

Physical and Sensory Impairment Partnership Board
28th January 2009, 10:30am – 14:30pm
Conference Room 3, Building 2, North London Business Park, N11 1NP

Minutes of the Meeting

Present:	
Kate Kennally (KK)	Chair, Barnet Council
Alison Kemp (AK)	Strategic Commissioning & Planning Director
Brenda Poulson (BP)	Deaf / Hard of Hearing Representative
Dexter Hanoomansingh (DH)	Director of Disability Action in Borough of Barnet (DabB)
Emily Bowler (EB)	Communications Manager, Barnet Council
David Pearce (DP)	Middlesex Association for the Blind
Mira Goldberg (MG)	Deaf Representative, Chair of Barnet's Sign Language User Group
Rita Norman (RN)	British Sign Language (BSL) /English Interpreter
Kate Furby (KF)	BSL/English Interpreter
Jean McVey (JM)	Blind Service User Representative
Lizzie Sturm (LS)	Advocacy in Barnet
Mike Smith (MS)	
Mohine Guinness (MG)	Ex Primary Care Trust (PCT) Ward Manager
Paul Baldwin (PB)	Barnet Disabled for Independence and Social Contact (BDISC) Flightways
Elaine Jones (EJ)	BDISC Flightways
Stella Henriques (SH)	Carer's Representative
Senal Alkan (SA)	Minutes, Barnet Council
Apologies:	
Shirley Regan (SR)	Project Consultant
Marie Bailey (MB)	Physical and Sensory Impairment (PSI) Service Manager, Barnet Council
Simon Crawford (SC)	London Sports Forum for Disabled People
Caroline Seitz (CS)	Provider Representative – MS Society

Sensory Impairment		
1.	Apologies and Matters Arising	
	<p>The minutes of the last meeting were agreed for accuracy.</p> <p>Matters arising (The Royal National Institute for Deaf) RNIB</p>	
2.	UK Vision Strategy	
	<p>DP –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UK Vision Strategy is put together by all organisations who are involved in visual impairment and people in the medical field, right through to voluntary sector organisations and also service users and everyone else. • Everyone comes together over an 18month period to put together what is now known as the UK Vision Strategy, which we are seeing if local councils and authorities adopted all the recommendations in the UK Vision Strategy how visually impaired people would have a good quality of life. • Haven't progressed since then, but are looking to bring it forward <p>KK – There are 3 strategic outcome areas for the UK Vision Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving Eye Health of people in the UK • Eliminating avoidable sight loss and delivering excellent support for people • Inclusion of and participation and independence for people with sight loss, a really important area where we've got as a partnership board in terms of making sure people aren't excluded because of having a visual impairment <p>KK –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We do have some targeted money for stroke within the borough. • Stroke work, long term conditions. Really helpful to get them flagged so we can take it forward <p>AK –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot about improving the flow of patients from 	<p>Action: DP and AK to meet up to discuss UK Vision strategy</p>

	<p>primary care to secondary care services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As far as stroke, there is a lot more work including some work at London level and some work at sector level, which is across Barnet, Enfield, Haringey, Camden and Islington • There is more that needs to be done in understanding the impact of the report on the way we currently work around certain services • How we see some of the gaps and take them forward <p>JM – Multiple sclerosis should be included</p>	
3.	Local Strategy for Deaf and Hard of Hearing	
	<p>DP – Met with RNID. They felt to raise a profile they should come up with some kind of strategy.</p> <p>MG –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talked about stepping away from the edge SSI, although it is an old version there is still a lot of relevant information • We need to think about how we can improve services for deaf people <p>KK – New joint commissioner which is a joint post between the Council and PCT for older people and PSI can help support the development of a local strategy</p> <p>BP – Advised that she had tried to find out from Shirley Regan about what is happening about the hearing aid advisory service and transfer to audiology clinics. KK advised that she would ask SR to contact BP</p> <p>LS/MG – Is it going to link into younger people (children). We would like the transition to be much easier to support young deaf people leaving education and going into work</p> <p>KK – Not just 18+ that we are dealing with. We are looking at the provision of services and for support adults. In order to get it right we need to look at particularly young people in secondary schools. We would like to get their views to help us for the strategy.</p>	Shirley Regan

	<p>Access to employment and tackling discrimination. A new transition team is in place to support this.</p> <p>DP – We have been consulting from a vision point of view with children and parents to get feedback from them on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support groups and outings • Breaking down age groups <p>MG – Children are not spotted until they are adults</p> <p>BP – at the hospital outpatients as a deaf or hard of hearing person you can't always hear your name being called. The NHS needs to ensure that there is deaf awareness training. They need to be aware of people who are hard of hearing. There needs to be regular training for NHS nurses/doctors.</p> <p>EB – Suggested holding a meeting with deaf people to find out what some of the issues are in Barnet, then we have a stronger voice to take it to the PCT and the Council of course to make these things happen.</p> <p>KK – Advised that training is scheduled 9 Feb 09 in the Council on communication with users with sensory impairments and that is for our social workers community care officers, rehab officers who access and provide services to people with sensory impairment. This is being led by Graham Nolan who works for Sense as a development officer.</p>	<p>EB to take forward</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Transport for London</p>	
	<p>CH – Transport for London is going to try and give people better access to the network and improve our dealings with the whole cross section of the community that use transport.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving access for people • i-buses 75% off the fleet has been done • i-buses should be done by the summer 2009 • Adding another 2,000 count down signs installed at bus stops • Driver training, to understand people with disabilities and not to be rude etc 	<p>Action: Put Transport seminar feedback slides on the web</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TFL improved training all new drivers have to go through and within the training there is a disability awareness • Drivers need to be aware how they provide services and the quality of the ride they give. • Improve services not just through TFL <p>BP – Do signs (i-buses) go on automatically? Drivers turn off i-buses as they find it to be a distraction. It should be on throughout the entire journey.</p> <p>JM – Who has control over dial-a-ride!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs to be more organised, should be able to pick up more than one person in the same area to fill up the bus • Drivers need to know area so it can be married up • Frustrating as you can't get a booking, should be more organised • Preferred it when it was more localised • They are unsafe, no rails to hold onto to get on/off the bus <p>PB – Advised that Dial-a-ride doesn't work in Barnet.</p> <p>KK – Requested statistics from TFL on Dial a Ride usage from Barnet so that we can better understand the local difficulties as a Partnership Board</p>	CH - TFL
5.	Update on Flightways	
	<p>PB advised from BDISC that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank account funding still in progress • New service model starting next week at Flightways <p>KK –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talked about the progress on update for Flightways • Right4Work scheme is making 40 jobs available to people with a learning disability, physical or sensory impairment and mental health • They will have a 6 weeks work placement, and if successful it will be converted into a paid job 	

	<p>PB –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important to note that it is going to be the Barnet Independent Living Service (BILS) and no longer Flightways • There are a significant number of people going to Flightways who are over 65. 12 support plans being developed for people over the age of 65. • The friendship groups from people using Flightways are working really well. It's a good way of staying in touch with friends and meeting up with people but there is an issue with transport and dial-a-ride. 	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Review of Partnership Board Work Programme</p>	
	<p>We were put into 2 groups to discuss the 'Our Life, Our Services, Our Say'</p> <p>Day Opportunities and Employment We discussed each of the bullet points for what we will do first, things that we need to work on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social firms should be managed by the Council rather than the public • Establish brokerage for day services to enable people to have an individualised budget for day opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information sites at Edgware and Barnet Hospital - Launch your call service with a PSI - Look at usage figures - Look at it more broadly • Information about the current range of transport services for disabled people widely publicised and include within a directory for disabled people. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do we do another print run? - Very expensive, cost of directory is £30,000 - Can we make it available on-line? • Encourage and promote the take up of leisure activities to improve the health and fitness of people with physical and sensory impairments through the Best Value Review of leisure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Copthall leisure centre has very good services, supportive to the children <p>JM – Barnet Chipping Library has chair exercise</p>	<p>Action: Invite someone from Library to next partnership board</p>

	<p>classes.</p> <p>KK – Simon Crawford from London Sports Forum wants to work with us.</p> <p>Housing and Support in Barnet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established a housing subgroup of the Partnership Board which links into the regeneration programme and influences the planning and supply of accessible housing, linked to the Accessible Housing Register. • To produce information for disabled people on the range of housing options available • Support the development of a service specification for accommodation with support transition service for young disabled people. • Work with housing and environment to develop a scheme to recycle large pieces of equipment <p>Health and Social Services working in partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a service model for a community rehabilitation service (including strokes) for Barnet linked to the resources available through Flightways and which draws on the best practice demonstrated in community stroke projects in Hackney and Islington. - This has been done, we need an update on this • To support improvements in audiology services – for the hearing impairment community care officers to offer advice and information sessions within audiology clinics and for there to be more audiology outpatient appointments to reduce waiting times. - The waits have come down, there is work being done on this but we haven't brought it together 	
7.	Talking Newspaper	
	<p>EB-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done a mail shot to all people with a visual impairment to let them know about talking newspapers and try and help talking newspapers increase the number of people using them as the audio newspaper side of things 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Had a 40% increase in the number of people using the talking newspaper, very pleased • Working closely with voluntary organisations to help them get the circulation improved • We are also working with our own social workers to make sure they promote talking newspapers more and more and this is the way we are going to communicate with people with a visual impairment as one of the mechanisms 	
8.	Registration for VI – Promotion	
	<p>EB –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have lots of information on the website • Find out what the process is for registration • Promoting the benefits of registration • The more people who are registered the more people we can send information directly to • The next ‘Our Life Newsletter’ is due out in March <p>DP – We need to find how we attract people to say, if you do register, you get more support. How we do that is the difficult part.</p>	
9.	Our Life Newsletter – March Issue	
	<p>EB –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul is working on the next newsletter which is due out in March • The Newsletter is issued quarterly • Paul is writing the ‘View from the editor’ • We have articles on ‘Our life and day opportunities’ and ‘New Barnet Living Independent Living Services’ • Article from Simon Crawford about Sports Forum for disabled people • Article from John Higgs about volunteering, focusing and the opportunities available • Housing and support, telecare, our services health and social care <p>PB – Shirley and I had a meeting with Dexter and Barnet people’s choice and voice a while back on the</p>	<p>Action: EB – Dexter send out information to Paul to put together</p>

	possibilities of having a coalition because that was deemed to be the way of getting the ULO (User Led Organisations) funding from the Department of Health. We are both keen to get that up and running.	
10.	Update on Adult Social Services Restructuring	
	Eryl Davies has been appointed as Joint Commissioning Manager	
11.	AOB	
12.	Date of Next Meetings 25 March 2009 – Conference Room 2, 10.30-14.30	