

## NOTES OF MEETING, Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018

### JOINT PHYSICAL DISABILITY PLANNING GROUP

1. **APOLOGIES:** Sheena Wight, Tom Welsh, Gillian Chapman
2. **ATTENDEES:** Jayne Lewis, Jeff Adamson, Catriona Luff, Mike Harrison, Marlene Gill, Anne Morrison, Sarah Taylor, Eric Johnstone, Neil Saddington, Karl Vanter, Catherine Acton
3. **WELCOME** Jayne welcomed Neil Saddington to the group. Neil is a Senior LLE Worker whose area of focus is Adult and Families Literacy and Numeracy. Neil will be attending the group in place of Karen McGowan. (Karen wishing to remain on mailing list and will attend if specifically required)
4. **NOTES** from previous meeting 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017 - Agreed

#### 5. **MATTERS ARISING**

-Given the time since our last meeting, most issues have moved on significantly.

– Forward Mid held a small event on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb attended by around 7 elected members, to launch the updated Disabled Directory which was received enthusiastically by them.

– Jeff restated his continued frustration at no further action on the creation of an SDS Reference Group as promised. **Jayne** will chase this up

- Anne advised that Thistle are continuing the Wellbeing Service given the positive outcomes reported from the service. **Anne** will double check that the report is public and will forward to Group for information. The report seems to identify a gap in those with a physical disability being referred. Mostly mental health issues, but many of these develop due to living with a LTC, neurological condition etc. Group to be conscious of this when reading the report and to consider whether we want to create a sub-report, highlighting the issue and perhaps the possibilities of self-referrals to increase PD clients. (**Jayne**) Anne also advised that new advanced Practitioners are coming into GP Practices to help reduce requirement for GP appointments.

– Jeff updated the group on “Franks Law” – no longer being called this as the Law, which is to be introduced in April 19, now to cover all under 65s, not just those with dementia/neuro conditions as lobbied for originally. Ongoing discussions however as to the detail of how this will work and whether payments go to the Local Authority or the individual. Once agreed however, it will be a legislative requirement. Potential unintended consequences however of re-assessment for every claimant.

#### 6. **ACTION PLAN UPDATES**

##### **- Updated plan**

Jayne did meet with all the action leads and updated the Action Plan which was circulated prior to the last meeting which was cancelled. This included a few new actions as agreed with the leads

##### **-Newsletter**

The content of the 1<sup>st</sup> newsletter has been produced and is ready to go with the next

ForwardMid Newsletter. As this will not be until June, we will be likely to be able to include a report from this and our next meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> May. Jayne will share the 1st one and group to share with their own networks. Suggestion that we could utilise TV screens in GP surgeries and Community Hospital, to promote what we do. Jayne to explore how/if this can be arranged. Will also look at a more suitable format for this purpose. Suggestion also that notice boards in Tesco and Morrison's etc. should be explored.

#### **-Forward Mid Update**

*Transport Directory 2018* produced and almost ready for circulation. Karl will send a couple of last minute updates to Eric.

*Guide to SDS in Midlothian booklet* also produced and ready to go. Both these publications along with the updated 2018 Disabled Directory to be promoted through an open door event at MVA on 16<sup>th</sup> May, 10.-3pm.

*Mapping Exercise* – Quite a lot of information already around on this but needs pulled together specifically with disabled people in mind e.g. is the venue for a support group accessible? Jayne and Catherine will work together on this – table top exercise initially and then widen through the networks of group members.

*Disabled Peoples Assembly* Forward Mid keen to pursue this and hope to hold an initial event before the summer break – in same format as Older People' Assembly which has been very successful.

#### **– Try A Train event**

Karl up dated the group on the proposal development for a Try A Train event. Likely to be held jointly with Edinburgh College – presentation by Scotrail within the College with catering then out onto train at Eskbank Station, free of charge to Gorebridge station (wheelchair user and escort), disembark and then next train back again. Once dates and details finalised, all to be involved in promoting/supporting the event. Try A Bus event also being planned – potential to tie this in with Disabled People's Assembly event.

**– Taxi Directory** Karl and Jayne had met with Alan Turpie who is keen to progress this as part of a review of Taxi Licencing process. Also looking at introducing Disability Awareness Training as a requirement of licence. Jayne, Mike and Karl invited to attend this training being delivered to Edinburgh taxi drivers, this already being a requirement for them.

– **“Helping Older and Disabled passengers”** booklet for train passengers. Karl now has a supply of these booklets and they will be put in the Transport Carousels in Libraries. Anyone wanting copies to contact Karl or can be downloaded on line.

– **Blue Badges** Karl advised that changes to the registration for those who are “sight impaired” and “severely sight impaired” mean the Blue Badge application process is being changed to reflect this.

### **7. Overlap with Older People's Planning Group**

Jayne advised that discussions are going to take place to consider the potential overlap between this and the Older People's Planning group to consider how we might work together on common issues. Jayne will feed back on this as it develops.

### **8. Strategic Updates**

In Tom's absence, Jayne provided an update on the re-provisioning of the Astley Ainslie hospital. The plan to re-build on the site of the Royal Ed has now been put back by 5 years. This does however give more time for consideration and planning to ensure that

Services are provided in the most appropriate way for the people of Midlothian. Jayne and Catriona recently had a tour of the existing hospital to understand better, the services currently being provided there – food for thought.

#### **9. Disabled Parking Bays**

Jayne had circulated a letter sent to the CEO of Dobbies Garden Centres on behalf of the Planning Group regarding the removal of 8 disabled parking bays at the Lasswade Dobbies . Marlene has also sent a letter as an individual and an elected member is also contacting them.

#### **10. AOCB**

-Catriona told the group about the **E- Frailty Project** being run by the Red Cross. It is funded by Health Improvement Scotland. GPs use a frailty scale to identify and refer on. Emphasis is on low level frailty, prevention and isolation. The Red Cross then write out to the individual to offer assistance. This focusses more on the elderly but obvious cross-over with disabled people. Catriona is not aware of it being restricted to over 65s. Will check. It is being piloted at Danderhall, Eastfield and Penicuik Practices.

– Catriona also fedback on an event she had recently attended in Glasgow on the Scottish Government initiative “Adapting For Change” and highlighted really useful and informative associated literature. “Adapt To Fit”(GCiL) and “Home2Fit” , a Scottish register of accessible housing.

#### **11. Next meeting – Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2-4pm, Conference room 1 Fairfield House**