



Buckinghamshire County Council

Minutes

OLDER PEOPLE'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD

MINUTES OF THE OLDER PEOPLE'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD HELD ON TUESDAY 10 JULY 2007, IN MEZZANINE ROOM 2, COUNTY HALL, AYLESBURY, COMMENCING AT 10.02 AM AND CONCLUDING AT 11.57 AM.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Patricia Birchley, Buckinghamshire County Council
Mike Corns, Culture and Learning, BCC
Ken Dorling, Alzheimer's Society
Steve Goldensmith, Team for Older People, BCC
Martin Holt, Chiltern District Council (VC)
Claire Oaten, OBMH
Emma Parry, Buckinghamshire PCT
Peter Ramcharitar, Buckinghamshire Hospitals Trust
Freda Roberts MBE, Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Older People
Chris Stanners, Older Peoples Champions
Kerry Stevens, Head of Service for Older People, BCC
Stephen Stych, NSF Co-ordinator, BCC
Jane Taptiklis, Buckinghamshire PCT (C)

OTHERS PRESENT

Stuart Townsend, Buckinghamshire PCT
Charlotte Watts, BCC

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Angie Blackmore, Alison Bussey, Jo Brader, Neil Comley, Sheila Davies and Barbara Eccleston.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Older People's Partnership Board on 9 May 2007 were confirmed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Matter Arising

Jane Taptiklis reported that she was still to pursue the issues around hospital care for a 94 year old lady from a commissioning and contractual perspective.

Action: Jane Taptiklis

Chris Stanners and Sheila Davies had not yet had the opportunity to meet with Pat Ward to discuss the failure of the market to deliver the types of products and services that older people wanted, but hoped to do so soon.

Action: Chris Stanners and Sheila Davies

Strategy 4 - transport issues

Kerry Stevens indicated that he would e-mail the programme manager of the Joint Improvement Board regarding the involvement of older people in decisions about waste and recycling.

Action: Kerry Stevens

Neil Comely had previously agreed to write a letter about his role offering to be the main point of contact between older people's action groups and the voluntary sector and transportation. Members were uncertain whether or not this action had been completed and it was agreed to receive an update on this action at the next meeting of the board.

Action: Neil Comely

Mental Health Liaison – County Wide Service

The clerk undertook to remind Eryl Davies that she had agreed to arrange for Sharon Boudy to address the OPPB about depression in older people.

Action: Sheilah Moore

OP Strategy and Action Plan Refresh

It was noted that the Terms of Reference for the Adult Commissioners had not yet been finalised and would be circulated in due course.

Action: Sheilah Moore

Future chairing arrangements

It had previously been agreed that the chairmanship would operate on a rolling basis and the Terms of Reference of the OPPB had been updated to reflect this. A member was concerned that the voluntary sector's opportunity to chair the meeting was not lost.

Any Other Business

There was some discussion around lifting frail people who fell in their own homes. Health or social care staff were no longer able to call an ambulance to lift fall people up without being charged. Kerry Stevens indicated that he was in discussions with the ambulance trust about this, but made it clear that social care could not simply step in to fill the gap. It was agreed that Kerry Stevens would raise the issue at the Adult Commissioners meeting.

Action: Kerry Stevens

4. OP STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN REFRESH

Members made a number of amendments to the Older People's Action Plan. The revised document would be brought back to the next meeting of the OPPB for agreement. The Chairman requested that all members take time to review the action plan prior to the September meeting.

Action: All members

With respect to action 3.3 of the Older People's Action Plan, Jane Taptiklis agreed to write on behalf of the OPPB to Buckinghamshire PCT with a proposal about Older Peoples Champions to be in GP surgeries to promote Older People's issues with doctors and nurses and to ensure that Older People are "listened to."

Action: Jane Taptiklis

With respect to action 5.4, Jane Taptiklis undertook to write to Town and Parish Councils on behalf of OPPB to find out if all allotments were, in fact, let.

Action: Jane Taptiklis

With respect to action 5.8 Steve Goldensmith agreed to follow up with financial services providers such as Business Link about courses on offer.

Action: Steve Goldensmith

The meeting requested that Sheila Davies clarify the meaning of action 5.9.

Action: Sheila Davies

5. PROGRESS ON IMPROVED SUPPORT FOR OLDER CARERS

Members received and considered a report from David Richardson, of Carers Bucks. It was noted that Carers Bucks had recently secured funding for a new post – an Older Person's Advocate – from Comic Relief to the value of £96,000 over three years. The new job would be based in Carers Bucks' Wycombe Carers Centre and the post holder would commence work on 13th August 2007. The role would provide advocacy and support to individual older carers to enable their needs and the needs of their loved ones to be met, including advocacy to GP and other health services, social services, legal and financial agencies, respite and residential care providers. In essence, the service aimed to help older carers identify the information they required and supply it in the most appropriate form to them, signposting them and advocating for them to other relevant agencies where appropriate.

6. NSF UPDATE

Members received and considered an update report from Steve Stych and noted developments on various fronts but recognised the continued struggle with some key services that needed an integrated approach.

Steve Stych drew members' attention to the difficulties being encountered by the Champions in terms of inadequate representation and attendance at meetings. In particular, non-executive director representation from Buckinghamshire PCT was sought. Chris Stanners informed the meeting that a review of the Champions' Forum was underway and a consultation document had been sent to stakeholders. The Champions would be meeting in September to discuss the results of the consultation and decide on the way forward. It was agreed that all members of the OPPB would feed back to their various organisations on the need to field additional Champions and report back to the next meeting of the OPPB.

Action: All Members

Emma Parry agreed to provide some information from the national champion's network to be circulated with the Minutes of the OPPB meeting and Steve Stych undertook to supply information work on being done to promote Dignity in Care Champions.

Action: Emma Parry and Steve Stych

7. VOLUNTARY SECTOR PARTNERSHIP GROUP

Steve Goldensmith reported that it was taking a long time to develop a voluntary and community sector OPPB sub group due to the involvement of voluntary sector in a wide range of other County, District and Health Initiatives. An advert for the group had been published in recent copy of the Big Times, but unfortunately, there had been very little response. Subsequently, further discussion had been held with Voluntary Impact to take the initiative forward and had identified actions for the next 9 months. Two series of regular meetings would take place in the form of a Small Voluntary & Community Group Network and a Key Provider Group Network. The meetings would feed into OPPB via either Steve Goldensmith or another representative of the groups.

Martin Holt asked about how this tied in with the Older People's Forum Thematic Partnership being proposed by Chris Walkling. Steve Goldensmith conceded that there would be some overlap but he considered it to be a productive overlap. Steve Goldensmith agreed to discuss similarities and synergy with Chris Walkling and explore the possibility of Chris Walkling attending a future meeting of OPPB to discuss his proposal further.

Action: Steve Goldensmith and Chris Walkling

8. REDESIGN OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Emma Parry updated members on developments with regard to the redesign of community services.

- For unscheduled care Harmoni had been commissioned to develop a single point of access and to serve as a signpost for patients to the most appropriate services.
- The PCT was working to ensure equity of access to community hospitals and that they were fit for purpose. Service provision needed to be enhanced and inappropriate admissions avoided.
- Integrated community teams linking with the acute trust and GP surgeries were being developed to prevent readmissions and inappropriate admissions.
- Every effort was being made to manage risk and make effective use of resources in the community.
- A consultancy had produced a report on the equitable delivery of services across Buckinghamshire.
- Out of hours nursing services would now be provided by Harmoni to allow for flexibility in determining the skill mix of staff required to meet out of hours needs.
- A framework for redesign work was being developed.

Emma Parry extended an invitation to the OPPB to nominate representatives to join the redesign group. Representation from social care, in particular, would be most welcome.

In response to a question about a potential reduction in the number of district nurses, Stuart Townsend replied that previous plans to do so had been shelved. A member enquired as to whether the consultation around the redesign had been completed. Stuart Townsend indicated that Overview and Scrutiny had been very involved in consultation on the redesign and that the PCT was now merely proposing to change the way the same services were delivered. Older People had participated in reference groups as had representatives from the patient and public involvement forums.

Emma Parry undertook to provide a formal report on the redesign to the next meeting of the OPPB along with a copy of the consultant's report.

Action: Emma Parry

9. ACTION 5 - TO ADDRESS THE FAILURE OF THE MARKET TO DELIVER THE TYPES OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES THAT OLDER PEOPLE WANT

This item was deferred to a future meeting of the OPPB.

Action: Sheila Davies and Chris Stanners

10. REPORT BACK ON PROPOSED POST OFFICE CLOSURES

The report on proposed post office closures was noted.

11. ACCESS AND SYSTEMS GRANT

The update from Kate Walker was noted.

12. LISTENING TO CARERS DVD

The information about the availability of the listening to carer's DVD was noted.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Charlotte Watts circulated information on tackling bogus callers, aimed at assisting older people and vulnerable to reduce the risk of being burglarised. She explained that a conference on crime and the fear of crime had recently been held and the community safety team would be represented at the Older People's conference on 16th July. Community Safety days had been held in all but 2 of the GC2C areas. Charlotte agreed to circulate information on how to stop cold callers and 'junk' mail to all members of the OPPB.

Action: Charlotte Watts

Members agreed that there should be an action around crime and the fear of crime in the older people's action plan and Steve Goldensmith and Charlotte Watts undertook to draft an action for the action plan.

Action: Steve Goldensmith and Charlotte Watts

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10 September at 2.30pm in Mezzanine Room 2, County Hall, Aylesbury.

CHAIRMAN