

**NOTE OF THE FIFTY SECOND MEETING OF THE LEARNING DISABILITY IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY GROUP HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009 AT THE MEDIA RESOURCE CENTRE, LLANDRINDOD WELLS.**

**PRESENT:**

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

**Members**

David Allen  
Jim Crowe  
Evan Davies  
Christine Griffiths  
Darren Locke (supported by Graham Lowe)  
Michael Murphy  
Liz Neal  
Rhonwen Parry  
Carol Rea  
Jonathan Richards (supported by Claire Turner)

**Assembly Officials**

John Carter  
Alyson Collins

**Others**

Dawn Gullis – Campaigns Officer, Mencap Cymru  
Sam Williams – LDIAG Information Officer

**1. Apologies**

1.1 Apologies were received from Steve Beyer, Caroline Eayrs, Ian Ferris, Mike Kerr, Chris Maggs, Judith Tomlinson, Peter Woods and Pauline Young (members) and Peter Meredith-Smith, Ann Ferris and Sarah Watkins (officials).

1.2 David Felce said that Ian Ferris was taking early retirement and that this would have been his last meeting as a member of the group. Members asked for their thanks to be recorded for Ian's valuable contribution to the work of the LDIAG as well as their best wishes for his retirement. Ian's place on the LDIAG is being taken by Stephen Hughes.

**2. Feedback from members**

2.1 Jonathan Richards said that meeting papers needed to be received at least a week before the meeting. He suggested that if they were not provided in time the item should be deferred.

2.2 Liz Neal said that members should be made aware of possible agenda items at an earlier stage to allow preparation time for that item.

### **Action**

- It was agreed that the deferral of agenda items was a matter for members to consider at the meeting (Members).
- It was agreed that a draft agenda should be sent to all LDIAG members at least two weeks before the meeting (Secretariat).

## **3. The National Transport Plan Consultation.**

3.1 Dawn Gullis said that transport was a key issue for people with a learning disability. Their concerns included the lack of accessible information, the attitude of some bus drivers and the lack of consistency on the use of concessionary bus passes. Members agreed that the LDIAG should respond to this consultation.

### **Action**

- To draft a consultation response and send around to members for their comments (Liz Neal).
- To send the final consultation response to the Welsh Assembly Government (David Felce).
- In response to a query, to advise members of the membership of the Blue Badge Scheme working group (Secretariat).

## **4. Health Passports**

4.1 David Felce introduced this item on 'next steps' in Mike Kerr's absence. Members were reminded that the development of a health passport fitted in with the work being done by the National Public Health Service (NPHS) on the development of a care pathway for planned hospital admissions.

### **Action**

- If the Assembly Government is being asked to foot the bill for developing the tool (Point 8) then a costed proposal would need to be developed for consideration by Assembly officials. (Sub-group)
- To seek advice from the Assembly's Equality Project Manager/the NHS Centre for Equality and Human Rights about what the document should contain and how to imbed it into the NHS structure (Secretariat).

## **5. Mencap's meeting with the Deputy Minister on health and employment issues.**

5.1 Liz Neal introduced this item. Liz said that she had brought to the attention of the Deputy Minister the 'Death by Indifference' Report and the need to look at the recommendations in that report and consider what needed to be done to improve the treatment of adults with a learning disability within the health service in Wales. Amongst other things, Mencap thought that NHS staff should be given more learning disability awareness training; and that more people with a learning disability should be employed within the NHS. Liz said that she had also asked the Deputy Minister about the DoH Confidential Inquiry into premature deaths which was announced in January 2009 and whether Wales would be included in the inquiry. The Deputy Minister had outlined the various strands of work the Assembly Government was engaged in to improve the experience of adults with a learning disability within the NHS including the NPHS development work, Health Passports and involvement with work on palliative care. On employment, the Deputy Minister had indicated that she would like to have a better grasp of the employment issues for people with a learning disability and what could be done in Wales to help more people with a learning disability into employment.

### **Action**

- Members agreed that the Health sub-group should review the work done/being done on learning disabilities and secondary care within the Assembly Government and the LDIAG and identify gaps and any key pieces of work needed. (Health sub-group to report back to the LDIAG on this).
- Once the Meaningful Lives report on employment has been finalized for a small group to consider 'next steps' that can be taken to improve the employment prospects for people with a learning disability.

## **6. Sub-group Reports**

6.1 Strategic Planning – Liz Neal gave a presentation on the Advocacy Grant Scheme and the sub-groups thoughts on what should happen with the grant scheme in the future. A discussion followed. Members considered what a

future advocacy grant scheme should look like; how the uncommitted grant could best be spent; and how to reduce dependency on the grant.

### **Action**

- To send comments on the sub-groups proposals to Liz Neal by the end of November (Members).
- To put on the agenda for the December LDIAG meeting (Sub-group/Secretariat).

6.2 Meaningful Lives – Evans Davies said that the Housing paper was being finalised.

### **Action**

- To present a paper on Housing at a future meeting of the LDIAG (Evan Davies/Steve Beyer).

6.3 Mental Health and Challenging Behaviour – David Allen said that the Self-assessment Checklist was being launched at an event in North Wales on 2<sup>nd</sup> October and in South Wales on 16<sup>th</sup> October. The launch events are targeted at commissioners and providers.

### **Action**

- To report back on the launch events at the December LDIAG meeting (David Allen)

## **7. Presentation on Continuing Healthcare**

7.1 This item was deferred.

### **Action**

- To include on a future LDIAG agenda (Secretariat).

## **8. LDIAG Communication Strategy**

8.1 Sam Williams provided the following update :

Communication sub-group – the next meeting of the sub group will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

Website – The test site should be ready to demonstrate at the planned Roadshows.

### **Action**

- To provide Sam with up to date profiles to go on the new site (Members).

Roadshows – two roadshows have been scheduled – one in Swansea on 8<sup>th</sup> October and one in Flint on 12<sup>th</sup> October. The focus of the two events will be employment. Sam urged LDIAG members who were able to take part in Q & A sessions at either event to let her know.

## **9. Minutes of the last meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> July 2009)**

9.1 The minutes of the meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record.

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

10.1 Employment for People with a Learning Disability – John Carter said that Brian Parfett, DWP was attending a meeting at the Assembly on 21<sup>st</sup> October to discuss progress on 'Valuing Employment Now'. Jim Crowe said that he was in discussion with Brian about arranging a seminar on employment.

### **Action**

- To report back on discussions between the Department of Works and Pensions and the Welsh Assembly Government (Secretariat).

10.2 Paper on the Learning Disability/Mental Health interface – Members were told that a final draft of the sub –groups response to the Minister would be available shortly. David Felce advised that Bill Thompson (a member of this sub group) was resigning as Chair of the Royal College of Psychiatry, Welsh Branch and consequently standing down as a member of the LDIAG. Bill's replacement on the LDIAG will be confirmed in due course.

### **Action**

- To send members a draft of the holding reply (Sub-group/Secretariat)
- To send any comments to David Felce (Members)
- To send the holding reply to the Minister (David Felce)

10.3 United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – The LDIAG previously agreed that it would like to hear from an expert in the field about what the convention means for Wales.

### **Action**

- David Felce agreed to ask Gerard Quinn, University of Galway if he could do this (David Felce).

10.4 Promotion of the Annual Health Checks – Members discussed what else could be done to encourage the take-up of the health checks such as making the information more accessible; standardizing information and letters; and voluntary sector and advocacy groups doing more to encourage people to attend appointments. A query was raised about how GP's were carrying out the health checks and whether they were being monitored.

#### **Action**

- David Felce said that he would bring up the points raised at a meeting he was having with the NPHS (David Felce).

10.5 No-one Knows : Learning Disabilities and Learning Difficulties in Prison - John Carter said that the document was being launched in Wales on 6<sup>th</sup> October.

10.6 Feeding and administration of medicine – David Felce said that Edwina Hart had replied to his letter saying that she had asked the Chief Nursing Officer to set up a task and finish group to look at what is presently happening in Wales. Once this had been done the task and finish group would then look at how to address any problems.

#### **Action**

- To circulate the Ministers response to members (Secretariat)

### **11. Any Other Business**

11.1 There was no other business.

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

12.1 Members noted that the next meeting of the Implementation Advisory Group would take place on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009 at the Media Resource Centre, Oxford Road, Llandrindod Wells.

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