

## County Durham LINK Enter and View Minutes

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2009  
Bowburn Community Centre, Durham Road, Bowburn

		<b>ACTION</b>
1.	<p>Sue and Alesha took this opportunity to welcome everybody to the first bi-monthly meeting for the Enter and View Representatives.</p> <p><b>Present:</b> Michael Dalton (Chair), Agnes Armstrong, Joan Taylor, Michael Hemingway, Pauline Crathorne, Syd Duggan</p> <p><b>In Attendance:</b> Sue Jennings, Alesha Aljeffri, Clare Sandford, Sandra Roberts (minutes)</p>	
2.	<b>Apologies:</b> David Kellett, John Hudson, Sheila Grant	
3.	<b>Minutes of the last meeting:</b> None	
4.	<b>Matters arising not on the agenda:</b> None	
5	<p><b>Chair and Vice Chair elections</b></p> <p>It was agreed that a Chair should be appointed and Michael Dalton was duly elected. The Enter and View Representatives decided that a permanent Vice Chair was not needed and that if Michael D was unable to attend a meeting a Vice Chair would be nominated for that day.</p>	
6.	<p><b>LINK Work Plan update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol – Sue discussed the Big Drink Debate event held in July - approximately 30 LINK members attended. There was also a regional event held by Balance (regional alcohol office). A copy of the LINK event report has been sent to the regional office in Darlington and the Public Health Team at NHS County Durham. Sue also mentioned the questionnaire from Balance that had been sent to all LINK members to which over 100 LINK members replied. The events and questionnaire were designed to find out what peoples views were regarding Alcohol. Three groups have now been set up by Claire Sullivan (Public Health Consultant) at NHS County Durham to look at; Control, Treatment and Prevention. There are 3 LINK members attending each of these meetings and all 3 of these groups are going to meet together bi monthly with Jim Rochester and Mary Mitchell. Jim Rochester is also attending the Drug and Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy Group.</li> </ul>	

- Dementia/Alzheimer – The first meeting took place on the 24<sup>th</sup> July. The group feels that this is a large piece of work and have decided to breakdown the work into stages. They have decided that they want to focus on early diagnosis first. Ed Collins talked to the working group on the 25<sup>th</sup> August about Deprivation of Liberty. Sue is waiting to hear back from Verna Fee regarding the clinical lead for Alzheimer/dementia and will keep the Enter and View Representatives updated.
- Seizing the Future – There are 3 LINK members attending the Implementation Board meetings. Marilyn Weerasinghe has concerns in terms of Stroke Services. The services that were offered at Bishop Auckland General Hospital are going to be moved to Darlington and Durham. Bishop Auckland will now only deal with rehabilitation of patients. The LINK is currently watching the Implementation process of Seizing the Future to ensure that it is being done as agreed.
- Stroke – NHS County Durham are currently reviewing their strategy and a group will be brought together once this goes out for consultation. Due to staffing problems it has been difficult to locate a lead from NHS County Durham. However one has been found and Sue, Marilyn and Peter (Stroke Association) are meeting with this person next week.
- Carers Strategy – The final strategy has been received from Durham County Council and NHS County Durham. The Carers working group met on the 25<sup>th</sup> August to discuss the strategy. The group agreed that it is a complete strategy now that an action plan has been included. The Carers group have agreed to meet every three months to ensure that the action plan is being completed in line with the agreed timescales.
- Learning Disabilities Day Care – A meeting took place in May with Alan Curry from Durham County Council and 6 LINK members and changes were made to the strategy in light of the comments made. The final report has now been signed off by Durham County Council and the working group is due to meet with Alan in October to go through the Strategy.
- Mental Health Day Care – Sue and Alesha attended a service user event in May organised by the Mental Health Team from NHS County Durham. The consultation process was poor including the presentation given at the event and a report was submitted on behalf of the LINK to Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the quality of Consultation. This gained support and it was agreed that the service user meeting would be held again. The LINK report was included

SJ

in the report by Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Strategy was passed on the proviso that there should still be a safe place for service users to go to when they need to. There are currently no plans to close any of the Day Care Centres. A letter of apology has been received from John York over the way the event had been facilitated and a letter has been sent to David Shipman raising some additional concerns that the LINK has.

- Older Peoples Mental Health Strategy – The first meeting took place in May unfortunately nobody from Durham County Council or NHS County Durham attended. This meant that Sue gave their presentation. The LINK members who attended were disappointed with this lack of turn out and co-ordination by the Council and NHS. This was fed back to NHS County Durham and Durham County Council along with LINK members' comments on the strategy. A response was received by Nigel Nicholson (NHS County Durham) regarding the report and a meeting has been arranged to take the issues forward.
- Rural Health – In April Theresa Huddart, NHS County Durham gave a presentation to a group of LINK members from County Durham and Darlington LINK. There were differences of opinion over what rural means. In July LINK members met again from semi rural and very rural areas and transport was the main issue that arose. This group looked at what rurality is and a report was given to NHS County Durham and Durham County Council. A letter was sent to George Garlick, Chief Executive of Durham County Council and Yasmin Chaudhrey, Chief Executive of NHS County Durham regarding rural proofing asking what is being done around service delivery in terms of rurality. The response from Yasmin was positive however the response from George was brief and referred the LINK back to another member of staff from Durham County Council. A further letter has been sent and a response is awaited.
- Domiciliary Care – Sue, Audrey Chapman and Nick Whitton Durham County Council are meeting in September to get an update of what is happening in terms of domiciliary care in County Durham.
- Work Plan Scoring Update – Sue gave an update of the new issues that have been added to the work plan. Personalisation, Residential Care Homes and GP Patient Forums. Sue also explained how issues can be put forward to be considered for the work plan.
- Personalisation – Phil Malyan is pleased that the LINK is taking up this issue and a meeting is to be arranged.



	<p>small number of children and young people so two pieces of work have been commissioned one from East Durham Trust and the other from 2D. These together with the report from a LINK event held on 6<sup>th</sup> July which was facilitated by Sue and Alesha have been sent to the commissioners of services. Meetings have been arranged between the children and young people involved in these pieces of work and the Director of North East Ambulance Service, Anthony Prudhoe of NHS County Durham and Children’s Services from County Durham Council. Alesha reported that the LINK is still looking at ways to engage with the Youth Forums. Joan Taylor recalled a piece of work done by the Public and Patient Involvement forums and will pass that on to the LINK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black and Ethnic Minority Communities – Stuart Harvey from BECON has been sitting on the Management Committee representing BME Communities. However after the next meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> September he will be stepping down. Stuart is busy setting up a BME network across County Durham. Alesha will meet with the group to engage with them.</li> <li>• Learning Disabilities Parliament – A report has been produced from the event which took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> June, to which 60 parliament members came. A further event will be arranged for September. Alesha described the way the LINK engages with the Parliament and the reason why they don’t attend the Management Meetings. The Parliament is producing the LINK flyer in easy read.</li> </ul>	JT
8.	<p><b>Management Committee Representation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael D and Michael H said that they had found attending the Management Committee Meeting in August useful and interesting and felt that it would be useful to keep a link between the Management Committee and Enter and View group. It was decided that two members of the Enter and View group should attend the monthly Management Committee Meetings and that attendance should be rotated among the group.</li> <li>• The meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> September being held at East Durham Trust in Peterlee is to be attended by Syd.</li> <li>• The Management Committee meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> October being held at the CVS in Chester le Street is to be attended by Agnes and Pauline.</li> <li>• Sue is to ask members not present today if they would like to attend the meeting in September along with Syd. In the absence of volunteers to attend any Management Committee Meeting, Michael D will attend.</li> </ul>	SJ

9.	<p><b>North East Ambulance Service – Transport/Appointments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Michael D gave a talk to the Enter and View Group regarding how the Patient Transport Service works. The service is commissioned by NHS Trusts with North East Ambulance Service. Under the current system there are three bands of time per day when the Ambulances can pick and drop off patients. However these times do not always fit the appointments and can mean long waiting times for patients. This particularly affects young people as they have to miss a whole day of school to attend their appointment. In instances when the appointment finishes after hours the PTS operate a taxi service however they do not offer the same standard of care as the Ambulance crews. There is a transport group and Sue has contacted David Gallagher who will find out whether the LINK can be involved. The consensus among the group is that Michael Dalton should attend and represent the LINK. It was also felt that the Wheelchair User group should be represented.</li> </ul>	SJ and MD
10	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual General Meeting – Sue informed the Enter and View representatives that the AGM is now being held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009 at Consett Civic Centre. Sue explained the problems about finding an accessible venue. Paperwork has been sent to the Enter and View Representatives and the Management Committee assigning jobs on the day. Any member that will not be able to support on the day should inform Sue.</li> <li>Joan Taylor asked for a written update of the training that has been organised for the Enter and View Representatives, which is to include what training has been completed by each of the Representatives.</li> <li>North East Ambulance Service Visit – Alesha is waiting for Sahdia to confirm the times for the Enter and View training visit. Three members have confirmed that they will be attending the visit and asked if it was possible to arrange for the visit to start no earlier than 9.30am.</li> <li>Tees Esk and Wear Valley – The Enter and View Training visit has been postponed after it was discovered that there was no clinic on the day it had been arranged for. Liz is to come back with dates when the clinic is on.</li> <li>Alesha has asked that all Enter and View Representatives respond when they are sent out a visit /meeting/training request regardless of whether they can make the visit or not.</li> <li>Tees Esk and Wear Valley – Are planning big changes to</li> </ul>	All  SJ  AA  All

	<p>Mental Health Services and may be trying to bring in these changes without consulting. The LINK is to keep an eye on this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Enter and View group have been asked to let the Host know how they would prefer to be communicated with.</li> <li>• Sue informed the Enter and View group that their pictures are to be published on the LINK website.</li> <li>• A discussion also took place with regards to whether the minutes of these meetings should be published and it was agreed that the minutes of a meeting will go to the following meeting for approval. Once they have been approved they will be published on the website in order for the LINK to be transparent.</li> </ul>	<p>SJ &amp; AA</p> <p>All</p>
	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2009 – Bowburn Community Centre, Durham Road, Bowburn at 10am and to finish with lunch at 12.00.</li> </ul>	