Learning Disability Partnership Board 02/12/2015

Attendees:	
Amy Dunn	
Christine Peacock	
Kylie Hillman	
Elisha Davies	
Farmeen Aktar	
Farzana Sajjad	
Mohammed Patel	
Laura Dobson	
Sarah Ward	
Denise Gaffing	
Janet Lord	
David Entwistle	
Wendy Howard	
Sylvia Hooson	
Denise Cottam	
Julie Leverton	
Valerie	
Phyllis Bradley	
Tom Barton	
Michael Turner	
John Wynn	
Julie Walsh	
Camilla Marchant	
Linda Williams	
Karen Beveridge	
Gemma McMullan	
Justin Pritt	
Zoe Kennedy	
Craig Smith	
Mandy Crabtree	
Sham Sunnisa	

Zuber	
Nigel Braithwaite	
Cheryl Sandford	
Stephen Gallagher	
Paula Spence	
Angie Allen	
Pete Soothill	
Apologies:	
Rosemary	
Helen Coates	
Sarah-Jane Kent	
Geraldine Condon	

No	Notes	Action by
	Due to a shorter agenda because of the Christmas raffle, the agenda item re: About Me Cards has been deferred to the next meeting in February.	-
	Brief update re: North West Advocacy Conference; names of potential representatives were drawn from a hat, Angie, Stephen, and Michael are to attend the conference. Further funds have been raised and a fourth place will be offered to Janet, and there is the possibility for a fifth person to also attend. Connect have also offered to pay for transport to and from the event.	
	Action: Agenda item re: About Me Card at the next LD Partnership Board,	
	03/02/2016. Agenda item re: the future of the LD Partnership Board, at the next board meeting, 03/02/2016.	
2.	Connect Brochure update: There is a new easy-read brochure which has expanded on Gemma's previous work. The new brochure is more detailed and provides a better insight into projects and services the council and it's partners provide; including a little known airport scheme for adults with Autism and learning difficulties.	
	There is also a vulnerable adult card for use on public transport, this isn't to get free or discounted travel, but it just makes bus drivers, ticket conductors, etc. aware of any assistance the card holder may require.	
	A new bus shelter campaign for Connect is also being launched, a Winter campaign and a Summer campaign. Six models were chosen from communities and two of the models were Stephen and Farmeen.	
	Action:	

To take vulnerable adult card brochures to the Women's Centre.

3. Parents representative:

At the previous meeting Paula Pritchard explained to the parents group the merge of budgets, but the group are concerned what would then be the driving force behind the spending; the demand for health is greater than social care. The LD board need to be involved with these discussions going forward.

The parents group also feel the NW Advocacy Conference is being attended by the same people as the previous two years. PS and other members of the LD board don't think this is a fair view as those attending are the only ones who have been willing to volunteer to attend, and this year's allocation was a fair process of drawing names from a hat. If people are wary of attending, a video blog of the conference would be useful so people can see what the conference is about and so there doesn't seem like a bias towards certain clients. There is a possibility that the conference organisers already have a video blog.

The group raised concerns around the limited support at Blackburn College. Support appears very fragmented, the start of the year there is a lot of interaction but then support fades away and is not followed through. The college previously offered a "buddy" qualification to carers to they could support LD students through college at no extra charge. This was seen as a very good idea. No college representative was present at the board to comment, but the college do attend the Skills and Education Group, but this representative has now left.

The parents group don't think a lot of people are aware of the LD board, and if people aren't aware of the board, they won't be aware of the services available to the LD community. The Board needs to get the message out of services that are provided, but currently there is no PR and communications group for the Board to pass such issues though.

The parents group have concerns that their opinions and feedback aren't being listened to. PS reminds the group representative that parents have their own group, and have a representative to feedback to the LD board.

The parents group feel that it is the same six or seven who attend every group meeting. There is no driver for parent's to attend, the meetings need a focal point. A service representative should attend so that there is someone for parents to hold accountable for actions, or lack thereof. There is already a review of the carers service, and the new service will be launched in June, and a big part of this service is feedback.

Blackburn Rovers Offer:

There is a feeling within communities that people with disabilities can't attend football matches, but Blackburn Rovers welcome everyone. BRFC have developed an easy read booklet which explains what a disabled person can expect at a football game so there are no unexpected surprises, which will make the whole experience much more enjoyable. In addition to this booklet, there is also a legal tender poster in Ewood Park next to every vendor. Blackburn Rovers also host tours of Ewood Park for those disabled people who have not attended a game before so they can become familiar with their environment and become familiar with the surroundings and layout.

If it is not possible for a disabled person to attend the game alone

Blackburn Rovers will provide a second ticket for the carer to attend with them.

All stewards have been trained in how to interact with disabled fans, and there are dedicated stewards to help disabled fans who wear a unique jacket so they can be easily identified. PS thinks it would also be a good idea for stewards to be made aware of the About Me Cards.

Healthwatch:

The Person First project listens to groups who may not always have their views heard. Angie Allen has been recruited as a champion for the project, and she attends a number of workshops to encourage feedback. Feedback from service users was that professional language is difficult to understand so artwork has been developed to give service users a better understanding. Healthwatch have also found that professionals put the disability before the individual, and group similar disabilities together, rather than treat each case on its own and meet the specific needs of the individual. Service users also reported a frustration in the lack of consistency of health professionals. Often they see a different doctor or nurse with each visit so trust and understanding is very difficult to build. The Healthcare Passport is also not being utilised as well as it should be but from now patient records will flag if an individual has learning disabilities to make a the patient-professional interaction a slicker process.

If people don't receive support currently, but need support they need to be made aware of services available to them. Partner services have all the information of provision that the Council provides so they should be promoting these.

All the data collected by Healthwatch will feed into and inform the twelve month plan which is currently being developed.

Action:

To invite new Blackburn College representative to the LD Board.

To check if the NW Advocacy Conference have a video blog. If not, the board will create their own.

4. Angie Allen would like to thank everyone for attending the LD board and listening to service user concerns and feedback.