

To: Buckinghamshire Partnership Forum

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DEVELOPING A JOINT PHYSICAL DISABILITY STRATEGY

A PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To advise the Partnership Forum of the steps being taken to develop a joint physical disability strategy, involving all key stakeholders in the process.

B PROPOSED ACTION

- 2. The Partnership Forum is invited to NOTE and comment on the following proposal**

C SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3. At the Partnership Forum discussion following the review of the Physical Disability Resource Centre, reference was made to the need for a Joint Strategy for physical disability. Discussion between the Health Authority and Local Authority led to the agreement that this would be chaired by Social Services. Ms Beryl Ramsey , who has recently been confirmed as Group Manager for Physical Disability will lead the group..
4. One of the key concerns in developing the strategy is to ensure that users are at the forefront of developing the strategy and that they are full members of the working group. As was noted in the last discussion, there is no single group representing the views of users. Barbara Poole, from People's Voices, with support from the Locality Forums set up two sessions in late May to canvas the views of service users across the County. The views from these sessions will be presented at the Partnership Forum and incorporated in the strategy. In addition, people attending these sessions will be asked how they wish to be involved and if some are willing to join the group. Some service users attending the Direct Payments workshop at the beginning of May, have also expressed an interest in being involved.
5. The list of key agencies to be involved has now been drawn up and an outline project plan drawn up. Invitations for the first meeting will be sent out following the user sessions.

The establishment of this group for physical disability means that joint planning groups are now in place for all adult user groups.

Ms Ramsey will bring updates to future meetings of the Partnership Forum .

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