



Prevention Partnership Board

Minutes

Wednesday 25 July 2012

Members in attendance:	
Stephen Archibald	Carers Bucks
Linda Barnes	The Alzheimer's Society
Sheila Bees	Wycombe District Council
Josie Bishton	Bromford Support
Peter Bruford	Riverside
Liz Bubbear	ConnectionFS
Dominic Games	Paradigm Housing
Steve Goldensmith	BCC
Anna Gordon	Aylesbury Vale District Council
Chris Gregory	Bucks & Milton Keynes Sports Partnership
Margaret Howard	South Bucks District Council
Giulia Johnson	Age UK
Sally Morris	Thames Valley Probation
Claire Paine	AVDC
Tony Peak	South Bucks District Council
Lee Scrafton	BCC
Mark Thompson	ConnectionFS
Steve Tredwell	Vale of Aylesbury Housing
Mike Veryard	Chiltern District Council

No	Item
1	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Steve Goldensmith welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Luisa Fletcher, Becci Seaborne, James Sainsbury, Susie Yapp and Stephanie Moffat. Lee Scrafton attended in place of Susie Yapp and Claire Paine attended on behalf of Stephanie Moffat.</p>
2	<p>Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the Prevention Partnership Board meeting held on 11th April were agreed as a correct record. It was agreed that the notes of the three sub-groups would be circulated for any comments outside of the meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Kelly Sutherland</p> <p>Steve Goldensmith advised that there had been some changes to the overall structure of the various Partnership Boards and how they link in with Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs). An up to date structure chart would be circulated as soon as it was finalised.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Kelly Sutherland</p>
3	<p>Priorities of Themed Groups</p> <p>Steve Goldensmith explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the themes that had resulted from the sub-group discussions, as detailed in the Priorities Template in the agenda pack. The Board discussed the themes and the following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that the troubled families agenda linked in with the Prevention Board's themes. Steve Goldensmith suggested that it would be useful to include presentations on the following on future agendas: Troubled Families, Prevention Matters and Dementia Communities. • A member mentioned that there was no classic health improvement themes included under Improving Health. Steve Goldensmith explained that because the Board was focussing its efforts on vulnerable people on the cusp of social care, there were no priorities aiming at a universal audience. • Chris Gregory of Bucks and Milton Keynes Sports Partnership was asked if anyone was co-ordinating the promotion of physical activity and the Five Ways to Wellbeing initiative. Chris Gregory explained that they had carried out pathway work on how to signpost physical activity. Steve Goldensmith suggested that it would be useful to draw together a schematic of the various

activities and how they fit together. It was agreed that Steve Goldensmith would contact Lynn Trigwell who is currently undertaking a similar piece of work.

Action: Steve Goldensmith

- Steve Goldensmith was asked how the Executive Partnership Board links in with the Prevention Partnership Board. Steve Goldensmith explained that the Prevention Partnership Board would feed the agreed priorities up to the Executive Partnership Board (EPB) for approval. Although there is no specific budget attached to the Prevention Partnership Board, it was felt that if there was a strong enough business case to support a particular initiative, then the EPB might be able to delegate some funding. It was also noted that the EPB hold the Supporting People funding so the Prevention Partnership Board also has an opportunity to influence the spend of that budget.

Steve Goldensmith asked colleagues to divide into 2 groups with a view to agreeing priorities and actions to address the issues of Housing & Welfare Benefit changes and Social Isolation. After group discussions lasting 45 minutes, the Board reconvened to share the outcomes.

Housing & Benefit Changes

Benefit Changes

With regards to the recent Benefit Changes it was suggested that there needed to be increased awareness and training for all staff on the frontline, across all support agencies. In addition it was acknowledged that specialist advice services, such as Citizen's Advice Bureau were already overstretched and therefore it might be useful to either increase their resources or commission new services to focus on providing advice to the most vulnerable people, in order to prevent them becoming clients of Adult Social Care.

It was noted that the impact of the welfare reforms could be further exacerbated by changes in local authorities policies e.g. there had been a change recently in that local authorities were charging a monthly charge for white goods supplied in their accommodation. This was increased pressure for some clients on low incomes and it was suggested that if there was a way of collating feedback from different organisations, such as housing support providers, then issues such as this could be fed upwards to ensure strategic discussions could be held across the districts and county council to agree a co-ordinated approach.

Access

The issue of access to suitable accommodation was a longstanding

one which was likely to worsen in the wake of the welfare reforms. Under 35s will be forced to look at houses of multiple occupancy (HMOs) and this is not ideal for vulnerable people who may relapse into past behaviours in a shared accommodation situation. As always there was an issue of getting landlords to consider taking on clients who could be seen as 'problems', perhaps due to substance misuse or criminal record.

With sheltered accommodation, although occupancy rates remained high, clients now had more complex needs than the over 55s of twenty years ago and this meant that the warden model was no longer sufficient. There was a need to consider changing the support model.

Michael Veryard reported that there was a piece of work being undertaken across Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, which had attracted £500,000 funding from central Government, to combat rough sleeping and single homelessness. Wycombe District Council are leading on this and schemes have to be generic across Bucks and Oxon. Schemes to address concerns around benefits changes and move on accommodation issues had been suggested and Mike Veryard commented that if the government funding could be used to pump prime a new scheme in one of these areas, maybe the Executive Partnership Board might consider continuing to fund the scheme in future, if it addresses the Prevention Partnership Board's priorities.

As always, the question remains as to how much you can do to resolve problems without significant resources. It was noted that Supporting People contracts are coming up for renewal. The services need to be reviewed to ensure that they can help to combat the issues that have been identified by the Prevention Partnership Board and it was suggested that the Board could play a 'critical friend' role in the recommissioning process.

Social Isolation

Although there were lots of community activities in Buckinghamshire, they were not all fully utilised. People need encouragement and sometimes real 'hand-holding' in order to attend these events. Whilst there are befriending organisations for older people and people with dementia, could befriending be expanded across the age ranges? Also were all groups doing all they could to make their activities more friendly and accessible?

The other issue was Information – it was important to look at how to best signpost people to services. Should there perhaps be more than one person at a county level to co-ordinate activities and help to keep information on different groups up to date.

	<p>The group recommended learning more about Dementia Friendly communities. Plymouth was held up as an example of good practice.</p> <p>Steve Goldensmith thanked everyone for their ideas and contributions to the discussions. He commented that it was important for the Board to find out what was already happening with regards to the issues they had identified, so that the Board could then try to influence and shape the work of existing groups and agencies to better address the priorities. It was agreed that Steve Goldensmith would use today's discussions to produce the priorities for the Board and at the September meeting there would be some presentations that were pertinent to these priorities. At the September meeting the Board could decide if the three sub-groups needed to meet again.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Steve Goldensmith</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Action Planning</p> <p>This item was considered together with Item 3.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Date of Next and Future Meetings</p> <p>Wednesday 12th September 2012 in Mezzanine Room 1 at 10am Wednesday 21st November 2012 in the Large Dining Room, Judges Lodgings, County Hall</p>

Chairman