

Learning Disability Partnership Board



Minutes from our meeting on 24 July 2024



Definition

'Minutes' are notes from the meeting that tell you what we talked about, and what we decided to do.



People who came to the meeting



Audrey Miller– Speak Out, Link Group Volunteer



Cameron Brown - Council, Head of Service 25+ and Specialist Clinical Services



Diana Mills – Speak Out, Link Group



Fiona England – Parent Carer's Council, Representative



Frances Sulikosky – Speak Out, Engagement Coordinator



Ian Metherell – Speak Out, Link Group



Jacqui Parfitt – Council, Head of Families, Children and Learning Commissioning



Jane Viner – Council, Learning Disability Health Facilitator



Jem Hadert - Amaze, Amazing Futures Coordinator



Jenny Cain – Council, Commissioning Officer



Jess Harper – Council, Engagement Lead



Josh Puglia – Grace Eyre and Accessible Transport Panel, Ambassador



Julie Rossiter – Grace Eyre, Director of Income Generation



Sussex Partnership

Karen Kimberly – Sussex Partnership NHS Trust, Clinical Service Manager & Specialist Occupational Therapist



Lisa Mitchell – Council, Employability Service



Lorraine Hughes – Council, Specialist Community Disability Team



Lou Aish – Council, Commissioning Manager



Luci Maxwell-Stewart – Speak Out, Link Group



Michael Robinson - Speak Out, Link Group



Naomi Cox – Grace Eyre, Operational Services



Pagane Gacheva – Grace Eyre, Our Voices Coordinator



Peter Mustow – Council, Transitions Strategy



Richard D'Souza – Council, Interim Director of Health & Adult Social Care



Steve Castellari – Carers Centre, Engagement Lead



Will Davies - Speak Out, CEO



People who could not come to the meeting



Abby Lonsdale - Sussex Learning from Lives and Deaths (LeDeR) Reviewer



Carla Butler – Council, Employability Service



Tristram Burden – Councillor Queen’s Park, Chair of Adult Social Care



Francisco Vidal – Southdown, Operations Manager



Sarah Digon - Council Specialist Community Disability Team, Inclusive Communication Officer



Sarah Watson – Speak Out, Link Group



Vanessa De Guzman – Parent Carers’ Council, Participation Worker



Victoria Garcia – Brighton & Hove Buses and Metrobuses, Accessibility & Communities Manager

How these minutes work



Important information will be in blue, so you can see it easily. These are things like definitions of difficult words, decisions we make, or where you can find further information.



Actions will be in red, for the same reason.



Definition

An **'action'** is a task that somebody at the meeting is supposed to do. We try and achieve these tasks between each meeting.

Have we done what we said we would do last meeting?



Jess Harper followed up people's questions about the new Transitions Strategy. Answers:

1. The strategy will link to the updated Housing Strategy.
2. The Transitions Strategy will not consider people older than 25 years old.



Jane Viner and **Kevin Sutton** have been working together to make a sexual health clinic photo story. They will work together on the new gender identity service when they can.



Steve Castellari sent through the details of the Carers Day event. He told us that it went well.



Action carried over
Cameron Brown or Richard Stevenson will let us know when their team has finished the work improving how they communicate with people on the social work waitlist.

Link Group update for July



The Link Group gave a presentation about what has been happening for some of the Learning Disability community since the last meeting.



This easy read presentation is available if you email info@bhspeakout.org.uk . It is also on the Padlet: [Click here for Padlet.](#)

Council presentation about the new Transitions Strategy



Peter Mustow from the Council gave an update about the work that has been done writing a new Transitions Strategy for people aged 14- 25 years old.



This presentation is available if you email info@bhspeakout.org.uk . It is also on the Padlet: [Click here for Padlet.](#)



Michael Harris asked what happens for older people? **Frances Sulikosky** added that a lot of people feel like they missed out on good transitional planning. **Peter** said they cannot fix the past but only learn from this in the future.



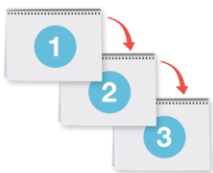
Luci Maxwell Stewart said that people still need a named social worker, especially when they are moving house.



Pagane Gacheva asked whether the plan included training more employers to employ people with learning disabilities or autism. **Peter** said they are thinking about it.



Lisa Mitchell from Supported Employment added that the Department for Work and Pensions offers training to employers. The Council is working with employers and groups like Team Domenica to make sure it works well.



Lou Aish asked about how the plan will be put into action. **Peter** said that they have got a small group of experts meeting over the next 6 months who will set the action plan.



Fiona England said that evaluating this strategy will be really important, and that there will be lots of people invested in it. She asked whether the Partnership Board could be involved in the formal evaluation process.



Action

Peter Mustow to consider how the Partnership Board can be part of the formal evaluation process of the Transitions Strategy and / or be kept updated.



Naomi Cox said that there had been a lot of different transitions strategies over the years and asked how this one would be any different. **Peter** said this one is much broader and will bring everything into one place.



Will Davies asked whether there are any other councils do transitions really well. **Peter** said they learnt from others by having a central transitions team that will be accountable for the plan, and also coordinate what is happening in other teams in the Council.



Peter said they did a self-assessment on how the Council is doing on transitions currently, and found that there are lots of gaps for people. The Council was best in education and employment, but there were still lots of gaps in those areas too.



Steve Castellari, Michael Harris and Frances Sulikosky, and Fiona England said that a lot of people are transitioning out of family homes or higher levels of support at later stages in their lives and need a lot of support. Currently there is a huge problem for these people.

Update from the Housing and Support working group



Lou Aish gave an update about what the Housing and Support working group had been doing recently.



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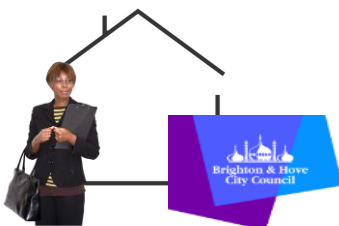


Action

Lou Aish to visit the Link Group and test the housing information with them.



Fiona England said that she had heard of another local authority who puts every person who has an Education, Health and Care Plan straight onto the housing list. She wondered whether this would help us collect data of who needs what type of housing and support.



Lou said that hopefully data collection and other processes will be more joined up now that the Adult Social Care and Housing teams have combined in Council.



Pagane Gacheva said everyone should be encouraged to go on the housing list. **Lou** said it would be good to give people more information about it.



Naomi Cox said the housing event was good, and she was surprised to see how many housing providers there are. It would be good to keep working with them.



Michael Harris asked about housing for over-50s. **Lou** said they are working to have a good range of different housing available in the city.



Will Davies and **Fiona England** asked about the availability of private rental housing stock and old student housing that has been freed up since the student halls.

Update from the Information and Advice working group



Jenny Cain gave an update about what the Information and Advice working group had been doing recently.



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Action

Jenny to visit the Link Group and test the Visit Brighton page with them for sharing accessible events information.



Jess Harper said that the Healthy Lifestyles Team are also developing an information / events hub, so they could also list what activities are accessible on that page.



Action

Jess Harper to email **Jenny** about the Healthy Lifestyles Team information hub.



Pagane Gacheva said it would be good to link with Gig- and SportsBuddies from Stay Up Late to learn from them about event information.



Action

Jenny Cain to link with Stay Up Late to talk with them about sharing event information and accessibility.

Presentation from the Council Supported Employment Team



Lisa Mitchell from the Supported Employment Team told us that they are looking at how they work with people and employers to train people up and get them in employment.



Department
for Work &
Pensions



Frances Sulikosky and **Will Davies** said how unclear and / or emotional it is for some people to engage with the Department for Work and Pensions about working while on benefits.



Action

Lisa Mitchell to raise this with the Department for Work and Pensions and see if they can get clearer information for employers and people with learning disabilities.



Action

Jenny Cain to link with the Supported Employment Team to share their information on the Council's Easy Read Information Hub.



Action

Will Davies to share the Speak Out easy read information about working while receiving benefits with **Lisa**.

Other notices or comments?



Frances Sulikosky and **Jess Harper** have been investigating other venues for the meeting after Frances raised that the venue has some accessibility issues and risks for people with low mobility.



The Council Chambers can sometimes be unreliable as Council meetings can override bookings. The other possible option is the BRIGHTHELM CENTRE in central Brighton.



Action

Frances Sulikosky will poll members on venue change and potential change to the timing of the meetings over email.



Will Davies and **Frances Sulikosky** raised that they had reports of the Learning Disability Liaison Team at the County Sussex Hospital being short-staffed and that this had affected a Speak Out member in hospital recently.



Cameron Brown said that he was aware there is an issue around recruitment but didn't think there was any current issues. **Frances** said the Thumbs Up group has been working with the Liaison Team and will link up with the Health and Wellbeing Working Group.

Find out more



If you want to find out more about the Learning Disability Partnership Board or Speak Out, please contact:



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