

# MINUTES

## ESSEX AND SOUTHEND LINK – NORTH EAST ESSEX LOCALITY GROUP MEETING

Date and Time Thursday 23 April 2009 at 13.30 – 15.00

Location Quaker Meeting House, Church Street, Colchester, CO1 1NF

**Attendees:** Chair - Keith Biggar (Unites). Vice Chair - Reg McKenna (Involving Essex). Marguerite Jenkins (PEAT), Marguerite Crunden (PEAT), Vi Haddow (Governor of Colchester General Hospital), Hazel Law (Governor of Colchester General Hospital, PEAT), Dianne Couch, Dorothy Henderson, Harry Young (MIND), Carolann Jackson (SAFE), Nileema Vaswani (CEMVO).

Project Area Coordinator – Dana Richardson. Administrator – Tamanna Hoque.

**Apologies:** Tracy Shave (Involving Essex), Moshud Ali (TACMEP), Sushila Karia (TACMEP),

	Topic	Discussion	Action by who/when
1	Welcome and Introductions	Keith Biggar welcomed everyone and a round of introductions followed.  Carolann Jackson thanked the locality for adding Aspergers to its work plan and stated that only two LINKs in England have done this so far.	
2	Minutes of the last meeting	Keith Biggar read through the minutes of the last meeting and they were approved by the group.	
3	Matters Arising	<p><b>a) Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)</b></p> <p>Reg McKenna explained what the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) is for the locality group. He explained that it is an assessment of the health and wellbeing of the local community produced by Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts. This requirement was set out in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.</p> <p>Reg also explained that we had a presentation from Greg Myddleton of Essex County Council and Shylaja Thomas and Vittoria Polito from North East Essex Primary Care Trust at 11am this morning at the roadshow session, which focussed on children's issues.</p> <p>Marguerite Crunden explained that the working group for Joint Strategic Needs Assessment have arranged their first meeting for Thursday 7 May 2009, 1pm at 27 The Jays, Colchester. Dana to circulate.</p> <p>Discussion ensued about the document; including the high levels of deprivation in Tendring and a greater life expectancy of eight years if you live in Colchester compared to Tendring.</p>	DR

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		<p><b>b) Patient and Public Involvement Legacy group</b></p> <p>The group commented that they have met but that not much has happened. They will look at this again.</p> <p><b>c) Mental Health and Substance Misuse Theme Group</b></p> <p>Reg McKenna gave an overview of the first meeting of the theme group. Reg stated that following the launch there are about 15 to 20 people interested in participating. At the planning meeting on 6 April 2009 about eight people, representing three of Essex and Southend LINK five locality groups, attended to consider how to take this forward. There was much lively discussion. The group will consider what is working well, what is not and how to bring it up to level.</p> <p>The next meeting will be Monday 18 May 2009 14.00 – 16.00, CVS, 47 Broomfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1SY. Dana to circulate.</p> <p>Hazel Law commented that she felt it was good that a focused group has now been set up so that the locality can move on with other work.</p> <p>Keith Biggar discussed the alcohol and substance misuse element of this group. He commented that there are more alcoholics than drug addicts in Essex but that a greater part of the budget goes to drug addiction. Keith highlighted the need for dual diagnosis and consideration of other areas that are affected by alcohol and substance misuse.</p> <p>The group discussed their hope that LINKs can be instrumental in addressing this problem. This may be by breaking into areas where groups have previously failed. The group felt it should be mandatory that these groups are representative of communities they engage with.</p> <p>The group discussed that they need to know the LINK can do something and would find it helpful to have a document explaining what the LINK can do. Dana will discuss this with the project manager.</p> <p><b>d) GP appointments</b></p> <p>Reg explained the subject of GP appointments to the group. This was raised at the last meeting. There was not satisfaction with the processes of making appointments. There are some standards which must be met. The North East Essex Primary Care Trust does not rate very highly in this area. They are mostly amber with some red, when they should be green. Reg McKenna has met with the Primary Care Trust regarding this and they are keen to have Essex and Southend LINK involvement. Reg to forward minutes of this meeting to Dana to circulate.</p> <p>Reg McKenna will discuss the possibility of CEMVO carrying out research with Anne Villegas (Project Manager) and Rosalind Peek (Policy and Research Officer) and report back at the next meeting. Dana to invite Rosalind Peek to the next meeting.</p> <p>The group discussed the difficulties of GP and Primary Care Trust</p>	<p>DR</p> <p>RM/DR</p> <p>RM DR</p>

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		<p>working and GP knowledge of LINKs.</p> <p>Carolann Jackson highlighted difficulties for the Aspergic and autistic community when GP's assume mental capacity for over 18 year olds.</p>	
4	Update from CEMVO	<p>Roadshows are underway or completed in localities. This has been with varying degrees of success. Dana invited attendees to the TACMEP Multicultural Day on Saturday 25 April 2009, where Essex and Southend LINK will be having a stand as part of their North East Essex outreach.</p> <p>All countywide theme and issues groups have started meeting and planning.</p> <p>Three enter and view representatives have been appointed. Further representatives will be sought. Attendees were invited to inform Dana or Julie Harkus if they would like to apply.</p> <p>The third newsletter is due shortly.</p> <p>The group suggested ideas for outreach. Dana to contact the Essex County Standard regarding an article in their once a month health supplement. Locality members to give suggestions for outreach to Dana.</p>	All
5	Election of Vice – chairs and Countywide Representative	<p>Keith Biggar will continue to be Chair but needs some support. Nominations were sought for a panel of Vice Chairs and a Countywide representative. No nominations were made and this will need to be considered again at the next meeting.</p>	
6	A.O.B	<p>The group requested that Dana write to the Primary Care Trust regarding having an appointed representative at their meetings.</p> <p>Attendees suggested Matt Bushell should be invited regarding commissioning agenda.</p> <p>Need to recruit groups, organisations and service providers. We cannot expect people to come to us, we need to go to them and increase our profile.</p> <p>Suggestions from the group on who to contact included:</p> <p>Essex forum support groups  National autistic groups  Highwoods centre  MIND  Advocacy networks  Carers groups  Ask stores shopping centres etc  Flyer to GP surgeries through Primary Care Trust</p>	DR

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7	<b>Date and venue of the next meeting</b>	13.30 – 15.00 St. John's Community Centre Highwoods Square Colchester CO4 9SR	