

MINUTES - Final

ESSEX AND SOUTHEND LINK – NORTH EAST ESSEX LOCALITY GROUP MEETING

Date and Time: Wednesday 2nd September 2009 17.30 -19.00pm

Location: Bluebell Resource Centre, Jack Andrew Drive, Highwoods, Colchester, CO4 9YN

Attendees: Keith Biggar (chair), Reg McKenna (vice- chair), Nileema Vaswani, Barry Gilheany, Clare Walker, Shaun Moffat, Carolann Jackson, Shushila Karia, Dhirajlal Karia, Marion Martin, Dawn Bostock, Moshud Ali, Jahanaza K. Loquema, Marion Martin, Hannah West

Apologies: Tony Constable, Betty Constable, Mike Chapman

	Topic	Discussion	Action by who/ when
1	Welcome and Introductions	The Vice Chair welcomed the group and everybody introduced themselves.	
2	Purpose and explanation of meeting	The Vice Chair explained the purpose of the meeting was to discuss funding allocation and decide on some projects for the North East locality. Each locality and the Mental Health and Substance Misuse theme group has a total of £20,000 to spend each before March 2011.	
3	Report back from 5 year strategy planning meeting	<p>Hannah West (HW) informed the meeting a few members and herself met to discuss the 5 year strategy planning paper produced by the Primary Care Trust (PCT). She explained the PCT have committed to 9 principals to improve health care in North East Essex over a 5 year period. HW to send the strategy paper and action plan to the group. The paper excludes Social Care. The group discussed the possibility of holding a mini conference specific to Social Care in North East Essex, following the public meeting on Social Care in December. The purpose of this conference would be to find out what's going on in relation to Social Care and deepen our understanding of the problems affecting North East Essex. The group would invite representatives from the PCT, the Local Authority, Acute Trust, Social Services, Mental Health Trust etc. The group agreed this was a good idea. HW to begin organising this.</p> <p>In relation to health care, the 5 year strategy group discussed the need to work more closely with the PCT. It was agreed to obtain copies of the action plans for all the commitments they have made and break them down to identify the gaps. HW told the meeting if anybody wants to be part of this process please let her know as it is a lot of work solely for the Coordinator. It was also suggested that we have a lead who attends Patient Commissioning Forums. If people aren't able to attend the Patient Commissioning Forums, the Link lead could take forward the concerns of people in the group to these forums.</p> <p>The group discussed the need to find out exactly what the PCT and other statutory bodies are doing in the most deprived areas of North</p>	<p>HW</p> <p>HW</p> <p>All</p>

	Topic	Discussion	Action by who/ when
		East Essex. It was agreed there is need to work alongside these organisations to ensure work is not replicated and that the LINK's work compliments the PCT etc.	
4	Proposals from the floor	<p>1. BME and isolated communities</p> <p>The first proposal was to look into what avenues there are for Black and Ethnic Minorities (BME) to obtain information about what health and social care services there is and how to access these services. The group were told that there is no day centre/community centre specifically for this group, thus many people (specifically older people) do not leave the house. As a result there is a real lack of knowledge about what is available and what would be the benefit of using services. The group agreed that there were other isolated communities that experienced the same problems. Some ideas/suggestions about how BME communities can set up a community centre were offered by the group. It was reiterated that the LINK is not a services provider thus, this project would be research into what isolated groups existed, gather some facts to demonstrate the gaps in service for these isolated groups, focusing on the distribution of information. This project proposal was accepted by all.</p> <p>2. Point of Diagnosis</p> <p>Shaun Moffat informed the group that when a patient is diagnosed with a condition by a GP, Consultant etc, they are normally sent away in shock with little information on their condition, how it will affect their life, what support they can get (financial, advice, counselling, support groups, social services etc). A 'Point of Diagnosis' folder would be a source of all this information (including a detailed document of their condition) that would be given to patients via the PCT, Essex Link or another group. HW informed the group that the PCT had produce a handbook to be given to patients with diabetes. The handbook was produced by Linda Jewsbury, who is happy to come and speak with the group to discuss how she and her team put this book together. It was agreed it was a good idea to invite her to speak as a starting point for the project. HW to follow this up. Apparently Suffolk has developed this service quite well. Would be good to gather research to show differences in services between Suffolk and Essex, and show benefits. We also need to research what is already out there. The project proposal was accepted by all</p> <p>3. Essex University</p> <p>HW explained she had been doing some work with Essex University and had met with the Student Welfare Officer there. The students have identifies 2 gaps in student health services. The first is there is no pharmacy on campus. The Student Welfare Officer has set up a delivery service to deal with this issue in the short term. The second issue is</p>	HW

	Topic	Discussion	Action by who/ when
		<p>there is no family planning or sexual health clinic on campus or in the surrounding areas. Chlamydia is a big problem at the university and that area that the campus is located has one of the highest teenage pregnancy rates in the whole of Essex. The project proposed will gather evidence to show the need for a student family planning and sexual health service on campus or in the close surrounding areas. It may look to see how well a mobile service would work. This project proposal was accepted by all.</p> <p>4. Jaywick/Pierward</p> <p>An idea was submitted to look at one of the most deprived areas in Essex. The PCT are currently doing quite a bit of work on Jaywick, thus it was suggested ton look into Pierward. HW said she been in touch with the PCT to find out exactly what they are doing in relation to Jaywick. She was informed that Alison Amstutz from Public Health and Jenny Landsdown, the Commissioning Manger at the PCT are currently involved with a lot of work going on in Jaywick. They would be happy to come and talk to the group to inform of the current initiatives that are being undertaken. The group agreed it would be a good idea to invite them. HW to follow this up. Through finding out what the PCT are doing we can identify if there are any gaps in the services in Jaywick. We can also decide whether our energies might be better off focusing on Pierward, another deprived area in North East Essex. This project proposal was accepted by all.</p> <p>Other proposal included research into what services are missing in rural areas, sexual health clinics across the whole of North East Essex and Heart disease research. It was agreed to focus on 4 projects to start with (outlined above) and look to incorporate more projects at a future date.</p> <p>HW informed the group that all proposals must support the objectives set out in the LINK Development plan, and that each person submitting a proposal must fill in a project proposal form. HW to circulate the blank project proposal form.</p>	<p>HW</p> <p>HW</p>
5	Feedback from research	<p>1. SOS Bus</p> <p>At the last meeting the suggestion of hiring out the SOS bus for outreach purposes was put forward. HW informed the group that if the LINK wishes to hire the SOS bus out, it will cost £250 per day, which includes the cost of the driver. The bus will be available for about 6 hours and has a confidential area on the bus. The PCT are planning to use the bus for certain initiatives. HW is trying to look into the possibility of linking up with the PCT and joining them on their runs.</p> <p>2. Bookmarks</p>	<p>HW</p>

	Topic	Discussion	Action by who/ when
		<p>To increase publicity there was an idea to produce bookmarks in coalition with Essex County Council to be distributed at libraries. HW informed the group that she had been in touch with various people from the council and that this idea is a definite possibility. There is a backlog or organisation waiting to have there details on bookmarks, so it could take a couple of months until they are put in libraries. HW waiting on response about cost etc but will feedback to group when she has all the details available.</p> <p>3. Shopfront</p> <p>HW stated she had little success from contacting the County Council in relation to a shop front (so LINK can have a presence on the High Street). She had been advised to contact a certain person at Colchester Borough Council who was currently on holiday. Shaun Moffat informed the group he was meeting with someone from the County Council who knew about shop fronts so would ask for further information. HW questioned whether this idea was the best use of money. Might be a possibility of linking up with PCT. There could be a new multi-purpose show like 'Cornerstones' being opened in Tendring, group should look into becoming part of that.</p>	<p>HW</p> <p>SM</p>
6	A.O.B	HW informed the group she would be finishing her Interim position on the 9 th of September. She told the group she has thoroughly enjoyed working with everyone and wished everybody the best of luck. Carolann thanked Hannah for all her work on behalf of the group.	
7	Date and venue of the next meeting	It was agreed that a few suggested dates would be sent out to the group when there was more idea about when the next Coordinator would be in position.	