



Bucks Service User and Carer Organisation

## Executive Partnership Board – 21 May 2012

### SUCO - Chairman's Report

It has been a hectic few months, both within SUCO and County as a whole, hopefully things will settle down a bit and take a slower pace.

We are all very aware that potentially major changes are looming in respect of Benefits, health care as well as social care. We have begun to see this as plans are afoot to move the services from one hospital to another – for many this creates major problems with transport etc.

In the meantime the following is a brief insight into SUCO and the SDS Reference Group

#### • **Developing SUCO**

SUCO Management Board – in place  
SUCO development worker – in place

SUCO Governance –

- Discussions begun with Community Impact Bucks
- SUCO Terms of Reference are under review.
- Re-imburement policy in place,

SUCO Promotion -

- Logo created
- Leaflet produced
- Website being developed
- Chairman's 'Welcome' letter created and to be circulated

#### • **Recruitment to Partnership Boards**

- Meeting with potential representatives taken place, follow up work in hand to discuss with individuals what support they may need to attend

#### • **SUCO Work Plan**

- SUCO is currently updating our previous work plan with a view to producing four or five quarterly priorities on an on-going basis.

High on the agenda are

- Transformation of Day Opportunities – PA development and brokerage.
- Development of the new Direct Payments Service – Contact made with POhWER - currently reviewing the new Direct Payment Leaflets
- Pre-payment Cards for Direct Payments – continuing to raise awareness that these should be only 'one' of the options as laid down in DoH guidance and should not become the 'default'

- Breaks for Carers – continuing to raise the importance of Carers breaks in line with DoH guidance
- Looking at the current SDAQ assessment process, and how RISK is assessed, especially in light of the day services transformation
- Transport – we are working to highlight the lack of effective and accessible transport, and the major problems faced getting to local hospitals

#### SDS Service User & Carer Reference Group

- SDS reference Group Information day for Carers of those with a Learning Disability – to be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> June in Aylesbury, we plan to run a further one in the south of the county later in the summer
- On-going development of the workshops – both whole day as well as some smaller sessions
- Alison in her role with the Access Group along with Ian Cormack as a Carer - have been co-opted onto Wycombe district council's Task and finish Group to help them review the services they offer and do they meet the needs of those residents with a disability – this is a piece of work they have undertaken along with BCC's Physical and Sensory partnership board. A workshop is to be held in marlow on the 24<sup>th</sup> may for people to come and raise issues both good and bad.
- The outcome of the above workshop will be fed back to both Councils and circulated around the Boards later in the year
- The Reference Group is working to re-establish our regular 'DPO forum' on a bi-monthly rota to include a programme of regular speakers and welcome both old and new members
- To kick this off SUCO has been in discussion with INDI (infrastructure network disability information) and we are to hold a joint event on the morning of the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2012 – details to follow.
- This will also include Milton Keynes and Oxfordshire groups.
- It is hoped that Rachel Wallech the Ambassador from the Government's Office of Disability Information (ODI) will be joining us.

regards  
Alison Lewis

phone - 0300 777 2711  
mobile - 0789 691 9616