

# County Durham LINK Management Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2009

Stanley Community Centre, Tyne Road Stanley, DH9 3QF

		ACTION
1.	<p><b>Present:</b> David Haw (Chair), Peter Irving (Vice Chair), Colin Burton, Mary Mitchell, Malcolm Harrison, Jim Rochester (Vice Chair), Jim Welch</p> <p><b>In Attendance:</b> Julia Gatherall (minutes), Sue Jennings, Alesha Aljeffri.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Apologies:</b> Audrey Chapman, Jackie Heslop, Stuart Harvey, Liz Fishwick</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> Dave wrote to Yasmin Chaudhry at NHS County Durham and was contacted by Theresa Huddart and invited to a meeting which both Mary and Peter are going to attend on Tuesday. Dave mentioned that the response was very quick. As yet no response has been received from Durham County Council.</p>	
	<p>Residents Association – Information has being sent out. Sue is doing a presentation to the Garden Farm Residents Association at the beginning of September.</p>	SJ
	<p>Light Touch Report – the consultation has been poor and the report submitted on behalf of the LINK suggested that the consultation be done again (particularly the last service user meeting). There was support at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the LINK’s report from a number of councillors. It was agreed that the service user meeting would be held again. Sue to speak to David Shipman about this.</p>	SJ
	<p>Regional meeting at the Stadium of Light – Dave discussed the day and issues that were raised on the day. The report from the day will be an agenda item for the next Management Committee meeting. Dave asked whether the Management Committee would agree to authorising him to attend the regional Chairs’ meeting and feed back their decision on whether County Durham wanted to go ahead with a regional network. All present agreed to this.</p>	

5.	<p><b>LINK Work Plan update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural Health Issues – The event on the 9<sup>th</sup> July was attended by 14 members. Transport was an issue for all rural areas. It was decided to send a copy of the report to Jill Simpson and wait to see if a response is received from George Garlic, Durham County Council Chief Executive to Dave’s recent letter asking what is being done in terms of rural proofing.</li> <li>• Carers Strategy – No update. Meeting is arranged for the 25<sup>th</sup> August.</li> <li>• Seizing the Future – Jim R mentioned to the management committee that it was useful to have Malcolm H attending the meeting. He also went on to say that Marilyn Weerasinghe plays a significant part at the meeting. Jim suggested that Marilyn is asked to attend the next Management Committee meeting in August.</li> <li>• Lack of Day Care Opportunities – Mental Health – update given earlier – see notes under 4 above.</li> <li>• Learning Difficulties – Awaiting a report from Alan Curry which is due in August 2009.</li> <li>• Alcohol – Sue discussed the Big Drink Report – the event that was held at Jubilee Fields Community Centre was attended by 30 people. A copy of the report has been sent to the regional office in Darlington and also the Public Health Team at NHS County Durham. A bi monthly meeting is to be arranged to bring all the 3 LINK alcohol groups together along with Jim R and Mary.</li> <li>• Dementia/Alzheimer Services – Sue and Colin met with a small working group last Friday and it was agreed that the work is to be done in stages. Initially it has been agreed to look at referrals and assessments and how these are carried out by GPs and Social Services.</li> <li>• Provision of Talking Therapies – Liz Greer is meeting with a small group on the 30<sup>th</sup> July.</li> <li>• Stroke – No further information. Sue has e-mailed the new contact at NHS County Durham but she is now off work and Sue is now waiting to find out who will take this issue forward.</li> <li>• Domiciliary Care – No further information.</li> <li>• Older Peoples Mental Health Strategy – Sue went through an email that she had received from Nigel Nicolson which was a response to the LINK report. Sue raised concerns that the e-mail focused more on the process of how the LINK event has been organised which was more about the processes with Durham County Council and NHS County Durham rather than the LINK and it was agreed to arrange a meeting with Nigel Nicholson and the Management</li> </ul>	<p>SJ</p> <p>JC/SJ</p> <p>SJ</p>
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	Committee to discuss the response further. Sue to set this meeting up.	SJ
6.	<p><b>Special Interest Groups:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning Disabilities Parliament – A report has been produced from the event which took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> June. A further event will be arranged for September.</li> <li>• Durham Disability Voice – Sue and Julia met with DDV with regards to the support that Sandra gives. Sandra will be supporting DDV through their AGM in November. This support will then be reviewed in December 2009.</li> <li>• CoDeaf – The meeting that took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> June was a very difficult meeting. Sue has sent the report from the event to NHS County Durham and Durham County Council and they have been asked for a response by the end of August.</li> <li>• Children and Young People – 2 reports were given from East Durham Trust and Robert Fothergill from 2D. The report from the event held on 6<sup>th</sup> July which was facilitated by Sue and Alesha is in the process of being written. Sue suggested contacting the commissioners of services and sending the reports out to them with a view to them meeting up with the young people involved. It was agreed that this was a good way forward. Alesha mentioned that she is waiting to hear from the Youth Forums and this may result in a Community Interest group being set up.</li> <li>• Countywide Mental Health Forum – Sue mentioned to the group that Margaret Williams will not be coming to any more of the Management Committee meetings and she has been discussing this with the Countywide Forum. Sue has a meeting with Kate Harrington and a potential representative on 27<sup>th</sup> August to discuss this further.</li> <li>• Prison service – not much to update. Sue went to Deerbolt prison and had a good meeting with them regarding engaging with the LINK. A meeting has been arranged with Durham prisoners for 18<sup>th</sup> August 2009.</li> </ul>	AA  SJ  SJ  SJ
7.	<p><b>Enter and View:</b></p> <p>A brief update with given to the group stating that now we have 9 enter and view representatives as Maria has decided that she doesn't want to continue in this role. Bi-monthly meetings are going to be set up and it was agreed that a representative/s from the enter and view team attend the Management Committee meetings on a rota basis. Sue has been in contact with the large providers of services to set up dates where the enter and view</p>	

	<p>representatives can visit Tees Esk and Wear Valley, NHS County Durham, North East Ambulance Service, County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust and Durham County Council services. This is ongoing.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Consultations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pharmacy application - Sue has received an email from the North East Family Health Services Agency regarding changes in pharmaceutical services in Birtley. The Committee advised that they needed to know what other provision is in the area before LINK can respond. Sue to write back to them for more information.</li> <li>• Health Improvement Plan – An e-mail had been received from Mel Campbell from Durham County Council asking whether the LINK would like to be involved in the Health Improvement Plan. All members present agreed that they would want to be and Sue to write back and confirm this asking for any further information as it becomes available.</li> <li>• Summary Care Records – Verna Fee is in the process of sending through some information but this would need to be put on the agenda of the next Management Committee meeting as Verna is now on holiday for two weeks. Malcolm H said that he would be interested in being involved.</li> </ul>	<p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p>
9.	<p><b>Any other business:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jim R asked for an updated meetings list for the next meeting. This is done every other month with a copy of the library.</li> <li>• Alesha mentioned that Stuart from BECON had given his apologies for the meeting. Stuart has been doing a lot of work in getting all 5 BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) groups to sit around a table and talk to each other. It may be that LINK may need to look for an alternative representative for BME or that a different way of working should be considered for this group of people.</li> <li>• Sue advised that herself, Alesha and Jim R are interviewing next Monday for the position of Community Engagement Worker.</li> <li>• Sue also mentioned that the Pioneering Care Partnership have put together a contingency plan for swine flu. It was agreed that Sue would keep the Management Committee advised of any issues relating to this.</li> <li>• Sue reminded members of the Management Committee that if they attend meetings on behalf of the LINK that they should complete the LINK report so that it could be circulated to</li> </ul>	<p>SR</p> <p>SJ</p>

	<p>other members of the Management Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Standards Committee had a separate discussion about the LINK member who had breached the Code of Conduct. The group were advised that the member had refused to attend a meeting with the Standards Committee. The Standards Committee would agree a way forward with this matter.</li> <li>• The sign off of the Workplan Matrix for Rural Health Issues was delayed to see the outcome of the meetings with the NHS and the response from Durham County Council.</li> </ul>	Standards Committee
	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24<sup>th</sup> August – St Cuthberts Hospice, Durham, DH1 3QF at 10am and to finish with lunch at 12.00.</li> </ul>	