

**NOTE OF THE FORTIETH MEETING OF THE LEARNING DISABILITY
IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY GROUP HELD ON 17th JANUARY 2008
AT THE MEDIA RESOURCE CENTRE, LLANDRINDOD WELLS.**

PRESENT:

David Felce – Co-chair
Linton Gower – Co-chair (Supported by Yvonne Hedges)

Members

David Allen
Steve Beyer
Jim Crowe
Caroline Eayrs
Margaret Gregory
Chris Maggs
Helen Matthews
Liz Neal
Sean O'Reilly
Louise Price (supported by Graham Lowe)
Jonathan Richards (supported by Celia Lewis)
Peter Woods
Pauline Young

Assembly Officials

John Carter
Alyson Collins
Ann Ferris
Jill Lewis
Sarah Watkins

Others

Mandy Tilston-Viney – Association for Real Change (ARC) Cymru

1. Apologies and introductions.

1.1 Apologies were received from Evan Davies, Ian Ferris, Christine Griffiths and Mike Kerr.

1.2 Ann Ferris was welcomed to her first meeting. Members were advised that Ann would be taking over from Jill Lewis as the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) representative on the LDIAG.

2. Feedback from People First Representatives

2.1 People First representatives had no particular comments to make on the previous meeting.

3. Presentation on the 'Take the Health Challenge' Initiative – Mandy Tilston-Viney, ARC Cymru

3.1 Sarah Watkins said that Mandy had been asked to give a presentation to the LDIAG because the Chief Medical Officer (CMO), who had previously heard the presentation, was interested in learning what the LDIAG's views on the matter were. Following the presentation, members were given the opportunity to ask questions and a discussion followed. It was agreed that the LDIAG should give further consideration to health promotion for adults with a learning disability. The Group thanked Mandy for her helpful presentation. Members considered that at their next meeting they should discuss further whether to :

i) Write to the CMO commenting on the ARC presentation in terms of lessons that could be learnt and applied to national Health Promotion Strategies to make them more accountable and relevant to people with a learning disability.

ii) Write to CSSIW about the dietary and food choice regimes in registered care home settings.

Action :

- To discuss Health Promotion for Adults with a Learning Disability at the February meeting of the LDIAG (Secretariat).
- To consider at the February meeting the role registered care providers could play in health promotion for adults with a learning disability (CSSIW)

4. Draft Action Plan to support the Policy and Practice Paper

4.1 This item was introduced by David Felce. He said that he had written to the Deputy Minister seeking a meeting to discuss the draft Action Plan and was awaiting a response. Providing the Deputy Minister was content with the draft document, the proposal was to issue the draft action plan for consultation and then revise the document taking into account the consultation responses. There was some debate as to whether the draft Action Plan was a restricted document. John Carter said that under the LDIAG's own rules all documents were open documents unless otherwise denoted.

5. Draft response to the 'Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards' consultation paper

5.1 Helen Matthews and Jim Crowe introduced this item and a general discussion followed.

Action

- For members to provide Helen with comments by 25th January to enable a consultation response to be sent on behalf of the LDIAG (members/Helen Matthews/Jim Crowe).

6. Consideration of the Health Inspection Wales (HIW) All Wales Review Report on NHS Specialist Learning Disability Services

6.1 John Carter introduced this item. He explained that the HIW Review had been instigated following the Health Commission Report in England that reported 'significant failings' by the Cornwall Partnership NHS Trust and 'outmoded institutional care' in Sutton and Merton Primary Care Trust. He added that Ann Lloyd, Head of the Department for Health and Social Services had requested that a Paper on the HIW Review be put to the Management Board of the Health and Social Services Departments of WAG. A discussion followed. Members considered that the HIW Review was a missed opportunity, the right questions had not been asked, the reviewers did not appear to be people with a background in learning disability and the report was vague and not evidence based. Concern was expressed that the recommendations in the Review cut across those in the contemporary 'Statement on Policy and Practice for Adults with a Learning Disability' and that HIW did not consult with the LDIAG during the period of the Review. Jonathan Richards added that the easy read version was completely different to the executive summary.

Action

- To write to Ann Lloyd about the HIW Review Report drawing out the positive points, commenting on the recommendations; pointing out how it cuts across some of the LDIAG work; and commenting on the quality of the easy read version (David Felce in conjunction with David Allen with input from Jonathan Richards)

7. Paper on the Secure Services Review

7.1 Helen Matthews introduced this item and a discussion followed. Jonathan Richards pointed out that the road shows were run by All Wales People First and not Learning Disability Wales as stated in the Paper. Helen advised that work was continuing on the review of Mental Health Services.

Action

- An easy read version and executive summary of the Secure Services Review to be distributed to members at the February meeting of the LDAIG (Helen Matthews/Secretariat)
- The report on the review of Mental Health Services to be brought to a future meeting of the LDAIG for views and comments. (Helen Matthews)

8. Sub-group Reports

8.1 Meaningful Lives Sub-group – Steve Beyer advised that Evans Davies was co-ordinating the work on the good practice document.

Action

- The single good practice document on various aspects of daily living to be completed by the Summer (Evan Davies)
- The day opportunities paper to be brought to the February LDIAG meeting (Steve Beyer).

8.2 Mental Health & Challenging Behaviour Sub-group – David Allen reminded members that the self audit tool had been piloted in North and West Wales.

Action :

- To bring feedback on the self audit tool pilot study to the February LDIAG meeting (David Allen).
- To publish the tool as a product of the LDIAG in late summer/early autumn. (David Allen)

8.3 Strategic Planning Sub-group – Liz Neal reported on discussions with WAG officials in the morning. It was agreed that there should be a successor grant scheme with a budget of £600,000 (Yr 1), £620,000 (Yr 2) and £640,000 (Yr 3). The proposed arrangements, subject to Ministerial agreement were that grant would be rolled over to existing grant recipients for the first six months of 2008-07; and that a grant application round would be opened with a new grant scheme starting in October 2008. The sub group had met to discuss the new grant scheme and recommended that the maximum grant available should be £30,000; the grant should be tapered 90%, 80% and 70%; priority should be given to projects supporting BME, people with complex needs and people with continuing health care needs in NHS care; and that collective bids should be encouraged.

9. Communication Strategy Update

9.1 Jim Crowe said that the LDIAG website had been updated prior to Lis Walters departure but not since then. He said that he needed to discuss the LDIAG communication officer post with the other voluntary sector representatives on the LDIAG and also with the Welsh Assembly Government. John Carter said that the LDIAG website had proved a very valuable tool and that Welsh Assembly Government was prepared to continue its funding.

Action

- to discuss and bring a proposal back to the Group on the LDIAG Communication Officer post (Voluntary Sector Representatives).

10. Minutes of the last meeting (6th December 2007).

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

11. Action Log and Matters Arising

11.1 Health subgroup meeting with the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) – Judith Tomlinson said that at the suggestion of the LDIAG she and Mike Kerr had met the CMO to discuss health issues relating to people with a learning disability. They had a general discussion about the particular health needs of adults with a learning disability e.g a higher incidence of obesity particularly amongst women and a lower take up of screening; the need for accessible information on healthy living (in particular healthy eating) and better access to organised exercise; and the annual healthchecks.

11.2 Health Checks for Adults with a Learning Disability – Members were advised that agreement had been reached with General Practitioners Wales to restore healthchecks as part of the Directed Enhanced Service (DES).

Action

- To confirm that the DES was being restored for 2008-09 (Secretariat).

11.3 Mental Capacity Act – Members agreed that they would like to receive an update on the implementation of the Mental Capacity Act

Action

- To invite Susan Elsmore, Welsh Assembly Government to give an update at the September LDIAG meeting. (Secretariat).

12. Any Other Business

12.1 Jim Crowe drew members attention to the announcement made in December 2007 by Jane Hutt, Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills outlining the Welsh Assembly Government's commitment to disabled children and their families and the resources being made available.

13. Date of next meeting

13.1 Members noted that the next meeting of the Implementation Advisory Group would take place on Thursday, 28th February 2008 at the Media Resource Centre, Oxford Road, Llandrindod Wells.

Alyson Collins
Secretariat to the LDIAG