

Essex & Southend LINK – Mid Essex Locality Group Meeting Minutes

Chapter House, Chelmsford

20.05.09

2.00pm - 4.00pm

Present:		In attendance:	
Claire Beattie	(CB)	Linda Tubb – Area Co-ordinator (Notetaker)	(LT)
Sylvia Beckett	(SB)		
Michael Blackwell	(MB)		
Carole Cook	(CC)	Apologies:	
Peter Coleing	(PC)	Peter Blackman	
Nancy Freeman	(NF)	Cllr Bob Evans	
Norman Heath	(NH)	Brian Mister	
Alec Morris	(AM)	Lew Schnurr	
Thelma Nickerson	(TN)	Judith Wright	

			Action
1.	Welcome and Introductions	In the absence of John Saxton, Michael Blackwell (Vice Chair) chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.	
2.	Apologies for absence	See above.	
3.	Minutes of previous meeting	Mick Taylor's initials were corrected and the minutes were accepted as an accurate record	
4.	Matters Arising	<p>Item 2 : Lead Members – NH queried the decision to have lead reps for Social Care and NHS issues. MB explained that the decision was based on people's area of interest/expertise to help take forward the work of the group. CB suggested this item could go on agenda for next meeting.</p> <p>Item 4 : Quality Care Commission (formerly Healthcare Commission) – MB read out letter sent to Trusts by LT on behalf of the Group. LT was thanked for her input.</p> <p>Item 5 : Roadshows – LT will follow up issue of roadshow budget deficit.</p> <p>Item 5 : Carers Week – members were asked to volunteer help with the display in High Chelmer</p>	<p>LT</p> <p>LT</p> <p>ALL</p>
5.	Workplan	Members discussed the Group's workplan for 2009/10 and agreed the following projects to be included, based on issues raised previously by the Group: 1. Long term health conditions (ME, MS for example) 2. Hospital discharge	

		<p>3. Prescribing in hospital 4. PALs/Complaints Departments in Trusts 5. Social Care – housing/wellbeing/carers</p> <p>It was agreed that LT will prepare a workplan based on the above, detailing projects. At the next meeting members will re-visit the workplan and agree mechanisms and who will lead on each of the projects.</p>	LT
6.	AOB	<p>CB reported that she attends the Patient Experience Group, which will work on themes (family care for example). She will bring the workplan to the next meeting and the Group will discuss how they can work with them. There was a discussion around the new care arrangements and concerns were raised about how it will be policed as it could be open to abuse to the detriment of the patient.</p> <p>TN reported back on the issue of ambulance transport. She explained the process for 999 calls. With regard to the patient transport service, she advised that arrangements have to be made via the patient's GP. The GP has to inform patient transport services if transport is required, based on the physical, mental and health needs of the patient. She reported that hospital transport drivers are on duty until 1.00 or 2.00 am and they will be used to take patients from A&E, strictly based on medical need. When the hospital transport drivers are not available, if someone cannot get home from hospital, they will be taken in an ambulance. She outlined concerns around the 4 hour wait limit in A&E, which starts when a patient enters the department so some hospitals are leaving patients in ambulances to avoid breaking the 4 hour rule.</p> <p>PC raised an issue on behalf of a Mid Essex resident, who had been discharged from an outpatient appointment with a cardiac specialist, with no follow up treatment or care package in place. Members discussed issues around follow up for outpatients and agreed this should be investigated under Hospital Discharge on the workplan and also be referred to the Hospital Discharge Planning Group.</p>	CB

		NF referred to problems with MRI scans and GP appointments. It was agreed she will investigate the issues and provide a written report, with the possibility of adding a sub group to the workplan, if members agree.	
7.	Next Meeting	8 th July – Witham (Spring Lodge tbc) : 6-8.00pm	

Minutes prepared by Linda Tubb 4th June 2009

Minutes approved by Claire Beattie/Michael Blackwell 4th June 2009