



Nottingham
City Council

Nottingham City Learning Disability Partnership Board

This is what happened at the Partnership Board on Monday 21st June 2010 at The Council House.

Wayne Breach was Co-chair for the meeting. Each of the self-advocates will have an opportunity to co-chair a meeting. A new co-chair will be employed to replace Louise Frettingham.

There had been a mix up with taxis. Some of the self-advocates did not arrive for the start of the meeting. It was decided that the meeting start without them.

Apologies were given from Tony Vardy who was on holiday and Councillor Campbell and Wendy Baker who were unwell.

Because of time constraints, it was decided to leave "Things from last time" and move straight onto Lesley and Paul's presentation on Day & Residential Services.

Changes in Day & Residential Services – Lesley Saxton & Paul Haigh

Paul Haigh spoke about upcoming changes to Day and Residential Services and APS.

A newsletter is being distributed informing people of these changes. An accessible version has been written.

Lesley Saxton and Paul Haigh have visited all the units and talked to staff and users about the changes that are happening.

In March the Council met and approved the plans to:

- Reduce Day Service attendance
- Close Riverside
- Close and relocate Bestwood.

Riverside and Oakdene:

25 people used to live at Riverside, now it is only 10. Eventually everyone will be moved out and Riverside will close. People are being moved to Oakdene or Adult Placement Scheme (APS) carer's homes.

Oakdene is being redeveloped. Builders are in adapting rooms, installing hoists etc...

Some Oakdene residents are being relocated to accommodate the arrivals from Riverside. Some are being placed in private accommodation for elderly people. Others are trying APS.

Evergreen:

Evergreen has been renting premises on Hungerhill road.

The unused bowling alley at the Springwood Centre has been converted into a new home for Evergreen. This will save about £7000 a year. The new space is much better as equipment can be left set up between sessions.

Bestwood and Apley Wood:

The architects have met with users at Bestwood. It will help them understand how the buildings at Aspley Wood need to change. They are currently drawing up plans and working out estimated costs.

The site has become overgrown – the site will be tidied up shortly.

It is hoped the new building will be ready by next March, although timescales have to be flexible as circumstances change.

As yet no decision has been made on the future of the hydrotherapy pool. An executive committee of councillors is currently looking at the proposals to keep the pool.

Trevor Clower asked if thought had been given to hiring out the facilities for commercial use. Income generation from commercial use has been built into the proposals which the Council are considering.

Maggie said that the Board fully supported keeping the hydrotherapy pool open, but the decision was in the hands of the Council during difficult financial times.

When the new service is open, there will need to be careful consideration of catchment area to save on transport costs. People living nearest will use the centre.

Bestwood currently accommodates 125 people. The new services will have 100 places. There will be a need to look at staffing and service allocation.

Changes to Service Entitlement

There has been a change to the how people are allocated days in Day Services. Under the new system people who are funded to live in private residential care, will have their entitlement reduced to 2 days. This may change again next year.

John Winter raised his concern that this would have an effect on the people left attending the service. 33 people have left Springwood recently; the changes have been unsettling to those left and they need support through the changes. Paul and Lesley will discuss this point with Day Service staff.

Trevor was concerned that there needs to be a way of checking the quality of provision offered by the private care providers. CSCI will have a responsibility, but inspections are only every 3 years. It was hoped that suggestions and concerns would be raised through the normal review system.

John pointed out that some contact with Day Services keeps individuals 'known to the system'. Paul said that of the people known to Adult Support and Health, only half used services. Systems already exist to monitor people.

West Area Project

It looks like the West Area Project will be closing. There is a chance that new premises can be found and the service can continue. The West Area Project was different to other services provided by the Voluntary Sector, in that it had a

DSO employed by the City Council. 15 of the users of the service live in the City, 11 of these still want a day service and alternative provision needs to be found.

Ian Smellie said that he felt people affected by day service reduction should be made aware of opportunities in the voluntary sector such as Nottingham Mencap and Inspire. These can be funded through Individual Budgets.

Health Needs Assessment – Iain Little, NHS Nottingham City

The Health Needs Assessment is a way of looking at health for a group of people. It establishes what services are in place and what services are needed.

Dentistry has not been part of the assessment as this is being looked at elsewhere.

To carry out the assessment, information has been taken from books, Government reports and directly from services, staff and carers.

The report will be available to the public.

The assessment found 7250 adults with learning disabilities in Nottingham. This is expected to increase in the next 20 years with the largest increase in over 65s.

This group of people is less likely to have screening for health problems like cancer. They are more likely to be admitted to hospital and more likely to go to A&E, but more likely to be given the all-clear. They may have a shorter life-expectancy.

There are some new services in place such as the hospital liaison team and there is a major drive on annual health checks.

Some information is still unknown: smoking, alcohol consumption and obesity figures all require further research.

The next step will be to make the information available and agree on future plans. The Better Health Group will be asked to lead on devising plans.

Lesley Saxton said that there was a pilot project, based at Springwood which had the new health facilitators coming into the centre and working with individuals. This would be rolled out across all day services over the next 2 years.

Talkback

Big Health Day

Wayne, Roger and Terry all attended the Big Health Day. They enjoyed the event and liked meeting people. In the afternoon the self advocacy group did a presentation.

They did have some criticisms of the day. Some of the things that were talked about were confusing and some of the questions were hard. They thought that there should have been more time for people to have things explained to them so that people understood what was happening. They thought the voting system was hard to understand.

Regional Forum

Scott and Terry attended this meeting on 26th May at the Post Mill Centre in Derbyshire.

Amanda Platts, who is now a co-chair of the National Forum, showed a DVD of the last Forum meeting.

Ranjit, from Leicester, gave a report on the last Regional Programme Board for the East Midlands.

Because Amanda Platts is now the co-chair of the National Forum, there was a vote to elect a new East Midlands representative. Craig from Northampton was voted in.

The meeting also discussed transport in the East Midlands. There were questions to answer and role play about transport.

What's New in PCP

Mark Bull and Mickey Arnold gave a presentation about what the PCP team is doing.

Mickey, along with two other members of staff, has recently joined the PCP team.

The team are working with the service users at Bestwood, around the changes that are happening there.

They are also working with hospitals about supporting people with learning disabilities.

Mickey showed everyone his one page profile. This sums up all the information about him in one page – what is important to him, what his interests are and the best ways that people can support him.

There is a Person Centred Approaches group. This is about spreading awareness of PCP and demonstrating to people what the PCP tools are and how to use them.

The Big Person Centred Plan – the PCP strategy for Nottingham City will be launched soon.

Della Money mentioned last year's visit to Sumero – an organisation supporting people with learning disabilities in Bosnia. Cat Eglington (now on maternity leave) was part of the group that visited Bosnia. She did a report on how the PCP team could continue to support Sumero.

A group of 4-6 people from Sumero will be coming to Nottingham in February 2011.

Carers Corner.

John Winter mentioned that the minutes of the Partnership Board were not appearing on the website. Jim Broughton apologised and will make sure they are posted there.

Trevor asked about people who although entitled to disability benefits were not claiming them. He asked if they could be identified and supported in the new system.

Restructuring of Board

Sharon Bramwell talked about how the Partnership Board should be restructured. Partnership Boards are being asked to demonstrate how they are improving lives and making the changes that are listed in Valuing People Now.

There should be greater representation of health services and the local strategic partnership (One Nottingham).

Decisions need to be made regarding how the Partnership Board fits into the larger picture locally – representation on other forums etc...

We should seek a better understanding of how people see the Partnership Board and how we can work together.

The Department of Health recommends that 50% of each Partnership Board should be people with learning disabilities and / or carers.

Do we need different working groups? E.g. Transition, over 65s, Autism.

Getting a Life – Justin Hammond

Justin is the Regional Programme Manager for Employment.

Nottingham is one of four East Midlands sites for the “Getting A Life” programme.

Getting a Life began as a London project. It looked at young people in transition. They found that information was not being used properly. People were not aware of the choices available; in many cases they were not involved in the planning process. Some people were not even aware that they were going through a transition.

Getting a Life involves many of the Person Centred Planning techniques and puts the young person right at the centre of their transition review.

The project will focus on issues like Housing and Employment (it will have links with the Employment strategy currently being developed). It will identify how improvements can be made in those areas.

In Nottingham, the project will initially involve 20 young people. Amanda Payne is working with the special schools, but would like to involve some young people in mainstream schools too.

The project has already started, but will start in earnest with the new academic year.

There will be some money for training.

Next meeting will be 23rd August in the Dining Room at the Council House