

MINUTES

ESSEX AND SOUTHEND LINK – NORTH EAST ESSEX LOCALITY GROUP MEETING

Date and Time Thursday 5 March 2009, 12.00 –14.00 pm

Location St Helena Hospice, Jackson Road, Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 1JP

Attendees: Chair: Reg McKenna (Involving Essex) Vice Chair: Keith Biggar (Unites)
 Area Co-ordinator: Dana Richardson (Essex and Southend LINK hosted by CEMVO)
 Toni Van-Rooyen (HEAL – Helping everyone abused live), Mike Chapman (North Essex Partnership Trust), Frank Baker (PPI Panel), Harry Young (Involving Essex), Jim Green (Open Road), Sushila Karia (TACMEP and Shree Ram), Moshud Ali (TACMEP and Colchester MIND).

Apologies: Marguerite Crunden, Marguerite Jenkins, Hazel Law, Vi Haddow, Bob Russell MP, Carolann Jackson, Peter Dennis, Tamanna Hoque.

	Topic	Discussion	Action by who/when
1	Welcome and Introductions	Reg McKenna welcomed everyone and a round of introductions followed.	
2	Minutes of the last meeting	Minutes of the last meeting were approved. Toni Van-Rooyen suggested that the minutes could contain who individuals are representing and Dana Richardson agreed to incorporate this in future minutes.	DR
3	Matters Arising	<p>Aspergers Syndrome group</p> <p>Dana Richardson to arrange a meeting for the Aspergers Syndrome working group for Carolann Jackson, Mike Chapman, Reg McKenna and Keith Biggar.</p> <p>Mike Chapman explained that North Essex Partnership Foundation Trust is thinking about putting money towards an Aspergers Centre and is in the process of making a service specification model.</p> <p>They will be consulting with local stakeholders, including Carolann Jackson. Mike explained that there is a briefing meeting next week. This process will take two-three months.</p> <p>Reg McKenna clarified whether this would be the whole Trust area or just North East Essex. Mike Chapman said that they are currently looking into what is needed and are bringing in Consultants to help with this.</p> <p>Reg McKenna praised the Primary Care Trust for picking this up and asked that the locality group be kept up to date with progress. He asked if anyone had any other comments to make. There were none.</p> <p>LIFT Projects</p>	DR

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		<p>Frank Baker commented on one of the minutes of the last meeting being that it was suggested we invite Tonia Parsons to present on the LIFT Projects. Frank explained that they are all quite far through and questioned why this was being suggested.</p> <p>Joint Strategic Needs Assessment</p> <p>Dana Richardson explained that she has contacted Essex County Council for hard copies of this document for the PPI Legacy group as requested. They do not however send these out so she has contacted the Primary Care Trust who do and is awaiting a response. Dana to chase.</p> <p>Dana also explained that she has invited Greg Myddelton of Essex County Council and The Director of Public Health, Mike Gogarty to present on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for our area and is trying to arrange a suitable date with them.</p> <p>Public and Patient Involvement Legacy Group</p> <p>Dana Richardson to send participants each others contact details now they have all agreed so that meetings may continue to meet. It was agreed that for theme groups Dana can put addresses in the 'To:' field so that they can all respond to each other.</p> <p>Roadshows</p> <p>Three locality launch events to be held. One in Colchester, one in Clacton-on-Sea and one in Dovercourt.</p> <p>MP's will all need to be invited. Jim Green commented that Douglas Carswell should definitely be invited for his interest in mental health. Dana to contact him.</p> <p>Dana Richardson advised people to please get involved and let her know if they would like to help with the roadshow.</p> <p>Mike Chapman will see if he can find someone from the Primary Care Trust to help and said that they would like a stand if that is the format they are going to take.</p> <p>Moshud Ali suggested that we may wish to advertise through TACMAP and MIND event on Saturday 25th April 12.00 – 16.00 pm. This event will be aimed at disadvantaged communities and bring them together with services. Moshud to send information to Dana to circulate.</p> <p>Once venues and dates are booked we will need to arrange agendas for the days.</p> <p>Mental Health, Alcohol, Drug and Substance Misuse Theme Group</p>	<p>DR</p> <p>DR</p> <p>DR</p> <p>DR</p> <p>DR</p> <p>MC</p> <p>MA/DR</p>

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		<p>It has been agreed that Mental Health, Alcohol, Drug and Substance Misuse will be a theme group to cover the whole county. There have already been lots of interested persons. It has been felt that it would be a good idea to meet at a planning stage with those interested to consider the path this group will take. Meeting to be arranged Monday 6th April at 2pm in Chelmsford. Dana to arrange and send out invitations.</p> <p>Tony Van Rooyen asked for Reg McKenna to explain this theme group a little further please as she is new.</p> <p>Reg McKenna explained that currently there is no forum available for across the county interest in discussing these issues. To find out what works well and what works badly in areas. In addition there is lots going on in Mental Health at the moment and service user and carer involvement is very important. Service users and carers need to be trained in necessary skills so they will not be biased, etc. This will provide a broader base of people with interest in this for involvement activity.</p> <p>LINK also provides a legal framework, meaning we can call people to account if we are not getting a response as required. For example, HOSC and Secretary of State. By forming this countywide group, hopefully we can move all this forward.</p> <p>Mike Chapman queried whether it would be suitable for statutory agencies to sit on this?</p> <p>Reg McKenna stated that as residents of the county they could.</p> <p>Mike Chapman said that he doubted they would do this though and would likely do so by invite only. He stated that it can be helpful when they do as it may mean that some issues are resolved at the time. He also questioned if Governors will be members?</p> <p>Reg McKenna stated that the steering group is meeting soon and that they will discuss this.</p> <p>Sushila Karia commented that the word "mental health" does not exist in her dictionary. She explained that there is a need for help at the beginning stage.</p> <p>Reg McKenna said that this is something the planning group would consider.</p> <p>Dana Richardson said that this is something she could discuss with Sushila Karia and that they would welcome any suggestions Sushila could make to help make this clearer.</p>	DR
4	Update from CEMVO	<p>Dana Richardson explained the new equal opportunities form. Everyone was happy to sign it, however it was requested that they should only have to do so once and this should be fed back to Essex Council. Dana to do so.</p> <p>Dana Richardson briefly discussed future outreach and roadshows.</p>	DR

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		<p>She explained that she is settling into her role and introducing herself to people. She invited attendees to let her know of any outreach suggestions they have.</p> <p>Dana commented on a few meeting and conferences she has been to, such as Prescription Charges, which she has found interesting.</p> <p>Dana touched on office systems to say that the office is running more smoothly with new server set up.</p> <p>Mike Chapman suggested that the Trust already has links set up and it may be sensible for Dana to follow these in promoting LINK such as Trust Secretary, Governors and members.</p> <p>Dana explained about the theme groups taking place and invited people to let her know if they would like to get involved.</p>	
5	A.O.B	<p>Reg McKenna raised a new issue on GP surgeries appointments.</p> <p>He commented on the set up of some surgeries and some examples he has had such as waiting three days onwards for non emergency appointments or telephoning at 8am in the morning to try to get one that day.</p> <p>It was suggested that GP's are doing a cynical attempt to satisfy standards not doing anything for patient care.</p> <p>It was proposed that we should look into this and check how GP's are evaluated.</p> <p>Mike Chapman suggested that this is likely to be a national issue.</p> <p>Reg will mention this when he has a meeting with the Primary Care Trust in the coming weeks and let them know it has been brought up at a LINKs meeting.</p> <p>Dana Richardson stated that Rosalind Peek, Policy and Research Officer for Essex and Southend LINK should be able to help with this but that it would have to be in conjunction with a group from the North East locality.</p> <p>Moshud Ali suggested that this could be taken wider to include barriers to those with English as a second language who may have trouble signing into new monitors etc.</p> <p>Mike Chapman commented that this could also be a barrier for those with learning disabilities.</p> <p>Keith Biggar said that he is sure there are lots of general complaints and commented that it is important to consider standard of care given. Reg McKenna suggested that we take this forward and see if it opens up into lots of areas.</p> <p>Examples were given by Moshud Ali and Keith Biggar of severe time restrictions being placed on individuals.</p>	

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		<p>Mike Chapman said that speaking with his “provider hat” on (rather than his “citizen hat”) a provider may not want to hear this as it may sound like groan. He stated that supporting evidence will be required as suggested.</p> <p>Dana Richardson will send a note to the locality asking if this is something they would like to consider further.</p>	DR
	Election of Chair	<p>Reg McKenna explained why he is stepping down as Chair and invited nominations.</p> <p>Keith Biggar said that he wants to be fully committed to the Mental Health, Alcohol, Drug and Substance Misuse Theme Group, like Reg, but will be Chair if no one else does. He explained that he will require support to do so.</p> <p>Dana suggested that if there were no further nominations, maybe Reg would like to help as interim Vice-Chair to support Keith as Chair until the next meeting where maybe a panel of Vice-Chairs could be elected.</p> <p>Everyone agreed to this suggestion. A further election for Vice Chair will take place at the next meeting.</p>	
7	Date and venue of the next meeting	<p>23rd April 2009. 1.30pm to 15.00pm at Quaker Meeting House, 6 Church Street, COLCHESTER, Essex, CO1 1NF</p> <p>This will be incorporated into the end of the locality roadshow to take place from 11am to 13.30.</p> <p>Everyone welcome 11.00am to 15.00pm.</p>	