

LAMBETH DISABILITIES PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Held at Lambeth Resource Centre on 13th November 2007

Present:

Liz Clegg	Assistant Director Strategic Commissioning, Lambeth PCT (Co-Chair)
David Strong	Director, DASL (Co-Chair)
Barbara Smith	Interim Head of Strategy & Commissioning – Lambeth ACS
Richard Croydon	Commissioning Officer – Lambeth PCT
Robin Ramsdale	Advice Service Manager - DASL
Keith Edmondson	Centre Manager – Lambeth Resource Centre
Hannah Gordon	User Involvement Worker – DASL/Age Concern Lambeth
Vivienne McKnight	Equalities Manager – Lambeth Regeneration & Housing
Amanda Goulding	Home Improvement Agency Manager – Lambeth Regeneration & Housing
Sarah Yandell	Health and Social Care Officer, Lambeth Voluntary Action Council
Jim Heron	Commissioning Officer, Lambeth ACS
Anne Potton	Principal Occupational Therapist, Lambeth ACS
Philip Segurola	Interim Head of Specialist Services, Lambeth ACS
Janice Walkley	Head of Specialist Services, Lambeth ACS
Manuella Scheuette	Assistive Technology Lead, Lambeth ACS
Anne-Marie Jones	Executive Assistant, Lambeth ACS (minutes)

Apologies:

George Marshman	Divisional Director of Adult Social Care, Lambeth ACS
Linda Isaac	Royal Association for Deaf People
Donna Arthurs	Administrator, Lambeth ACS
Barbara Collis	Director, Lambeth Carers
John Pryor	Service User, Lambeth Mental Health and Disabled Peoples Action Group
David Worrall	Commissioning Officer, Supporting People

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Liz took the chair and welcomed those present.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 11TH SEPTEMBER 2007, AND MATTERS ARISING

The apologies from the previous meeting's minutes were incorrect; members of the Board had sent apologies and were not listed, which could have led to them not receiving the necessary papers for this meeting.

a) Lambeth PCT 5 year Commissioning Strategy Plan

David has sent the Board's comments on the pre-consultation draft to the PCT. The next version would be consulted on until February. Liz will continue to update the group.

b) Access to Phoenix House for disabled people / Transport issues

George Marshman was to facilitate discussions with Pete McDonach and building management on this issue – this is still outstanding. Hannah reported that Pete feels very strongly about this along with other issues and has decided to resign from the Board.

ACTION: Philip to take responsibility for this action. He will discuss with GM, make contact with Pete and report back.

Hannah reported that there was now a date (6th December) for the meeting she would be facilitating between Council staff and users of the ACS Accessible Transport Unit's services to discuss a range of issues previously discussed at the June Board. Patricia Lewis [Manager of the ATU] would be responsible for inviting a cross-section of service users. Janice confirmed that she, Patricia and Sue Winter [Principal OT] would attend.

In response to a question from Vivienne, Janice also reported that the new English national bus concessionary fares scheme will start on 1 April 2008 and will allow free local bus travel anywhere in England (between 9.30am and 11.00pm) to all holders aged 60 and over and those disabled people with automatic entitlement to the Disabled Person's Pass [but not those receiving the Disabled Person's Pass on a discretionary basis]. She suggested that this could also be added to the agenda for the 6th December.

ACTION : Hannah and Janice to report back to January Board

c) Status of Lambeth PCT Disabilities Equality Scheme

The action was that a letter from the Board was to be sent to the PCT about their DES which appears not to have yet been published.

ACTION : David to write to Una Dalton at Lambeth PCT.

d) User Involvement Service

Hannah and David reported that the specification for the service had been agreed between the Council, PCT, DASL and Age Concern Lambeth. Hannah's work plan was being finalised and would be circulated to the Board before the next meeting.

Hannah has prepared a discussion paper on the strengths and weaknesses of the two Boards. This has recently been taken to the Older Persons' Action Board and would be on the agenda for the Disabilities Board's January meeting.

ACTION : Hannah to circulate User Involvement Work Plan

3. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD'S SUB GROUPS

a) Housing

Vivienne and Amanda updated the meeting. George Marshman had agreed some time ago to raise the five key housing issues for disabled people at the Healthier Communities and Older Persons' [HCOP] Board HCOP meeting : it was unclear whether this happened.

The impact assessment on the ALMO (Arms Length Management Organisation), which now has the title 'Lambeth Living', has just been finished. Disability has come through as an area of weakness.

The introduction of a Choice-based letting scheme will have major implications for disabled people : many would need effective support to use the new system but there were also opportunities to give people access to a wider range of properties. A key issue would be assessing the potential of properties to be adapted. The Home Improvement Agency was involved in discussions about taking on this role.

Janice raised the issue of disabled people who were living in inappropriate residential accommodation, costing the Council up to £900 per week, because of a shortage of adapted properties for them to move into. She proposed that there be regular meetings between ACS and Housing to review cases of this sort.

ACTION : Janice to check discussion took place at the HCOP. Vivien will supply all statistic information and check with David Brown that benchmarking other councils has been carried out for the next meeting. (This to be added to January's agenda)

Amanda and Vivien will link more into the older person group and will discuss with those in regeneration and housing.

b) ICES

Richard gave an update. Charlie Williams [commissioning this service] will be reporting to the Joint Commissioning Executive Group. The timetable for retendering is not yet confirmed : contracts with existing providers would need to be extended beyond March 2008 but only if performance is satisfactory. Targets for the delivery of equipment in social care are not being met : the target is 85% which is now being exceeded but the service needs to exceed target to catch up with previous slippage. An audit is being carried out on Framework.

c) Sensory Services

The sub-group had met recently. Work had been done on a 'picking list' on Framework. There was a backlog of 30 clients for the rehab service.

4. 'STOCKTAKE' OF ABILITY, CHOICE AND INDEPENDENCE, THE BOARD'S JOINT STRATEGY 2005 – 2009

Barbara and Jim led discussion of progress on the Strategy, how it can be 'refreshed', priorities and linking it to a clear action plan. Two small groups had an initial look at key questions and shared knowledge of what improvements/initiatives had been taken in relation to the Board's main objectives.

Feedback highlighted several important points about the current Strategy :

- little is said about major corporate priorities of improving health and wellbeing and supporting people back into employment
- how should it deal with developing preventative services for those who are not eligible under FACS and other criteria?

ACTION : Discuss further at the Strategy sub-group and bring back to the Board

5. CONSULTATION ON DRAFT LAMBETH CARERS' STRATEGY

Barbara gave a brief presentation on the developing draft Carers' Strategy which will incorporate a Carers' Charter. She expected the draft to be signed up to by all key partners shortly and then published for 3 months public consultation on 22nd November. Lambeth Carers have been involved in the drafting and had set up a number of mini-forums in January as part of the consultation. There will be a separate strategy for young carers.

ACTION : Draft Strategy to be discussed at January Board

6. DEVELOPMENTS IN ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Manuella updated on developments, especially in Telecare and Tech, focusing on telecare. Telecare enables the service user to be linked with a 24hour monitoring centre. A pilot groups of users have been involved to see what direction this service can go with useful equipment. So far there have been 22 installations such as :

- voice recorded medication reminders which come on at particular times of the day to remind the service user to take their medication
- access triggers which will open the door for the carers.
- property exit sensors – if the door opens the carer and carelink would be notified
- sensors which will help to put people at ease after leaving hospital
- sensors for the those who have sensory impairment such as blindness and feel isolated and fear bogus callers

This equipment assist with managing health and life time changes. New systems are coming out which provide data on people's patterns of activity.

The Preventative Technology Grant can be used in 08/09 to continue developments. Lambeth is doing OK but needs to invest more and mainstream the technology. Newham is a demonstrator site and is using telecare for 2000 clients [all 75+ get Careline with environmental sensors].

ACTION : Manuella is happy to show visitors these aids which are displayed in a show-flat in Brixton. Contact Manuella on 7926 5181 to book a visit.

7. UPDATE ON SELF-DIRECTED CARE / ACS STRUCTURE

Barbara said that there had been no progress since her report to September Board partly because of the restructure of management team of ACS. John Roog who was Divisional Director of Adult Services had now moved to Tower Hamlets. George Marshman had become the Divisional Director of Adult Social Care and was now in charge of all the operational Adult teams. Helen Charlesworth-May was now Divisional Director for Strategy and Commissioning and Maria Millwood was Divisional Director for Resources and Performance on an interim basis.

There would be a new post of Divisional Director for Self Directed Care, to be recruited. They would have a small team but would work across all areas of ACS business which would be impacted on by Self-Directed Care. will go across all the client groups.

8. UPDATE ON REVIEW OF LAMBETH RESOURCE CENTRE

Jim is now leading on this work, with Philip, as Alice Tagoe has left. Consultation with users would include use of questionnaires and stakeholder groups which Hannah would be involved in facilitating. It was planned to finish fieldwork by Christmas so headline findings could be reported to the Board in January and the final review discussed in March. Liz asked if it was planned to carry out a joint needs assessment of all LRC users with Health. Jim said there would not be time for this but ACS would link to PCT operational staff such as physios and to the YPD service.

ACTION : Jim to develop review and report back to Board

9. UPDATE ON LAMBETH DISABILITY SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PARTNERSHIP

David reported that the Partnership had in place a multi-stakeholder steering group and was moving forward funding applications to Sport England, the Jack Petchey Foundation and Lambeth's Communities for Health programme to fund two Disability Sports Officers, one based in the Council's Recreation Department, one at DASL.

10. UPDATE ON DEVELOPMENT OF LAMBETH AND SOUTHWARK STROKE USER INVOLVEMENT NETWORK

David and Liz reported that, following a presentation about the Stroke Modernisation Initiative at the Board in March 2007, work had been going on to develop a two borough Network for people who had experienced strokes. Funding applications were in progress for DASL and Blackfriars Settlement to jointly host the Network.