

COUNTY DURHAM LINK

RESIDENTIAL CARE WORKING GROUP

12 April 2010 in Bowburn

LINK members attending

Doreen Sadler, Michael Dalton, Agnes Armstrong, John Hudson, Jim Welch, Betty Carr, Sheila Grant, Colin Burton, George Porter, Mary Sutherland-Harris, Kevin Ashburn, Linda Robinson, George Porter, Syd Duggan, Pamela Coombs, Margaret Chappell, Lillian Nichols

Apologies: Kath Toward, Jim Rodwell, Cheryl Pritchard, Patricia Hodgson, Stewart Bentham, Michael Hemingway, David Coombs

Facilitator Liz Greer

1.	Welcome & introductions	
2.	Update since last meeting - following discussion with LINK management group it was agreed that Liz would contact all LINK members via the Host & encourage them to feedback to the Council on an individual basis if they wished, in addition to a LINK response to be drafted by the Working Group. She also asked that any comments individuals would like to see included in the LINK response be forwarded to her -some have been received and will be incorporated where appropriate.	
3.	<p>The main business of the meeting was to draft a response to the consultation on the closure of several residential care homes in County Durham-this is attached. It was agreed the draft would go to Working Group members for checking before being sent to the Council by the 30 April deadline. Group Members agreed to ask DCC for a timeline on decisions and an implementation plan so that monitoring of the closure process could take place.</p> <p>The Group also wished to feedback to the Council their views about the way in which the questionnaire was structured and designed to lead respondents to particular conclusions. There was a strong consensus in the Group that the decisions on closure had already been taken by the Council and the design and structure of the survey did little to dispel that notion. This may be something the CQC Working Group would like to consider in offering feedback about commissioners to CQC</p>	<p>Liz Greer</p> <p>Liz Greer</p> <p>Liz to raise with working group</p>
4.	Date of next meeting – the Group felt that this phase of their work had been completed but that they would like the option of reconvening once a decision about closures has been taken at the next Cabinet meeting. Liz to	Liz Greer

	find out when this will be.	
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Liz Greer
Consultant working on behalf of County Durham LINK
15 April 2010