

Lothian Learning Disability Strategy Review

Working Group 4 – Best Practice

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday July 20th 2006

In the Library, 65 Morningside Drive, Edinburgh

1. Who is here today

Polly Wright (Chair), Michael Brown, Senga Menzies, Kelly ?, Rona Laskowski.

2. People who can't be here today

Denis Rowley, Murray Duncanson, Linda Headland, Duncan McIntyre, Sylvia Crick, Neil McCarthy

3. The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

4. What we said we would do for this meeting.

- ◆ As Sylvia was on holiday we didn't have a report on responses to the letter to the Community Safety Partnerships. We said we would look at this at our next meeting.
- ◆ Quality Council Work in Ireland – as Denis couldn't come we said we would look at this next time.

- ◆ Letter to Local Authority Domestic Abuse Forums. Polly had written a letter. The group thought that the letter was good and Polly agreed to send it to all the Domestic Abuse Forums in Lothian. The Letter is at the end of these minutes.
- ◆ Form and circulation lists for good services. As the form has not been typed up yet we agreed to look at this at our next meeting. Michael Brown agreed to talk to Denis about the form, and make any changes he thought would be good.

Kelly suggested that we should ask a local university to do a research project on what makes a good service. We can give them the information we collect on the forms and they research the assessment of services to identify best practice. Rona will speak to Cherry Rowling at Stirling University and we will ask Michael Brown if he can help.

Rona suggested that Senga could contact the People First network to find out whether they had done any similar work on looking at quality services. Senga will try to do this.

5. Respect test

Rona suggested that we should use the Respect Test in all service reviews and tender applications. Care Managers should also use it in client reviews and it should be given to all staff as part of staff induction.

We think that using the respect test should be a recommendation of the strategy review.

6. Good Practice Events

The Communication Group has produced a report. This is at the end of the minutes.

We had a lot of discussion about organising the events. It is difficult to get big accessible venues. The only event confirmed is one to be held in West Lothian on October 6th at the Ability Centre.

Denis asked if we could look at the costs for the events. We did not have the information. We agreed that People First would produce a detailed list of:-

- ◆ what needs to be done.
- ◆ who will do it.
- ◆ When it will be done.

They will also itemise costs for each event and send this to Denis and members of the group.

Polly will ask the Community Care Forum in East Lothian if they will help People First to organise the event. East Lothian Council gave the Community Care Forum some money for consultation events for the Strategy review. Polly will ask if they can use some of this money for this event.

7. Date of next meeting

Wednesday September 6th at 1.00 – 3.00

Ask For: Polly Wright
Direct Line: 01620 82 7800
Date: 18th July 2006

Dear

Domestic Abuse / Violence Against Women and People with Learning Disabilities

A Lothian wide strategic review of Learning Disability Services is currently taking place, funded by NHS Lothian and the four Lothian local authorities and involving people with learning disabilities, family carers and voluntary sector providers. The review is wide ranging, looking at all aspects of life for people with learning disabilities.

The issues of domestic violence and violence against women involving people with learning disabilities have been raised at the strategy board and in the Best Practice Group, where it was decided to write to Domestic Abuse Forum Coordinators.

It would be very helpful if you could tell me whether you have discussed either of these issues in relation to people with learning disabilities. If you have discussed either or both of these issues could you tell me what actions you propose to take to raise awareness of the issues with people with learning disabilities and whether you would like any support to do this.

If you have not discussed these issues in relation to people with learning disabilities and would like some support and help to do this then we would be happy to put you in contact with people who can help you do this.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Polly Wright
Commissioning & Development Officer

SENGA'S REPORT TO THE BEST PRACTICE GROUP

19 July 2006

Examples of Bad Practice

One of our members needs to go to Dundee for an operation but the hospital made an appointment for early morning without asking. The member cannot use his pass on the train before 9:30 and this means the trip will cost him more money.

Also, People First knows of a case where a man has been denied access to advocacy. His psychiatrist says this is because of a clinical decision.

People with learning difficulties deserve to be treated with respect and consideration for their needs.

Public Consultations

At the communications sub-group meeting it was decided to hold 4 events. People with a learning difficulty will be invited to come along and share their views of services.

The suggested dates are:

East and Mid- Lothian - new date needed.

West Lothian - 6th October 12-2:30/3pm

(Confirmed)

Edinburgh - new date needed

and

Lothian-Wide - 28th October

Halls need to be booked as soon as possible to confirm dates.

The final event will be a celebration and be called 'T in the Hall'. A big brother chair, a graffiti wall, cameras and other ways will be on hand for people to share their views.

Refreshments will be provided and we may even have a drummer on hand - Chief Chebe!

