

North Nottinghamshire Learning Disability Carers Network
Notes of meeting held on 13th September 2016
At Dukeries Academy, Ollerton



Attending:

5 carers attended

Also attending:

Val Gardiner, Newark & Sherwood CVS

Konrad Bakalarczyk, Partnership Board Access Officer, Notts CC

Penny Spice, Commissioning Manager, Carers Notts County Council

Apologies received from 3 carers, Linzi Adams, Carers Trust East Midlands, Nottinghamshire Carers Hub.

The notes of the last meeting were agreed a true record.

Matters arising

- Advocacy services – VG said Pohwer will be delivering advocacy across Nottinghamshire from 1st October and will attend the November meeting to talk to carers about their services.
- Health checks for people with learning disability - carers commented that although the audit undertaken in GP practices across mid Notts showed huge improvements, there is still a very varied picture across Nottinghamshire and some practices in the county are not providing an effective health checks. They also said health checks for people with profound and complex disabilities were not as good as they could be.

Transforming Care Programme in Nottinghamshire

An update following the public consultation has been circulated. Two further public events are being held to share the results of the consultation and describe how plans are being updated based on the feedback. These events are on:-

Wednesday 12th October 2016 1.30pm to 4.00pm

At the Learning Room, New Arts Centre, 39-41 Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham NG7 6BE

Thursday 13th October 2016 6.00pm to 8.00pm

At the Meeting Place, Mansfield Library, Four Seasons Centre, Mansfield, NG18 1NH

Carers expressed concern that the service offered in future will be minimal and agreed that it was important for carers to attend the events to put forward their views. They were also disappointed that no meetings were to be held in Bassetlaw or Newark and will take this up with the Project Manager individually.

It was agreed that the Project Manager, Sarah Oakey, to the Partnership Board in November to discuss the programme.

Action : Konrad to invite Sarah Oakey to November Partnership Board meeting.

NHS Financial Challenges

Newark & Sherwood and Mansfield and Ashfield CCG's (Clinical Commissioning Groups) are holding a series of Have Your Say public meetings to discuss the savings (approx. £20million) they have to make this year. See attached flyer.

Notts County Council updates – Konrad Bakalarczyk

Contact with NCC – at the last meeting carers expressed frustration when trying to contact NCC officers – caller unknown appears when calling services users or carers and many people ignore unidentified callers.

Konrad took this back to the Council and the IT department said this happens because identification is blocked by the service provider and is how the system works. If this didn't happen the switchboard at County Hall would be unable to cope with calls. Carers said it was important that officers leave a message for people if they receive no answer to calls.

Konrad to take this back to NCC

Promoting Help Yourself website – Carers said Help Yourself is not promoted on the front page of NCC's website. Konrad this is because only the top things people search for are on the front page and this constantly changes. Konrad said the communications team are currently reviewing promotion of Help Yourself – it is currently featured at bus shelters, on lamp posts, in magazines and in libraries.

Carers said there is no section about the LD Partnership Board on the Council's website – it is hard to find information.

Konrad spoke to the communication team and was told that we do not have an LD section. So, along with the work being done on the Accessible Communication Standard we will create an LD section on the Council website which will include easy read fact sheets on the different services.

Links to these websites:-

www.Nottshelpyourself.org.uk

<http://nottscountypb.org/>

Day Service user questionnaire – Konrad said he planned to go ahead with the questionnaire with day services users. He would enlist the help of Partnership Board service user representatives and support workers that accompany people to the day service but it was too costly to get an independent group to run it.

There was a discussion about how day services are checked for quality and Konrad suggested that the Council's Quality Development Officers attend the Partnership Board to talk about what they do.

Action : Konrad to invite them to a Partnership Board.

A carer asked if service user representation on the Board included people in Supported Living.

Update-There are 4 service users who currently have some kind of supported living service. 2 from West Bridgford, 1 from Worksop and 1 from Newark.

Complaints process – Konrad confirmed that if people make a complaint to the County Council they should expect a response within 20 working days.

Learning Disability and Autism Self- Assessment 2016 – Konrad said the guidance for the Autism self-assessment has arrived and NHS England want a response before the November Board meeting. The people leading on this will be contacting different autism organisations, service users and carer groups. Konrad asked how this group wanted to add their comments-via email letter or a meeting. The group agreed it was best done in a meeting.

Action: - Konrad to liaise with Val to organize a meeting.

Learning Disability Partnership Board meeting September 22nd

Konrad said this would be the Annual General Meeting and would focus on how the Board can change to be more effective with better representation, engagement and move towards co-production. Carers discussed what they would like the Board to be and what it should do, e.g. be more dynamic, influence change for the better, have more interactive discussion with task related working groups.

Questions for Partnership Board

- Could we have an update on the Government plans around housing benefit . Do we know how plans will affect people in supported living – both current tenants and new tenants?
- How can people in supported living be represented on the Partnership Board? Could we discuss this at the AGM along with how people who have a mild learning disability and may not be eligible for services are represented.

Care Act

Val had circulated “Care Act for Carers – One Year on” produced by the Carers Trust for information. It was agreed to ask Jane North, Care Act implementation lead for Notts County Council to prepare a report on the Council’s progress with this work. It will be circulated for discussion at the next meeting.

Action: Penny Spice to ask Jane North to prepare an update report.

Any other business

Older People’s event in Newark - Val had information about an Older People’s event being held in Celebration of International Older People’s day on 28th September at Salvation Army Hall, Mead Way, Balderton at 9.30am to 1.00pm. See attached flyer.

Health and Wellbeing Board Stakeholder event – Penny said this event would focus on carers and is being held on 12th October at Edwinstowe House, Edwinstowe from 1.30pm to 4pm

See attached letter of invitation.

Nottinghamshire County Council consultation on proposed charge for organizing care and support for people with a higher level of savings – Konrad said this is for people who are self -funders and the consultation closes on 25th October – see attached.

Date of next meeting

Thursday 17th November 2016

At 10am to 12pm

At the Dukeries Academy, Whinney Lane, Ollerton

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