LDIAG (Secretariat)
- To draft a proposal about holding a practice sharing event (Secretariat with members).

## **7. Update on the LDIAG website, communication strategy and roadshows.**

7.1 Lis Walters advised that :

### **Website**

- the Welsh translation work for the website was 90% complete.
- The number of visits to the website was still relatively low
- a revised leaflet on the website had been drawn up (and was circulated at the meeting)

### **Action**

- To provide Lis Walters with comments on the revised leaflet (Members)

### **Roadshows**

The communication sub group had agreed that two further roadshows should be held based on the work of the sub groups – one in North Wales and one in the South Wales.

### **Action**

- To agree dates and availability for these roadshows (Lis Walters/members)

## **8. Sub Group Reports**

**8.1 Mental Health and Challenging Behaviour** – Helen Matthews reminded members about the two reviews underway in Wales – ‘A Strategic Review of Secure Mental Health Services in Wales’ and ‘A Review of Mental Health Services in Wales’. She advised that David Felce had written to Hilary Peplar asking for the ‘Review of Mental Health Services’ to look at mental health services for people with a learning disability as a whole.

**8.2 General Health** – Mike Kerr said that the sub group was looking at the National Patient Safety Agency Report to feedback comments on areas relevant to the health of people with a learning disability. Bethan Evans said that on therapy services for people with a learning disability the subgroup considered that it would be useful if a mapping exercise could be done to establish what services existed.

#### **Action**

- That in the first instance the sub group should use existing networks to map services and develop a research proposal for consideration by Assembly officials (sub group).

**8.3. Meaningful Lives** – Steve Beyer said that : the sub group would be meeting to put together a presentation on Day Activities; and that a successful workshop had been held on Employment. Evan Davies said that the sub group was concerned that there were some areas where it lacked the necessary expertise to do the work - in particular on housing and adult protection. Sub groups were reminded that they did have the ability to co-opt members. It was however suggested that expertise on adult protection issues could be found on the LDIAG ( Jill Lewis, John Carter and Chris Maggs).

#### **Action**

- to give a presentation on day activities at the November meeting - now January 2007 (sub group)
- To discuss co-options to this sub group (Steve Beyer and David Felce)

**8.4 Strategic Planning** – Liz Neal advised that the drafting of the Paper on Commissioning had been delayed and would now be brought to the March meeting of the LDIAG. She added that Steve Vaughan (SSIW) was planning two workshops on Health Flexibilities that sub group members would be invited to attend.

### **9. Minutes of the last meeting (14<sup>th</sup> September 2006)**

9. 1 Members were advised that Jill Lewis, SSIW had incorrectly been recorded as present at the meeting otherwise the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

## **10. Action Log and Matters arising**

### **10.1 Update on the LDIAG website, communication strategy and roadshows**

– Lis Walters advised that she had yet to action the correspondence action points from the last meeting.

#### **Action**

- To pass Ian Ferris the contact details of the community nurse who contacted the website about PEG feeding and to advise the advocates that contacted the website that they needed to take up their concerns with the Director of their Social Services Department (Lis Walters).

**10.2 Norah Fry Research Centre Report ‘Finding the Right Support – Support for Parents with a Learning Disability** – Liz Neal said that she had yet to write a follow-up letter to the Welsh Assembly Government on this issue. Jim Crowe said that he had been unable to attend the first meeting of the focus group.

#### **Action**

- To write a follow-up letter to the Welsh Assembly Government on ‘Support for Parents with a Learning Disability’ (Liz Neal)
- To report back from the focus group on whether the Welsh Assembly Government was linked into this work (Jim Crowe).

**10.3 Private hospital provision for people with a learning disability in Wales** – David Felce said that he had not yet written to the Director of Health Commission Wales (HCW) about this as he felt awkward doing so based on hearsay.

#### **Action**

- Jim Crowe and Liz Neal agreed to write as they were present at the meeting when the comment was made about HCW encouraging St Luke’s to set up in Wales.

**10.4 Peg Feeding** – Members were advised that the paper on PEG Feeding had been discussed in the General Health sub group

#### **Action**

- To bring a Paper on PEG Feeding to the November meeting of the LDIAG (Ian Ferris/Secretariat).

**10.5 LDIAG Communication Strategy** – Cynthia Arthur and Louise Price were not present at the meeting to report back on this matter.

**Action**

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

**11. Any other business**

**11.1 Guidance**

**Through Many Eyes** - Jim Crowe asked where matters stood with this document on supported housing.

**Action :**

- To check and report back at the November meeting of the LDIAG (Secretariat).

**Continuing Health Care Criteria** – A query was raised on whether this guidance was being updated.

**Action**

- To check and report back at the November meeting of the LDIAG (Secretariat).

**Autism Strategy** – A query was raised on when the Autism Strategy would be issued for consultation. John Carter said that his understanding was that it would be issued by the end of the year.

**11.2 Learning Disability/Autism Research Network** - David Felce advised that the Network had applied to the Wales Office for Research and Development (WORD) for a project grant for this Network but that the outcome would not be known until December. He had however been successful in securing money to employ one person for 18 months to draw up a learning disability register.

**Action**

- To send the Welsh Assembly Government advice on the project to draw up a learning disability register (David Felce)

**11.3 Health Checks** – John Carter advised that to date some 4,000 letters had been issued to individuals by local authorities across Wales.

**Action**

- To provide a summary report giving the position on the issuing of the health checks letter in each local authority area - for the November LDIAG meeting. (Secretariat).
- To speak to Jon Skone and Chris Maggs about the work that would have to take place to sustain the health checks programme (Secretariat).

**11.4 Advocacy Grant Scheme** – John Carter said that, as agreed with the Minister, the British Institute of Learning Disabilities (BILD) had run a grant application round for advocacy groups working with Black and Ethnic Minority Communities and people with high support needs. Despite BILD's best efforts the response had been poor.

**Action**

- Advice on the grant application process and the organisations awarded grant to be forwarded to members (Secretariat).

**11.5 Training materials produced by DoH on an England/Wales basis to help with the implementation of the Mental Capacity Act** - John Carter said that the training materials circulated to members were in final draft form and that although DoH would welcome advice on the accuracy of these papers (by 20/10) they were not looking for other comments at this late stage. He added that the papers were for members eyes only. Members agreed that these were very good training tools

**Action**

- The final versions of the training materials to be circulated when available. (Secretariat).

**11.6 Private Hospital Provision in Wales** – John Carter advised that in September 2006, Health Inspection Wales had received an application from the St Luke's Hospital Group in relation to the Ebbw Vale hospital site. The application was for registration under the Care Standards Act 2000 as an Independent Hospital providing 36 beds and that it would be considered in the usual way.

**11.7 Bro Morgannwg Challenging Behaviour Facilities** – John Carter informed the Group that in the light of the Cornwall Investigation and to learn more about challenging behaviour the Minister had visited an Assessment and Treatment Unit and two residential units for people with challenging behaviour in the Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust area.

## **Action**

- To circulate to members the Minister's Report to the Health and Social Services Committee (HSSC) on 30<sup>th</sup> November which will include a reference to these visits (Secretariat).

**11.8 Bryn y Neuadd Hospital** – John Carter advised that resettlement from Bryn y Neuadd Hospital would not now be completed by the end of December 2006 mostly due to problems associated with the new build accommodation and three residents who had indicated that they did not want to live too far from the hospital.

## **Action**

- To circulate to members the Minister's Report to the Health and Social Services Committee (HSSC) on 30<sup>th</sup> November which will include a reference to the delay in the closure date for Bryn y Neuadd Hospital (Secretariat).

**11.9 Llanfrechfa Grange Hospital** – John Carter said that social care resettlement from Llanfrechfa Grange Hospital had been completed but that the Llanfrechfa Grange Residents Relatives and Supporters Association were continuing to lobby for continuing health care bungalows to be built on the hospital site.

## **12. Date of next meeting**

12.1 Members noted that the next meeting of the Implementation Advisory Group would take place on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November at the Media Resource Centre, Oxford Road, Llandrindod Wells.

Alyson Collins