

## County Durham LINK Management Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday 21st September 2009  
East Durham Trust, Peterlee

		ACTION
1.	<p><b>Present:</b> Jim Rochester (Vice Chair), Peter Irving (Vice Chair), Peter Wilkinson, Colin Burton, Mary Mitchell, Audrey Chapman, Malcolm Fallow, Liz Fishwick, Malcolm Harrison.</p> <p><b>In Attendance:</b> Julia Gatherall (minutes), Sue Jennings, Alesha Aljefri, Clare Sandford, Syd Duggan, Sheila Grant.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Apologies:</b> David Haw, Jackie Heslop, Stuart Harvey.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Minutes of the last meeting:</b> Approved and agreed as a true record.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Matters arising not on the agenda:</b></p> <p>Sue has fed back to Verna Fee that the LINK will not be able to add Summary Care Records to their work plan but that any information that is available could be cascaded to members.</p> <p>The December Management Committee has now being booked for the 21<sup>st</sup> December at the Pioneering Care Centre.</p> <p>The report from the District open days has now been completed and was attached to the agenda as an information item.</p>	
5.	<p><b>LINK Work Plan update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol – The alcohol harm reduction sub group was attended by Mary last Friday. The meeting discussed setting up a social marketing group to get an understanding of what the public's needs are. They are trying to raise awareness of illegal sales and sending a young person into shops to see if they are being served. Areas are being targeted around County Durham to see what happens on a Friday and Saturday night. County Durham LINK has 9 – 3 of whom sit on each of the different groups.</li> <li>• Dementia/Alzheimer – A group met on 25<sup>th</sup> August and Ed Collins from Durham County Council gave an update on Deprivation of Liberty. Alesha has been trying to contact the clinical lead for Alzheimer/Dementia from NHS County Durham but has been advised that this person is on</li> </ul>	

maternity leave. However, Pamela Hodgson from NHS County Durham who has a significant interest in this area has agreed to meet up with Alesha to see how she can help to feed into the working group.

- Seizing the Future – There is a meeting this afternoon which Marilyn Weerasinghe will attend. Peter is concerned that promises have not been delivered. There was an action from the previous Management Committee meeting on Sue to check the original Seizing the Future plans in relation to Stroke and Sue confirmed that this had been done and that there did not appear to be any deviation from the plan. The plans gave an example of a stroke patient and this patient was taken to Durham Hospital (and not James Cook or Newcastle as was originally thought). Jim advised that he has some information on Seizing the Future that he would arrange to circulate.
- Stroke – Sue has met with Christine Scollen from NHS County Durham. Christine had advised that no further work had been completed since the meeting that was held at the beginning of June but that Debra Hartley had a meeting last week regarding funding of stroke services which are needed for the implementation of Seizing the Future. As it stands, there is going to be a big gap in service provision because Seizing the Future implementation starts on 1<sup>st</sup> October and the community provision will not be available then. Sue has spoken to Dave Haw about this and they have agreed that if there is no feedback soon from NHS County Durham that a letter should be sent to Yasmin Chaudry, Chief Executive of NHS County Durham to ask why nothing has been done. There was also a discussion about the stroke unit is closing at Bishop Auckland General Hospital, there are dedicated stroke beds at Durham, but the beds at Darlington aren't dedicated. This is a drop in the level of service. It was suggested that a group be brought together to look at Seizing the Future – Jim R, Peter, Malcolm H, Mary, Jim W, Sheila and Syd expressed an interest.
- Carers strategy – The group met on the 25<sup>th</sup> August to look at the strategy. It was agreed that there was a lot more detail in the strategy now that the action plan has been added and the group agreed that they would like to oversee the implementation and would meet on a quarterly basis to do this. The next meeting is in November 2009.
- Learning disabilities day care – Alesha met with Alan Curry from Durham County Council and the working group will be meeting again on the 19<sup>th</sup> October to look at the strategy.
- Mental health day care – Dave Haw wrote to David Shipman

JR

	<p>at Durham County Council informing him that there were concerns that people had raised questions in relation to the day care review that hadn't been answered. David wrote back to say that he thought all questions had been answered but this was definitely not the case. A discussion has taken place with Kate Harrington about arranging a meeting to discuss all of the issues that are still outstanding and a response is awaited from Kate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Older peoples' mental health strategy – Colin and Sue met with Barbara Rymaszewski from Durham County Council and Nigel Nicholson from NHS County Durham and discussed the older peoples' mental health strategy. The meeting went well and it was agreed that Colin would be invited to an implementation group that will meet every quarter. This group will identify key actions for implementation of the strategy.</li> <li>• Rural Health – Dave, Mary and Peter attended a meeting with Theresa Huddart from NHS County Durham. They are taking rural proofing forward and have agreed to work with the LINK to do this. A further meeting has been arranged for October. A letter was received back from Durham County Council after a reminder was sent to them, but the letter just said to contact Mel Campbell from Durham County Council for further information. A letter was sent to Mel Campbell at the beginning of September and a response is still awaited.</li> <li>• Domiciliary Care – Audrey and Sue met with Nick Whitton from Durham County Council and he advised that there were still some outstanding issues around the re-tendering process. The Management Committee agreed that this issue would therefore be put on hold until 2010 and would be added to the 2010/11 work plan.</li> <li>• Work plan scoring update – No update.</li> <li>• Personalisation – Alesha advised that LINK members will be asked to express an interest in whether they would like to be involved in this issue. She has met with Phil Malyan from Durham County Council who is pleased that the LINK will be involved in this issue.</li> <li>• Residential Care Homes – There are a number of issues around residential care homes and Agnes Armstrong (LINK lead) and Sue met with Nick Whitton from Durham County Council to receive an update. A LINK working group will be set up to look at this issue in more detail.</li> <li>• GP Patient Forums – Expressions of interest to be sought from LINK members to see if they would like to be involved in this work plan issue. Jim R (LINK lead) has sent a letter to Verna Fee from NHS County Durham and is going to find out</li> </ul>	<p>AA</p> <p>AA</p>
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	which GP's don't have a patient group.	
6.	<p><b>Special Interest Groups:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CoDeaf – The meeting last week with CoDeaf was very positive. They were pleased that they had received a response from Durham County Council and will be writing back to thank them and ask for more information. The response will be sent on a DVD in British Sign Language. NHS County Durham have now identified a lead for deaf/deafened services and a meeting will take place early November to discuss the issues raised in more detail.</li> <li>• Countywide Mental Health Forum – Peter highlighted the concerns around Earls House and Sue advised that Kate Harrington is liaising closely with Alesha/Sue to update them on any issues that arise in terms of changes to services by Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust (TEWV). A letter has been sent to them also about Dawson House, Crook and a response is expected by the end of September. Peter mentioned that TEWV had sent two representatives along to the recent Countywide mental health forum meeting.</li> <li>• Prison Service – Sue and Alesha are meeting with a group of prisoners at HMP Frankland in October. Sue has had no response from HMP Low Newton so she has taken this up with Alan Tallentire who is now a regional manager for HM Prison Service. Alan has spoken to the Governor at HMP Low Newton and a response is expected soon. The healthcare manager has left HMP Deerbolt and the new manager doesn't know anything about LINK so a meeting will be set up to address this. Sue has also met with the head of offender management from HMP Durham and he is looking at ways in which prisoners at Durham can be consulted with.</li> <li>• Children and Young People – Alesha welcomed Liz Fishwick from Investing in Children to her first Management Committee meeting. Liz will feedback from the Management Committee to the sub group. A further meeting has been set up with children and young people on the 28<sup>th</sup> September. There are 11 key areas in the Children and Young Peoples Plan which include a number of health and social care issues.</li> <li>• Black and Minority Ethnic Groups – Stuart from BECON has been unable to attend today's meeting. Alesha mentioned that the Black and Minority Ethnic Network forum meeting is to be held sometime in October. An update will be given at the next management committee meeting.</li> <li>• Learning Disability Parliament – A meeting has been scheduled with members of the Parliament for the 19<sup>th</sup> October to focus on health and social care issues.</li> </ul>	SJ/AA

7.	<p><b>Enter and View:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The first Enter and View meeting has taken place - these meetings are going to be bi monthly. Michael Dalton has been elected as Chair for this group. CoDeaf are going to have one/two person/s who will become Enter and View members once they have completed the required training and CRB checks.</li> <li>• St Mary's, Chester le Street – Sue read through an email that she had received from a LINK member. It was agreed that the Enter and View representatives would look at the matter raised in more detail and that a small group would be brought together. Sue to arrange this.</li> </ul>	SJ
8.	<p><b>PALS/Complaints:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This item is to be carried forward to the next Management Committee meeting.</li> </ul>	
9.	<p><b>Consultations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dying matters – Sue read a letter from Stafford Scholes from the North Durham Prostate Cancer Support Group asking if LINK would be involved in the National Coalition for Dying Matters. An event has been arranged for the 5<sup>th</sup> October at the Marriott Hotel, Gosforth. Jim R is interested in going along to the meeting. Sue to advise Stafford of the outcome of the discussion.</li> </ul>	SJ
10	<p><b>Any other business:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual General Meeting (AGM) – The plans are going well in arranging the AGM. Sue asked if all the Management Committee would return their registration forms for the AGM to ensure we have their requirements for the day.</li> <li>• Feedback reports – Sue mentioned to the group that no reports were being sent back from the meetings that have been attended. These reports need to be completed to ensure that they can be added to the newsletters and the website.</li> <li>• Meetings with LINK – Sue has received an email from Verna Fee from NHS County Durham with regards to the meetings that LINK could be involved in. There are 8 groups which are linked to specific elements of the NHS Next Stage Review which are Staying healthy, Planned care, End of life care, Long term conditions, Children's services, Maternity and newborn care, Acute care and Mental health/Learning disability. It was agreed to put the list of meetings out to the</li> </ul>	

	<p>membership for the members to express an interest. Work plan matrix form for the Carers strategy – this was signed off by the Management Committee.</p> <p>Expenses policy and procedure for County Durham LINK – A small change was made to the policy and procedure and this was signed off by the Management Committee.</p>	
10	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009 – Venue to be confirmed 10am and to finish with lunch at 12.00.</li> </ul>	