

NOTES OF MEETING, Tuesday 30th April 2019

JOINT PHYSICAL DISABILITY PLANNING GROUP

1. APOLOGIES: Jeff Adamson, Marlene Gill, Eric Johnstone

ATTENDEES: Karle Venters, Gillian Chapman, Mike Harrison, Sheree Muir, Jayne Lewis (Chair), Catherine _____, Aileen Murray (Minutes), Graham Kilpatrick, Rosie _____ & _____

WELCOME & FAREWELL: Jayne welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. Jayne explained that Tom Welsh has moved on and will no longer be chair of the group. Tom has e-mailed the group to share his news. The group thanked Tom for all his hard work and Jayne agreed to organise card.

2. NOTES from previous meeting 5th March 19 – agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING

-JPDPG Chair: Graham Kilpatrick, Service Manager will take over as chair from Tom going forward.

-Taxi Licensing - Discussed issue of taxi licensing, previous request that the council provide a list of accessible taxis and licensing would have this information. It then became apparent that licensing were about to do a review and it seemed a good opportunity to ask about training for taxi drivers which takes place in Edinburgh. Graham suggested that as the council purchase taxis for service users there may be a route to push the training as part of the commissioning. **Action:** Karl will speak to Alan Turpie about this again. Graham will look at the commissioning strategy to see if this can be explored this way.

- Portable Hoist at Community Hospital. – Aileen had not managed to get any update on this but will progress via radiology. **Action:** Aileen to contact radiology.

4. STRATEGIC UPDATE

– **The Strategic Plan** – Strategic plan now published and on-line. At the meeting the page on physical disability was shared, Jayne highlighted that the plan recognises the need to focus on prevention. Agreed 1 year plan should be created for this group. Acknowledgement this needs to be considered quickly to link with the strategic plan (see below).

- **New Service at St Johns, Livingstone** for short stay & day surgery cases. Ongoing concerns have been raised about transport links. Karl shared that there have been previous attempts to re-route the public bus from St John's that goes to RIE via the Park and Rides and Straiton and Sherrifhall with no success. We agreed that this new service perhaps gives more weight to this suggestion. Discussed it may be that suggestions

needs to be made further down the planning process. **Action:** Jayne will continue to attend meetings and share relevant info with group.

- **Astley Ainslie** Re-design work is ongoing, partnerships are being asked for bed numbers and awaiting costs for this. This re-provision provides a good opportunity to consider how we will change community services to better support people in Midlothian. **Action:** Sheree has kindly agreed to be the service user representative meetings, Jayne will ensure invite is sent to Sheree as meetings are planned.

5. GRAHAM KILPATRICK/SHELAGH SWITHENBANK

- **Graham's Role** Graham introduced himself and explained his new job role which covers physical disability, learning disability and health services including community physiotherapy. Graham shared the changes in fieldwork which should allow staff to work with specific service user groups with the aim staff becoming more skilled in their area. Graham advised he has responsibility to commission services also, Catherine highlighted the importance of the voluntary sector.
- **Short Breaks & Respite Policy** Graham shared that there has been work in a respite & short breaks policy to ensure that services are equitable and that staff are consistent whilst being thoughtful to each service user. Policy recognised the different kinds of support and respite. Graham highlighted the challenge of finding the balance between policy and individual circumstances. Graham noted that different resources could be chargeable or not and sometimes there can be a grey areas. General discussion about lack of resources for those who have a physical disability particularly for those under 65. The group agreed there was need to focus on service development in this area. Discussed need for there to be a focus on both the service user and carers outcomes and that the experience needs to be meaningful and positive for both. Rosie highlighted the need for this information to be shared more widely. Graham is keen for this group to consider how this is done. Shelagh highlighted that there is a short breaks statement on the council website which was created with vocal, this statement is a legal requirement of the act. Shelagh encouraged feedback on this statement. **Action** Graham will send out policy and group to send back any comments/queries as a first step. Aileen will also check with Becky Hilton if there is a record of unmet need with regards to respite.

6. ACTION PLAN UPDATE

- **Final Summary of 16-19 Plan** Jayne highlighted what group has achieved in the last 3 years. Jayne will take this back to the strategic planning group to highlight achievements.

Midlothian Disabled Peoples Assembly

Sheree shared that the assembly was a great success with over 70 people attending. Plan is for there to be another one later in the year (approaching Winter). Recurring themes came out of it. Forward Mid will circulate the report. Gillian suggested feedback form for stall holders. General discussion about how the feedback from this event is considered by the planning group and how similar events is considered for other groups. **Actions:** Graham and planning officers to consider how feedback from events is formally received by the partnership. Sheree will take back the suggestion of stall holders

completing feedback forms to Forward Mid. Forward Mid will circulate report from event in due course.

SDS Reference Group Discussion about the options of SDS issues being considered within the each of the planning groups or if there should be a specific reference group for SDS with representative from each planning group. Discussed general pros and cons of both, if there was a wider reference group it provides opportunity for learning from each other's areas. Becky Hilton has been trying to gain the views of each of the planning group and so far there is not a majority view. Graham confirmed that the implementation board has been disbanded as this work should be seen as usual. Graham highlighted the Scottish Government are about to release a report and further guidance and suggested we await until this guidance is released and then have a one off meeting with a rep from each of the planning groups to agree a way forward. All agreed this was a good idea and means we ensure we consider the Scottish Government's priorities/recommendations. **Action:** To await Scottish Government Guidance and then Graham will arrange a meeting with a rep from each planning group to arrange a way forward.

Taxi Cards This service has stopped, Karl confirmed that he has had less than 10 queries since the service had been stopped. Karl highlighted there was many transport services up for being cut but this was the only one that has been cut.

New Action Plan Need for 1 year action plan to be created. Plan will be created by focusing on outstanding actions/issues from the last plan and feedback from recent assembly. Discussed potential for an away day which Jayne would invite everyone to.

Action:

7. Extra Care Housing

Gore Avenue continues to be delayed due to site issues. Architect on board for New Mills Road, awaiting plans for this. There will be a 40 flat unit, 8 bungalows and mainstream housing on the site. Karl asked that as plans are considered that consideration is given to bus stops near the entrance. **Action:** Gillian will bear in mind bus stops and update Karl with this.

8. Free Personal Care for under 65s

Graham confirmed work has been done with finance to ensure that invoices reflect the change in legislation. Letters will also accompany the first invoice to explain changes and to provide details of how someone can contact if they suspect an error.

9. AOCB

Jayne reminded everyone of the equalities event this Thursday.

Mike shared he is attending a meeting where Lothian Buses will be in attendance, he will raise the change in buses which means there is no longer a wheelchair space and a buggy space. Sheree shared the ongoing challenges of buses including challenges when there is only one wheelchair space and someone with a buggy is

waiting to use it and the issue of manoeuvrability around the wheelchair space (this can be different dependent on the bus model).

10. Next meeting 25 June 2019