

**NOTE OF THE THIRTY SECOND MEETING OF THE LEARNING  
DISABILITY IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY GROUP HELD ON 23<sup>RD</sup>  
NOVEMBER 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

Ian Ferris

Linton Gower (for Chris Evans supported by Celia Lewis)

Chris Maggs

Helen Matthews

Liz Neal

Louise Price (supported by Graham Lowe)

Judith Tomlinson

Stephen Wade

Pauline Young

**Assembly Officials**

John Carter

Alyson Collins

Jill Lewis

Peter Meredith Smith

**Others**

Lis Walters – Communication Officer, Learning Disability Wales

**1. Apologies & new members**

1.1 Apologies were received from Bill Collins, Caroline Eayrs, Chris Evans, Margaret Gregory and John Williams (Members).

1.2 Judith Tomlinson, National Public Health Service for Wales was welcomed to her first meeting.

## **2. Consideration of a paper on Peg Feeding.**

2.1 This item was introduced by Ian Ferris and discussed by the Group

### **Action**

- To provide Ian with comments on the draft paper and draft covering letter (members)
- To send the letter to the Minister for Health and Social Services and copy to the Chief Medical Officer and Chief Nursing Officer (David Felce)

## **3. LA Service Principles & Service Responses (SP & SR) monitoring reports 2005-06.**

3.1 This item was introduced by John Carter. He drew members attention to the report from Gwynedd which was circulated at the meeting and advised that the monitoring report from Merthyr Tydfil was still outstanding. He asked members for their views on whether the correct questions were being asked to secure the information required from local authorities. In response to a query he advised that once the SP & SR resources had transferred into the Revenue Support Grant, the grant did not have to be applied for its original purpose. Local Planning Groups could ask how the resources had been applied in their specific local authority area but it would not be appropriate for the Minister for Health and Social Services to make such enquiries. Liz Neal said that Mencap Cymru was drawing up a breakdown of the information provided by authorities. Members commented that the reports showed that there was some good innovative work going on in some areas and that best practice could be drawn out and shared.

### **Action**

- To circulate to members the outstanding Merthyr report when available (Secretariat)
- To circulate to members a breakdown of the information provided by the local authorities (Liz Neal/Secretariat).
- To look at a small number of areas of activity e.g housing/transition and draw out examples of best practice (Steve Beyer/Meaningful Lives Sub group).

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

4.1 Liz Walters advised that :

##### **Website**

- Information on the introduction of health checks for people with a learning disability had been added to the website
- She was still awaiting a number of pen pictures from members.

##### **Action**

- To send outstanding pen pictures to Lis Walters (Members)

##### **Roadshows**

- Dates for two road show had been agreed – 12<sup>th</sup> December in North Wales and w/c 15<sup>th</sup> January in South Wales.
- the Communication Sub Group had now discussed how the LDIAG should respond to comments made at Roadshows.

##### **Action**

- to bring a draft paper to the January LDIAG meeting on how the Group should respond to comments made at the Roadshows (Communication Sub group).

##### **Correspondence**

She had received an e.mail from Dianne Watkins, Monmouthshire Learning Disability Strategic Planning Group saying that her Group may wish to make representations to the LDIAG about its work.

##### **Action**

- To respond to Dianne Watkins (Secretariat).

#### **5. Sub group Reports**

##### **5.1 Mental Health and Challenging Behaviour Sub Group**

5.1 (i) **Audit Tool draft – People with Challenging Behaviour** : David Allen advised that the views of Welsh Assembly Government officials were to be sought on the draft before piloting the audit tool in some areas of Wales.

## **Action**

- To circulate the draft paper to Assembly colleagues with an interest and report back to David Allen (Secretariat).
- To pilot the audit tool in 4/5 counties in Wales between January and March 2007 (Sub group).
- To seek feedback on the audit tool and identify good practice (Sub group).
- To report back to the LDIAG on the findings in September 2007 with a view to sending these on to the Welsh Assembly Government with a request for the final report to be issued as guidance to local authorities (Sub group).

5.1 (ii) **Mental Health Reviews underway in Wales** - Helen Matthews advised that a response had not yet been received to David Felce's letter to Hilary Peplar asking for the 'Review on Mental Health Services' to look at mental health services for people with a learning disability as a whole. On the review of 'Secure Mental Health Services in Wales' Helen said that she would provide a report on how the review was developing at the next meeting of the LDIAG.

## **Action**

- To chase up a response to the letter to Hilary Peplar (David Felce)
- To report to the Group about progress on the review of 'Secure Mental Health Services' at the January meeting of the LDIAG (Helen Matthews);

## **5.2 General Health Sub Group**

5.2 (i) Ian Ferris advised that the sub group was focussing on the 5 priority areas highlighted in the National Patient Safety Agency Report 'Understanding the Patient Safety Issues for People with a Learning Disability'

## **Action**

- To produce a paper for the January meeting of the LDIAG (Sub group).

### **5.3 Meaningful Lives Sub Group**

5.3 (i) Steve Beyer said that the sub group's presentation on Day Activities would now be given at the January meeting of the LDIAG; that following the Employment Workshops further examples of good practice were being sought; the sub group had started planning for a Supported Living Workshop in March and were also looking at the Protection of Vulnerable Adults Agenda/Learning Disabilities.

#### **Action**

- To give a presentation on Day Activities at the January LDIAG meeting (Sub group)

### **5.4 Strategic Planning Sub Group**

5.4 (i) Liz Neal said that the sub group was focussing on producing a 1<sup>st</sup> draft of the expenditure priorities paper but also looking at advocacy and commissioning.

#### **Action**

- To bring a paper on expenditure priorities to the January LDIAG meeting (Sub group/Secretariat).

### **6. Minutes of the last meeting (19<sup>th</sup> October 2006).**

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

### **7. Action Log & matters arising**

7.1 **Proposed Statement on Policy and Practice** – Members were advised that the drafting sub group had met with John Carter to discuss developing the Policy and Practice statement into a contemporary policy statement.

#### **Action**

- To bring a draft contemporary policy statement to the January LDIAG Meeting (drafting sub group/Secretariat).

7.2 **Disability Rights Commission (DRC) Report on Accessing Primary Care** - John Carter said that the Minister had advised the Health and Social Services Committee that the Welsh Assembly Government's response to this report would be available in March.

#### **Action**

- To circulate the Welsh Assembly Government's response to the DRC Report when available (Secretariat).

**7.3 Health Checks** – Members attention was drawn to two papers circulated at the meeting : a table setting out the position per local authority on the issuing of the health checks letters and a paper from the General Practitioners Committee Negotiating Team setting out issues raised by General Practitioners on the health checks. Members were generally encouraged by the progress that had been made. Members were advised that the National Public Health Service was working up a research proposal for the monitoring of health checks for people with a learning disability. Later in the year Assembly officials would be meeting with the Association of Directors of Social Services (ADSS) to review the process of notifying people of their entitlement to a healthcheck and how this can be sustained.

#### **Action**

- To include David Felce in the discussions with the ADSS (Secretariat)

**7.4 Advocacy Grant Scheme** – Jim Crowe mentioned the make-up of the BILD Panel set up to assess the applications received for the uncommitted advocacy grant resources and in particular the lack of LDIAG representation. It was noted that as the key concern had been to pay out grant to organisations as quickly as possible this had proved an expedient measure.

**7.5 LDIAG Communication Strategy** – Cynthia Arthur and Louise Price advised that they would be meeting other People First representatives in January to talk about this.

#### **Action**

- To report back to the March meeting of the LDIAG (People First Representatives on the LDIAG).

**7.6 Guidance** – On Continuing Health Care Criteria John Carter advised that a Welsh Health Circular had recently been issued setting out interim advice post Grogan. On the 'Through Many Eyes' document John said that he understood that the consultation responses were being considered and would be presented to the Minister shortly.

#### **Action**

- To circulate the Welsh Health Circular on Continuing Health Care criteria to members (Secretariat).

## **8. Any other business**

**8.1 Therapies in Wales** – Bethan Evans said that she had received correspondence from the head of Arts Therapies in Gwent about the lack of provision for children with a learning disability in Wales. Bethan also advised that the Therapy Strategy was being launched that day.

**Action**

- That Arts Therapies Gwent should be asked to provide details of the problems being experienced (Bethan Evans).
- That the Therapies Strategy should be circulated to members (Secretariat).

**8.2 Education and Life Long Learning Committee** : Jim Crowe advised that Learning Disability Wales had recently given evidence on transition to this Committee. He added that the Additional Needs and Inclusion Division of the Welsh Assembly Government had indicated that it was considering holding a conference on transition. Jim asked whether this was something the LDIAG would wish to be involved with.

**Action**

- Members advised that they would wish to be involved in any Conference arranged including in the planning process (Jim Crowe).

**8.3 Autism Strategy Consultation Document** - In answer to a query John Carter said that he understood this document would be issued for consultation by the end of the year.

**Action**

- To circulate the consultation document to members when available (Secretariat).

**9. Date of next meeting**

9.1 Members noted that the next meeting of the Implementation Advisory Group would take place on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2007 at the Media Resource Centre, Oxford Road, Llandrindod Wells.

Alyson Collins  
Secretariat to the LDIAG