

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

4 June 2013

Title: Sub-Group Report	
Report of the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board	
Open Report	For Information
Wards Affected: ALL	Key Decision: No
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Sponsor: Councillor Maureen Worby, Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board	
Summary: <p>Reports from sub-groups are a standing item on Health & Wellbeing Board agendas. At present, sub-groups are in the process of establishing themselves and this first report therefore includes only feedback on the Learning Disability Partnership Board (LDPB) Away Morning.</p> <p>The Away Morning took place on Friday 10 May 2013 and was set up to discuss the role and membership of the LDPB, the outputs and deliverables of the group and how the LDPB would engage with service users, family carers and providers and professionals to inform their work in the future.</p> <p>Should Board Members wish to have a more detailed conversation about the planned work of the sub-group and its vision, they can contact the Chair, Glynis Rogers, Divisional Director of Community Safety and Public Protection.</p>	
Recommendation(s) <p>The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) To note the contents of the sub-group report and comment on, or raise queries about, any issue covered should they wish to do so.	

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Learning Disability Partnership Board (LDPB) is a sub-group of the Health and Wellbeing Board as part of the substructure agreed by the Board in March 2013. The LDPB has been meeting in some form for a number of years on a bi-monthly basis, supported by Officers in the Council and chaired by a Senior Officer. On Friday 10 May 2013, an Away Morning was held to discuss and agree the way in which the LDPB would run in the future.
- 1.2 Over the last few years, the LDPB has been strong on its engagement with representatives, particularly with individuals from some of the service user groups and those who are family carers. The Away Morning celebrated some of the key achievements of the group, including:
- The work of the Advisory Partners;
 - The creation of 'Sharkies', a social club run by, and for, people with a learning disability;
 - The Safeguarding Action Group, run in conjunction with the Metropolitan Police, who put a voluntary database in place which resulted in the Police and Fire Service regularly visiting vulnerable adults, including those with a learning disability at home and offering them safety checks;
 - The Carers Information Service and Friendship Map - a monthly drop-in service for Family Carers and an email support network;
 - Giving input and feedback to various commissioning plans, strategies and policy documents.
- 1.3 However, the primary objective of the Away Morning was to discuss the transition of the Board from how it used to run, to how it would work within the new health landscape. Discussions at the Away Morning therefore focused upon:
- The role of the LDPB and its relationship with the Health and Wellbeing Board;
 - The new 'task focus' approach of the LDPB, including the requirement for the LDPB to deliver the actions set out in the Winterbourne View Concordat and the relevant actions in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, as well as shaping future Commissioning plans;
 - The membership of the LDPB and how the group would widely and effectively engage with service users, family carers and providers in Barking and Dagenham to inform the work of the LDPB, and as such, the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board. It was proposed that a Service User Forum, Family Carers Forum and Providers and Professionals Forum is established to facilitate this engagement and that one or two members from each of the Forums would represent the Forums at the LDPB meetings.

2 Feedback from the Away Morning

- 2.1 76 people attended the Away Day, including service users, family carers and providers and professionals from a number of different agencies.
- 2.2 After a scene setting discussion from Anne Bristow, Corporate Director of Adult and Community Services, attendees at the Away Day each had an opportunity to discuss the proposed Forums as outlined in paragraph 1.3 above.
- 2.3 Feedback from the groups was collated and the main points can be summarised as follows:

General

- 2.4 Some general points that came out of all three topics of discussion included:
- The importance of Forums being able to communicate directly with each other rather than relying on the LDPB as their main route of communication;
 - The business of each of the Forums to be a standing item on the LDPB agenda;
 - Forum chairs to receive some training in order to make their meetings effective;
 - There was also widespread support for more accessible information for people with learning disabilities and for the use of social media, in particular making information available in video form. However, there were warnings that it should not be assumed that this was relevant for all individuals with learning disabilities.

Service User Forum

- 2.5 Discussions around involving service users emphasised the importance of making the Board's work accessible. It was thought that there should be an events newsletter, use of a telephone tree to keep in contact, and all information should be in an easy read format or even recorded as a video.

Service users also wanted to be more involved in wider decision making processes, including an expectation that reports would come to the Service User Forum on how Providers and Professionals are supporting people with learning disabilities.

There was also support for an election event to decide membership of the Board, and advocacy to support the involvement of service users provided that it complimented and did not replace the direct voice of service users.

Family Carers Forum

- 2.6 Discussions around family carers generally centred on supporting the voice of service users. Carers wanted to be able to speak directly to service providers, and to ensure that different age groups and disabilities would have a voice. It was

thought that Healthwatch could play a role in finding suitable members for the Family Carers Forum and also that there should be representation at the Forum for carers of people with learning disabilities who lived in residential facilities such as Winterbourne View.

Providers and Professionals Forum

- 2.7 The providers and professionals discussions made several recommendations to how the Forum could operate. It was suggested that organisations rather than named people should be members, and group priorities should be based around service users rather than commissioning issues. Service providers would also welcome a market position statement from the Council identifying services that are already provided and gaps in the market. It was also suggested that an online forum would aid information and resource sharing and that health professionals, including GPs, should be invited along to the Providers and Professionals Forum.

3 Next Steps

- 3.1 A number of people indicated their wish to be a part of the proposed Forums following the Away Day and provisional dates for the Service User Forum, Family Carer Forum and Provider and Professionals Forum have now been agreed. Officers will now work to contact interested individuals, organisations and groups and invite them to the Forum meetings.
- 3.2 The first Learning Disability Partnership Board meeting is also being organised and the provisional date for the first meeting will be on Wednesday 26 June, 2.00-4.30pm.