

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LINK STEWARDSHIP GROUP
Held in the Conference Room HQ Building,
17 December 2009 6.00 p.m.

Present:

Chris Boote	(Chair)
Barry Lucas	(Vice Chair)
Joe Dunn	(Vice Chair)
Dot Throssell	
Jake Paget	
Julie Paget	
Peter Woodley	
Lois Lloyd	
Vicky Shipway	(LINK Support Team Manager)
Claire Hendy	(LINK Support Team)
Christine Breckell	(Minutes)

Apologies:

Leanne Duff
Sunder Braganza

Lois was officially welcomed as a member of the LINK Stewardship Group.

Agenda Items

Minutes of Meeting on 25th November 2009 were unanimously agreed.

Matters Arising

- > Structure chart for how health services are delivered is still under construction and will be brought to next meeting.
- > An official comment from LINK has been printed in the Plymouth Herald re car parking charges at the hospital.
- > The response from Vicky Johnson to the LINK's questions on dental services were thought to be inadequate.
>>> Action: Another meeting is to be arranged in the New Year to discuss points further.
- > The LINK's new discrimination policy was circulated, and will be discussed at the next meeting.
- > It was agreed that Julie would replace Emma as the LINK representative on the Diversity Inclusion Network.
- > The importance of stewards attending the PCT Future Inns event on 6th January was stressed.

Action: It was agreed that a similar sort of event should be held for Derriford PHT in the New Year.

- > It was agreed that those members of the Stewardship Group who receive a postal pack of documents before the meeting should make the effort to bring them to the meetings to prevent excessive printing costs. Those who receive email documents will get hard copies at the meeting.
- > The LINK Governance framework had been circulated – no comments and therefore accepted.

Ashley Daw gave a presentation to explain the role of PIPs and how it will work in with the LINK.

Feedback from Stewardship Group members on any events:

Peter Woodley has attended a public meeting re a government green paper called 'Carers and financing the future'. The meeting was well attended and very interesting. Linda Gilroy attended.

Vicky and Chris attended a south west LINK meeting in Taunton, and met other LINK groups. The next meeting is to be held on 2nd February, and an open invitation was made to the Plymouth LINK for members to attend to meet other LINK representatives in the region.

Chris has attended the 'Joint Strategic Needs Assessment' meeting run by the department of health, which assesses health and social care services in the city and forms a plan for what services will look like for the future. The document is not yet in the public domain, but NHS Plymouth has said that LINK feedback has had a direct effect on actions and decisions taken for 2010.

Chris has attended two meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Group concerned with looking at the protection of vulnerable adults.

Vicky and Chris presented to the NHS Plymouth Executive Board and received a very positive response.

4. Requests

- ⇒ The Link has been asked to provide two representatives on 25th January to inspect Derriford burns department with a team of commissioners to assess the possibility of it becoming a specialist burns unit for the south west (Barry and Joe).
- ⇒ Adult Social Care Commission for the LINK, Overview & Scrutiny panel, and the Commission are to discuss what is happening/priorities.
- ⇒ Julie Paget suggested that the LINK obtain numbers of people actually using the services commented on, so that the proportion of users giving feedback can be calculated.
- ⇒ ASC Commissioners suggested a briefing for mental health providers to find out about Enter & View, and the possibility of practice visits on services. To be arranged.

Opportunities for Involvement

- 19th Dec. BME community outreach with Unity at the Council House to consult on three main issues – dentists, GP's and access to services. To increase BME community awareness of the LINK.
- 6th Jan. Meeting with PCT Executive Board at Future Inns for a presentation by David Connelly on the challenges for the PCT and to discuss the LINK and ways forward. Stewards and team to meet at 9.30 to discuss issues and methods of approach.
- 14th Jan. New volunteers session at HQ building to introduce the LINK and ask volunteers to sign up. Stewards asked to attend to talk to people about the Stewardship Group.
- 2nd Feb. South west LINK's meeting to discuss issues and meet other LINK members.

6. Update on issues

GP's Governance Group – LINK has been invited to give a presentation at their next meeting to discuss possible inclusion in the group.

Derriford waiting times – a booklet has been produced which includes the LINK paragraph requested.

Two members of the Visiting Team are invited to accompany the PEAT team to monitor the Serco cleaning contract at Derriford on 10th February 2010.

Mental health – the feedback LINK has received has been forwarded to PIPS to be brought to the LIT meeting.

Claire and Vicky are attending a care home forum event on 18th December and talking about the LINK and sharing feedback for their discussion.

Vicky has reported that only 2 care homes in Plymouth accept tracheotomy patients – ASC has asked for further details to follow up.

A suggestion was made that extra meeting be held quarterly specifically to discuss matters in depth and decide on priorities for the LINK. This was agreed to be an excellent idea, and the first meeting is set for 11 February 2010. At these meetings Vicky would give a quarterly feedback report. These meetings are to be in public, and advertised as such.

7. Budget

In a change to the last meeting, Vicky suggested that a proportion of the LINK's budget be spent on a community involvement worker to increase numbers of active volunteers for LINK and PAPOP, instead of a fundraiser. The worker will manage the volunteers and get more of them active from the waiting list to increase LINK influence. Colebrook is to employ a fundraiser, and LINK can buy chunks of their time. The advert will be placed in the New Year, as a part time post. Chris, Barry, Joe and Vicky are to meet in the New Year to discuss successes, and then suggest scenarios for the new year to the group.

Chris also suggested that LINK fund a health and social care event in the centre of Plymouth to boost our profile as a agency promoting improved health for the public. This would be in addition to the Piazza event. Vicky asked that if the group decided to go ahead, that they be responsible for organising the event.

8. Next meeting date

The next meeting is set for 20th January 6.00-8.00 pm.