

**Physical and Sensory Impairment Partnership Board**

**19<sup>th</sup> September 2007, 12.30pm – 3pm, North London Business Park**

**1. Present**

Alan Brackpool	- Joint Commissioner (Disabilities)
Diane Brown	- Physical and Sensory Impairment Service Manager
David Hart	- BVSC Representative
Amy Jones	- Minutes
Kate Kennally (Co-Chair)	- Assistant Director, Health Partnerships (Younger Adults)
Karen May	- Unscheduled Care Development Manager
Mike Nash (Co-Chair)	- Service User Representative
Baldish McGurrin	- Physical and Sensory Impairment Team Manager
Dave Pearce	- Middlesex Association for the Blind
Carolyn Seitz	- MS Society
Nigel Thornton	- Housing Representative
Joost Van der Geest	- Partnership Officer

**Apologies**

Steve Ashmore	- Audiology Services
Paul Baldwin	- Service User Representative
Jaspal Dhani	- Director of Disability Action in Barnet
Mira Goldberg	- Representing Barnet's Deaf Community
Fiona Jackson	- Head of Allied Health Professionals
Sara Magber	- Barnet Carers Centre
Jean McVey	- Representing Barnet's Blind Community
Charles Nelson	- Barnet College
Brenda Poulson	- Service User Representative
Shirley Regan	- Physical and Sensory Impairment Commissioning Manager
Mike Smith	- Barnet Carers Centre
Dominic Wright	- Director of Commissioning & Performance

## **2. Minutes and matters arising**

The group introduced themselves to each other.

A point of accuracy was that Shirley is Commissioning Manager, not Service Manager.

Mike has been to Building 2 of North London Business Park to see if it is accessible. Mike was very happy with the building, including the accessibility of the toilet.

Kate told the Board that Emerald Suite have had their toilet renovated as a result of our comments to them. Mike will visit this afternoon to see if it is accessible.

Shirley has a meeting on Friday with Barnet College, after which she will feedback on the cost of British Sign Language courses.

**Action:** Amy will contact Dominic about his actions in relation to the hearing aid service.

**Action:** Baldish will invite the Senior Practitioner for Enablement to the next meeting.

With the change specified, the minutes were agreed.

## **3. Headlines from CSCI inspection**

Kate thanked everyone for their hard work for the Inspection.

On 29<sup>th</sup> October the CSCI Report will become public.

The report says that Physical and Sensory Impairment Services have a lot of energy, good partnership working and know where they want to be. However, it recognises that it will take time for the changes made to be reflected in the experiences of people who use Physical and Sensory Impairment Services.

There are also a number of recommendations for the PSIPB to take forward. CSCI will be giving their Camera Ready Report on Friday, from which Barnet can develop an Action Plan.

CSCI have asked to come back in 6 – 9 months to see the progress we have made. The Board agreed that this should happen, but David Hart suggested that they came back in a year so changes made could be seen in the experiences of service users.

## **4. Audiology**

It was agreed that this item should be deferred until an Audiology colleague is able to attend.

## **5. Update on Partnership Board Workstreams**

The 6 workstreams have had, or set a date for, their first meeting. However, some of the workstreams still require a chair, namely Empowerment & Choice and Health & Social Care Working in Partnership.

### **Supporting Carers**

On 27<sup>th</sup> September, the first meeting of the Carers Support Group will take place. The Young Carers Group will also link with the subgroup. Carolin will join the subgroup as the link for the MS Society Carers Group. The MS Society has grants for Carers to take breaks.

### **Day Opportunities and Employment**

Barnet College have won a bid to improve the employability of people with a disability. This will involve employing Job Coaches and a Project Manager. The funding has been agreed for 2 years.

The College also have a premise in Barnet which may be able to be converted into a Residential College, in Partnership with LBB.

### **Disability Equality**

**Action:** Shirley will contact Jaspal to find out the date of the first meeting

### **Housing and Support**

**Action:** Shirley will contact Jaspal and Alan to find out the date of the first meeting.

### **Choice and Empowerment**

Shirley has contacted a number of services users about chairing this subgroup.

**Action:** David Hart will send Shirley details of the Forum for Advice and Information in Barnet (FAIB).

**Action:** David Hart will send a list of the Network chairs to Shirley.

### **Health and Social Care Working in Partnership**

Shirley is awaiting Dominic's response regarding an individual from BPCT co-chairing this workstream.

**Action:** Shirley and Karen will discuss this at the end of the meeting.

**Action:** Shirley will circulate a list of dates, venues and members for the workstreams because these meetings are open to all.

## **6. Developments at Barnet College**

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

## **7. Programme of dates and Workstream report schedule for future Partnership Board meetings**

The Board agreed with the proposal that from November two workstreams will feedback at each meeting, for an hour each.

The feedback schedule is as follows:

November: Disability Equality & Day Opportunities and Employment

January: Supporting Carers & Health and Social Care Working in Partnership

March: Housing and Support & Empowerment and Choice

## **8. Consultation on National Stroke Strategy**

The group was informed that the deadline for feedback was 12 October 2007.

Shirley agreed to coordinate a response for the PSIPB. Any comments are to be sent to Shirley by 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007.

**Action:** Shirley will speak to Adele Yemm regarding any comments made by the Stroke Group.

## **9. Information item – Commissioning Framework for Long Term Conditions**

The Department of Health have produced a Commissioning Framework for Long Term Conditions that will be taken forward by the National Service Framework for Long Term Conditions. The framework applies to Health and Social Care Commissioners.

**Action:** Amy will circulate a web link for this.

## **10. Venues for future meetings**

After discussion, the group agree that future meetings should take place in Building 2 of North London Business Park.

## **11. Disability Equality Oscars**

There are 4 proposed categories for the Oscars:

- Customer Service
- Employer of the Year
- Volunteering Award
- Volunteering Award (young person)

Some ideas for publicising the event are:

- Barnet Online
- Barnet First
- Through BVSC
- To all Partnership Board and Workstream members
- Local press
- Hospital Information Desks

Joost would like any comments on the provisional papers by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September.

The Board agreed the following in relation to the Oscars:

- The forms should be in easy read format, in Braille and on tape - MAB have agreed to convert the documents to Braille and tape format for their service users
- The forms should be on the internet in a Word format
- The word 'Volunteering' should be changed to something more inclusive e.g. Individual
- There will be posters advertising the event
- The logo on the posters should be of the Local Strategic Partnership, with their permission
- The contact number on the forms will be DAbB's
- The Equality Subgroup will take this piece of work forward, with support from others, including the Communications Team at LBB.
- The deadline for nominations will be extended until the end of December, and it will be changed in the papers to say that the ceremony will take place in Spring 2008
- There will be a group of expert assessors to visit the shortlisted services, who will be paid at least their expenses.

Barnet Council have agreed to sponsor an award.

**Action:** Mike will speak to Jaspal about DAbB sponsoring an award.

Joost will now contact all organisations under the Disability Equality Duty regarding sponsorship of the event and/or award. This will include the PCT. Joost will also link with the Children's Board.

**Action:** Joost will draft a letter from Kate and Mike.

**Action:** Joost will contact the Chamber of Commerce.

## 12. Any other Business

Joost will finalise the Equality Action Plan for the November PSIPB.

**Action:** Amy will circulate this.

Kate requested that the action allocated to herself and Mike regarding an Involvement Strategy was reallocated to the Choice and Empowerment workstream.

Dave told the group that he will be restarting and chairing the Low Vision Committee. Baldish will also be involved in this. Also, the group Progress on Sight will be replaced next year by a UK Vision Strategy. Dave will do a presentation on this at the PSIPB in the future.

Dave also raised major concerns regarding Supporting Peoples plans to develop a generic floating support service where the 26 current providers will be replaced by 3. Dave said that the voluntary sector is extremely shocked that this is taking place

because it takes choice and control away from Service Users. Middlesex Association for the Blind is currently trying to put together a consortium bid. Dave requested the PSIPB to put pressure on the Supporting People (SP) Team to rethink their position.

Kate stated that Physical and Sensory Impairment Services only receive a small portion of SP funding, which must be protected and enhanced. This is of particular importance because of the 13,700 households which have identified themselves as having Physical and Sensory Impairment related needs, only 200 people are supported by SP.

**Action:** Shirley will discuss with Dave what other boroughs are doing to preserve MABs role.

The PSIPB group agreed that there is a risk that the changes proposed by SP will be detrimental to the Physical and Sensory Impairment Care Group, and levels of support must at least be maintained.

David said that Barnet Voluntary Service Council is looking at Consortium development, for which a Steering Groups is meeting in October. It is hoped that the first Consortium will be established in 2008, with one for Business Enterprise and Employment being piloted in the New Year.

Finally, Dave informed the group that the Middlesex Association for the Blind Resource Centre opens on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September, with a celebration at Flightways.

Kate informed the group that this will be Amy's last PSIPB meeting since she is going back to University. The group thanked Amy for all of her hard work for the Board.

Shirley will be the interim contact for the PSIPB.

**Date of next meeting:**

TBC