

Communication group minutes

10 October 2006

Who was there?

Fiona Wallace, Rob Kay, Jimmy McIntosh MBE, Senga Menzies, Simon Willoughby-Booth, Anne Edmonstone, Denis Rowley, , Ruth Lowe, Neil McCarthy, Rhona Neill and Emmanuelle Le Coz.



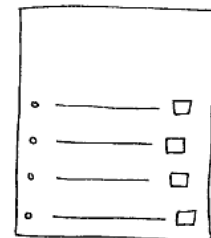
Who could not come?



Margaret Hurcombe, Carol Flack, Michael White, Suzanne Munday, Mairi McReynolds, Polly Wright, Alison Hossack, Tommy McLean.

Matters arising

The Lothian Health press office have not got back in touch. Denis suggested we chase them up at least for the Edinburgh event.



Feedback from West Lothian:



Jimmy thought it was ok but we should have split into small groups sooner. The volunteers at the tables could have facilitated more discussions if they had been



given more time. Senga said there was not enough time for people to fill in the easy read report.

Alison thought people would take them home to finish but Senga said if people take them home they won't get a chance to make their own comments.



Neil had told Alison this and she agreed she would meet with people individually. There was maybe some anxiety on the day and not enough time.

Rob thinks it will be difficult to use the video because the members are not talking very much.

Ruth thought we could do focus groups in West Lothian to collect more views.

Anne asked if we could work out a semi structured interview and visit people. She also suggested that the questions on the worksheets are a bit vague. It is probably difficult for people with learning difficulties to answer them.



A lot of people are part of the community inclusion team now so they are not in day centres anymore. We can't really have focus groups there.

Anne said the priority is to get the questions right.

The group decided to revisit the worksheets there and then.



There was a lot of discussions on what the best format would be for the East/Midlothian event. Should the volunteers or the participants move? Are we keeping the themes from the worksheets and giving facilitators prompts? Do we change the worksheets?

Most people felt it is easier to talk about concrete subjects, like "where I live" or "going to the doctor". Then volunteers can ask about money or quality, rather than the other way round.



The group felt that that the participants should move because we won't have a big group all at once like in West Lothian. It is more likely people will arrive little by little all day.

The group agreed on 5 themes. There will be 1 theme in each "corner" or "table" with a facilitator. There will be pictures and flipcharts.



- Where I live - my house
- What I do with my time - work, education and leisure
- Getting about - transport
- Going to the doctor or hospital - my health
- Changes in my life - transitions

There will also be a video. People can tell "good" or "bad" stories.



There should be a greeter. Fiona volunteered Rhona. Jimmy asked Denis if he could also come to help.

Neil will meet Stuart and Mark from Partners in Advocacy to see if they can help and prepare.



Ruth and Fiona will choose the sandwiches and make signs for the tables.

The next meeting of this group is:
Tuesday 24 October 2006, 2:30pm, People First
 (Scotland) office 77-79 Easter Road, Edinburgh.

