

NOTE OF THE FORTY-SIXTH MEETING OF THE LEARNING DISABILITY IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY GROUP HELD ON 23RD OCTOBER 2008 AT THE MEDIA RESOURCE CENTRE, LLANDRINDOD WELLS.

PRESENT:

David Felce – Co-chair
Linton Gower – Co-chair (Supported by Celia Lewis)

Members

Dave Allen
Jim Crowe
Evan Davies
Caroline Eayrs
Mike Kerr
Darren Locke (supported by Graham Lowe)
Liz Neal
Sean O'Reilly
Rhonwen Parry
Jonathan Richards (supported by Becky Stephens)
Bill Thompson
Pauline Young

Assembly Officials

John Carter
Alyson Collins
Ann Ferris

Others

Steve Vaughan, CSSIW, WAG

1. Welcome and apologies

1.1 Rhonwen Parry, representing the All Wales Heads of Psychology (Learning Disabilities) and Bill Thompson representing the Royal College of Psychiatry, Welsh Branch were welcomed to their 1st meeting. Steve Vaughan, Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales, attending the meeting for item 3 on the agenda, was also welcomed to the meeting.

1.2 Apologies were received from Steve Beyer, Ian Ferris, Margaret Gregory, Christine Griffiths, Chris Maggs, Judith Tomlinson, Peter Woods (members) and Jeni Clarke-Moore and Sarah Watkins (officials).

2. Feedback from People First Representatives

2.1 Linton Gower said that the People First reps had some concerns over the low attendance at LDIAG meetings which could reflect a lack of commitment to the Group.

2.2 Linton added that this part of the meeting was an opportunity for all members to provide feedback on the previous LDIAG meeting. Jim Crowe said that he felt the discussion on Autism at the September meeting had not been satisfactorily concluded. In particular there were no strong action points about how the LDIAG and the ASD Adult Task and Finish Group would collaborate. John Carter said that the 1st meeting of the ASD Adult Task and Finish Group had been held earlier in the week. At that meeting the priority areas for consideration by that group had been agreed : Diagnosis and access to services/Learning Disability and Mental Health/Monitoring and Community Support Services/Employment/Transition/ Housing/Awareness Raising. John added that Hugh Morgan, ASD Strategic Action Plan Implementation Manager was aware that there was a pool of expertise within the LDIAG which he could call on to assist in the work.

Action

- For the LDIAG to be provided with reports on the work of the ASD Adult task and Finish Group from time to time (Hugh Morgan/Secretariat).

3. Paper on 'Commissioning Services for People with a Learning Disability'.

3.1 This item was introduced by Liz Neal who said that she was seeking the Group's agreement to : the document being published as a WAG document; and further supplementary guidance being issued when the sub groups work in the 4 identified areas was completed. Steve Vaughan gave an overview of the document and a discussion followed. It was agreed that the document would be a very useful toolkit for commissioners that would help them to assess amongst other things : available resources and how effectively they met existing needs; whether available resources could be better spent; and how to fill any gaps in services. It was agreed that it was important for the document to fit with Hugh Gardner's (WAG) work on commissioning which was almost complete and likely to go out to consultation before Christmas. John said that if the Deputy Minister agreed that the sub group's document should be issued it would first have to go out for consultation for a period of sixteen weeks. In response to a query he advised that an easy read version of any consultation document would be commissioned.

Action

- To send textual amendments on the document to Steve Vaughan within 4 weeks (members)

- To send the final document to the Deputy Minister asking her to consider whether it could be issued as a Welsh Assembly Government document (David Felce).
- To consider at a later date how best to : launch the document to ensure maximum impact; open up a dialogue with Commissioners; and ensure that the guidance is kept up to date (members).
- To set up a meeting of sub-group leaders to discuss the work in hand and ensure that their work is complimentary and cross referenced where necessary (secretariat).

4. Paper on ‘Difficulties people with a learning disability face in accessing generic mental health services’.

4.1 David Allen introduced this paper which was drawn up by Helen Matthews before she stepped down from the LDIAG. John reminded members that the paper had been drawn up in response to a request from WAG for consideration to be given to the relationship between learning disabilities/ mental health and access to generic mental health services and to look at the difficulties and gaps and how to address them. It was agreed that what was needed was a short paper which clearly set out the issues and the way forward. If necessary this could lead to a larger piece of work. It was also agreed that it was necessary to consult with a wider range of mental health professionals on the matter.

Action

- For members of the Challenging Behaviour and Mental Health sub-group to take forward work on the paper consulting with their various networks as necessary (Caroline Eayrs, Rhonwen Parry and Bill Thompson).
- To send the three members detailed above some background information on why the paper had been requested (Secretariat).
- For the LDIAG to consider the draft paper at a future meeting (Secretariat).

5. Paper on ‘Day Services’.

5.1 The sub-group paper on Day Services has not yet been finalised.

Action

- To put on the agenda for a future LDIAG meeting (Secretariat)

6. Discussion on the United Nations 'Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities'.

6.1 Deferred for discussion at a future meeting.

Action

- To put on the agenda for a future LDIAG meeting (Secretariat)

7. Sub-group Reports

7.1 Health Sub-group – Mike Kerr said that the sub-groups next piece of work was the development of a patients passport.

7.2 Mental Health & Challenging Behaviour – David Allen said that the sub-group would be considering how best to promote the 'Self-Assessment Checklist for Monitoring Services for People with Learning Disability and Challenging Behaviour'.

8. Minutes of the last meeting (11th September 2008)

8.1 'High' in para 1.1 should have read 'Hugh' otherwise the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

9. Action Log and Matters Arising

9.1 Changes the LDIAG would like to see made to the National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services in Wales. – Jim said that the additional comments provided by members would be incorporated into the paper and sent to Nia Lewis.

Action

- To circulate the final version of the paper to members for information (Jim Crowe/Secretariat).

9.2 Communication Officer Post – Jim said that Learning Disability Wales were hoping to advertise the job in early November and involve the other

voluntary sector organisations on the LDIAG in shortlisting and interviewing for the post.

9.3 LDIAG draft Action Plan to support the 'Statement on Policy and Practice for Adults with a Learning Disability' – Jim said that the voluntary organisations on the LDIAG were putting together proposals for consultations events on the Action Plan and that these would be put to WAG for consideration.

9.4 Mental Capacity Act implementation – John said that he had recently attended a meeting with the Chair of the Public Guardian Board (PGB). The PGB had advised that the demand for Lasting Powers of Attorney across England and Wales had well exceeded expectations. One of its recommendations for the future was a review of the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

Action

- To circulate to members a hyperlink to the PGB's 1st Annual Report (Secretariat).

10. Any Other Business

10.1 John drew members' attention to the letter circulated at the meeting - a letter dated October 2008 to statutory authorities outlining the Welsh Assembly Government funding to be allocated for the ASD Strategic Action Plan during 2008-09 and guidance for its use.

11. Date of the next meeting

11.1 Members noted that the next meeting of the Implementation Advisory Group would take place on Thursday, 27th November 2008 at the Media Resource Centre, Oxford Road, Llandrindod Wells.

Alyson Collins
Secretariat to the LDIAG