

Communication group minutes

9 January 2007

Who was there?

Rob Kay, Rhona Neill, Fiona Wallace, Jimmy McIntosh MBE, Denis Rowley and Emmanuelle Le Coz.



Who could not come?



Senga Menzies, Neil McCarthy, Margaret Hurcombe, Carol Flack, Michael White, Suzanne Munday, Anne Edmonstone, Simon Willoughby-Booth, Mairi McReynolds, Polly Wright.

It was suggested that we send a list of several meeting dates.

Matters arising



People First could send an email commenting on the language and length of some chapters of the report. Jimmy is attending the Older Adults meeting on 18 January.



To avoid future misunderstanding, Rob suggested we invite the carers to send a representative to the communications group.

Denis will put this on the agenda on 25th January at the carers' meeting.

The draft report

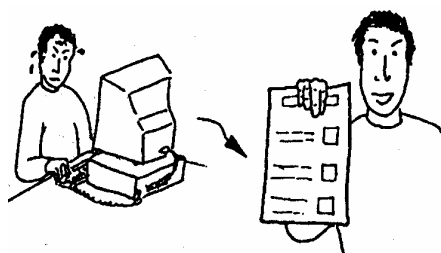
Lothian Health Board has accepted that the period for consultation will be from April to June. A report with recommendations will need to go to Lothian Health Board meeting on 28 March 2007.

We have to think about whether to do an easy-read version of the report as it is now or wait till it is ready in March.



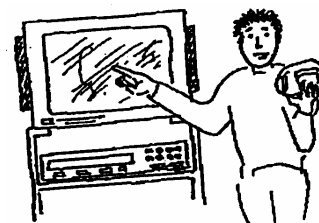
Jimmy (and Fiona if she is around) and Denis will meet with Margaret Hurcombe to discuss this.

Feedback from the events.



Denis said he would get the Edinburgh and Dalkeith notes typed up at 65 Morningside Drive.

Denis and Rob will talk about how to edit the videos.



The recommendations from our group

Fiona said that some people had met the day before and had some suggestions:

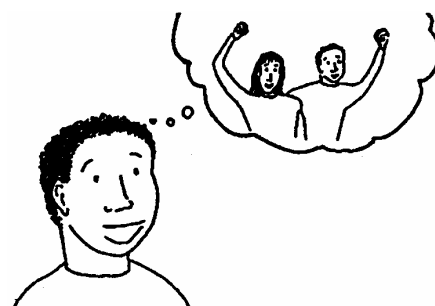
1. Use People First guidelines on accessible documents



2. Making sure that those who have greater communication difficulties are consulted in a way that is meaningful to them.

3. Fiona said that the most important things in communication are:

- respect
- advocacy
- and being listened to.



Could we turn these into duties maybe?

Denis had to leave at 15:50.

Rob took over the minutes.

Questions for consultations - suggestions.



Open style - for example: "do you have any comments to make?"

Or ask " how could we include people with greater communication difficulties in a meaningful way?"

Fiona said we needed more time to discuss those outside the meeting.

Partnership Board: carry over

Denis had recommended that the group support the idea of the partnership Board and give strict guidelines for its membership (number of people with learning difficulties) and processes. We will discuss it in more details at the next meeting.



Newsletter

Can report on consultation events with quotes and photos.

And next round of consultation, what's happening with the report etc., consultation timescales.



We must be honest about mistakes and what we learned from each one.

Rob to pull together for mid-February.

Rob will email a draft of the newsletter to the group for comments and ideas at the beginning of February.

Website

Please use the guest book!

Update Rob with any news items, photos, or voice messages.



The next meeting of this group is:

**Tuesday 6 February 2006, 3:00pm, People First
(Scotland) office 77-79 Easter Road, Edinburgh.**

Then it will be the **first Tuesday of every month** as follows:

- Tuesday 6 March 2007
- Tuesday 4 April 2007
- Tuesday 1 May 2007

