

County Durham LINK Management Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday 26th October 2009
Great Lumley Community Centre, Great Lumley

		ACTION
1.	<p>Present: David Haw (Chair), Jim Rochester (Vice Chair), Peter Irving (Vice Chair), Peter Wilkinson, Colin Burton, Mary Mitchell, Malcolm Harrison, Jackie Heslop.</p> <p>In Attendance: Julia Gatherall (minutes), Sue Jennings, Alesha Aljefri, Clare Sandford.</p>	
2.	<p>Apologies: Jim Welch, Audrey Chapman, Malcolm Fallow.</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting: Approved and agreed as a true record.</p>	
4.	<p>Matters arising not on the agenda:</p> <p>Dave firstly thanked all who attended the AGM (Annual General Meeting) and asked that the minutes noted that the Host staff did an excellent job in arranging the AGM.</p> <p>Dave mentioned that both he and Jane Hartley from the Pioneering Care Partnership had received a letter from Gerald Tompkins from Durham County Council which had highlighted a number of concerns raised by two LINK members which Gerald had asked Jane and Dave to respond to, one of which was that the Host was running the LINK and not the Management Committee.</p> <p>There was another issue surrounding a LINK member who sits on the Alcohol Sub Group. When the LINK member was asked at the Annual General Meeting what the LINK had done well the member said 'nothing'. The Standards Committee were tasked to speak to this member as he has been involved in a lot of LINK work groups and represents the LINK.</p> <p>Jim Rochester to forward the Seizing the future plan. He will ensure that all the Management Committee receive a copy.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Standards Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JR</p>
5.	<p>LINK Work Plan update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dementia/Alzheimer – Alesha has contacted Alison Bullock from Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust who 	

	<p>has agreed to give an update on the dementia pathway that covers early diagnosis. She is also awaiting a response from Lynn Oliver, Clinical Service Manager Derwentside, Derwent Clinic for her availability to come and speak to the working group about the pilot looking at the first phase of this pathway currently being trialled for 6 months. Jim R has been to a seminar on Dying Matters. Jim to give Colin details on this seminar.</p> <p>Older Peoples Mental Health Strategy – Sue had concerns about the feedback report that was produced by Durham County Council and NHS County Council. The document states that all feedback has been considered, but then states the consultation end date of 29th May 2009. The consultation was extending so that the LINK could bring a group of members together on the 9th June and it therefore looks like the LINK’s comments haven’t been taken in to account. Letters to be sent to Durham County Council and the NHS County Durham from Dave asking why they have not considered the LINK’s comments. The feedback report should be sent to all LINK members who attended the event on the 9th June.</p> <p>Rural Health – Dave mentioned that he would not be able to attend the rural health meeting on 29th October – Mary and Peter would still be able to attend. Mary had put some notes together from the last rural health meeting with Theresa Huddart. The rural health week that took place at the end of September was not very well advertised and the LINK were not made aware of the final dates until the week before. A debriefing session has been arranged for the 4th November with the agencies that pulled together the events (UTASS, Durham Rural Community Council, NEAS, NHS County Durham) to look at what worked well and what could be improved for the future. On the 13th November Peter is attending the ICO (Intergrated Care Organisation) meeting.</p> <p>Dave is still awaiting a response from Mel Campbell from Durham County Council regarding rural health.</p> <p>Talking Therapies – Liz Greer has met again with the LINK working group in September at Bullion Hall. A report was written and sent to everyone that is involved in the working group. Liz has put a proposal together of how this work can be taken forward and it has been agreed that this should go ahead.</p>	<p>JR</p> <p>DH</p> <p>Host</p>
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	<p>Stroke – A letter was sent to Yasmin Chaudhry, Chief Executive of NHS County Durham raising the LINK’s concerns about stroke services in County Durham. A response was received saying that a letter had been sent to Marilyn Weerasinghe (LINK member) and that the LINK would be sent a copy. It was agreed that a further letter needed to be sent to Yasmin to say that the LINK expects a response directly to the person who has written the letter and not to a LINK member. A meeting is taking place on the 29th November at Bishop Auckland Hospital regarding Seizing the future where the commissioners and managers will attend.</p> <p>Personalisation – Alesha is arranging to bring together a working group. A letter will be sent to Nick Whitton from Dave Haw regarding the work that is currently being undertaken by the Council surrounding this issue. Tricia Nicoll is to be contacted to see if she can help with in terms of this issue as Tricia has a background in delivering sessions around the personalisation agenda.</p> <p>Residential Care Homes – issue to be discussed under Enter and View.</p> <p>GP Patient Forums – this is ongoing. Clare has had a response from NAPP (National Association of Patient Participation) and was advised that 1 in 4 surgeries nationally have a GP patient forum. However, Clare has been waiting for a response from NAPP asking whether they are able to give the details of which GPs in County Durham have forums. It was suggested and agreed that Clare continue to attempt to get this information from NAPP until the end of November and that if nothing is received then, a letter should be sent to NHS County Durham to see if they know which GPs in County Durham have a patient forum. A lengthy discussion took place around whether letters should be sent to all GPs across the County. This issue is to be discussed again at the January Management Committee meeting.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>AA/SJ</p> <p>AA</p> <p>CS/AA</p>
6.	<p>Enter and View:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LINK has received a number of complaints/concerns about a residential home in Chester le Street. Enter and View representatives were meeting again this week to discuss the complaints/ concerns and would decide 	

	<p>whether or not they wanted to carry out enter and view.</p> <p>A meeting has been arranged for 6th November with Dave, Paul Johnson (regional LINK lead) and Nick Whitton to discuss enter and view and it has been agreed that no enter and view activities would take place until after that meeting. Dave requested some additional information about the concerns/complaints about St Mary's prior to this meeting.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p>
7.	<p>PALS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sue asked the group for any suggestions as to how the LINK wanted to receive the information from PALS/Complaints and what the LINK wanted to do with the information. At present information had been received from North East Ambulance Service (NEAS), Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV) and NHS County Durham. It was agreed that NEAS should be asked to separate out the information for County Durham. <p>It was suggested that a small working group should be set up that could digest the information and then feed this back to the Management Committee. It was agreed to do this and that the enter and view representatives should be asked whether they wanted to be involved. The group would meet quarterly starting in January 2010 and Malcolm Harrison would take the lead from the Management Committee. A discussion took place about the people of County Durham who access services from outside of the County and it was agreed that NHS County Durham should be asked whether they receive any complaints made by County Durham residents to Trusts outside of the County.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>Host</p> <p>SJ</p>
8.	<p>Consultations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality Accounts – A letter had been received from the Department of Health asking if the LINK would like to be involved in the consultation on the proposals for the framework for Quality Accounts. It was agreed that a consultation event would be held with LINK members. 	<p>SJ</p>
10	<p>Any other business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Momentum – Pathways to Health Newsletter, Issue 1 – A discussion took place on the proposal for the new hospital and it was agreed that the LINK needs to keep an eye on this issue as it will affect residents of County Durham who live in the east and south. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jackie Heslop mentioned that there was some negativity about the LINK and how it needs to keep using the legislation to get responses from commissioners and providers. The general feeling though was that the LINK is still in its early stages and that this has to happen to get people to react and answer the questions raised. • Jackie advised the group that at the AGM a comment was made regarding the accounts and why they hadn't been presented to the members at the meeting and that the minutes from the Management Committee should go out to everyone. Others commented that some members were saying that they received too much information. • Jim R suggested that a list of the meetings that everyone attends should be available. Dave asked that a list of attendance for all meetings should be developed and brought to the meeting in January. • If anyone has any comments on the LINK quarterly report they should go the Sue by Thursday 29th October with a copy to Dave. • Sue mentioned that the constitution was adopted by the members at the AGM with one slight change to be made regarding District Councillor's membership which needs to be taken out. • Dying Matters – to be added to the next agenda. Jim R to provide some statistical information that he received at the event he attended. 	<p>Host</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>JR</p>
10	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30th November 2009–Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe. 10am start and to finish with lunch at 12 noon. 	