

## LEARNING DISABILITIES PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16 November 2006 at Grianan, Westview Terrace, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis.

**Present:** Alan Monks  
Dr Antony Latham  
Mairi Campbell  
Charles Hill  
Joan MacCuish  
George White  
Marie Macleod  
Sandra Macleod  
Jane Brydon  
Ross Blackman  
Phil Tilley  
Ina Maciver  
Ernie Garden  
Mairi MacNeil

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Frances Daniels, Finella Morrison and Michael Fitzpatrick.

### 2. Approval of minutes

The minutes were as an accurate record of the meeting.

### 3. Matters Arising

#### 3.1 Learning Disability Database

Joan MacCuish stated that she had not received the letter about consent regarding the database. Dr Latham reported that of the approximately 170 letters sent out approximately 70 had been returned. The remainder would be contacted by telephone and asked to return the forms or new forms would be issued.

#### 3.2 WICUSN

A reply had been received by Alan Monks following the request for clarification of the WICUSN letter. Alan will distribute a copy of the letter. He will also e-mail a request for information from the relevant agencies and collate a response.

Mairi MacNeil joined the meeting.

#### 3.3 Membership of the Partnership

It was reported that there is a new advocacy co-ordinator, Catherine Logan. It was agreed that she should be invited to the next meeting to outline her role.

#### 3.4 Consultation on OFTTI Service Document (Lewis and Harris)

George White stated that the application for ESF was unlikely to be successful. This would therefore reduce their funding by two thirds (as the Council match fund the ESF amount). The Council are being asked to continue with the matched funding as at present 71 clients and 12 staff are being supported by the project, 30 of these in supported employment. Funds at present will only last six months.

Gateway 58 will not re-open which affects 11 people, one of whom now has no service. George White and Ian MacMillan are to compile a list of those people who will be displaced the reduced funding.

Phil Tilley joined the meeting.

A lengthy discussion took place with regards to the procedure should OFTTI be disbanded, who should be consulted and is there an exit strategy?

Alan Monks stated that things are at an early stage and that there is a further meeting scheduled with Malcolm Smith on 4 December 2006. Concerns were also raised about the Learning Disabilities Partnership being by-passed and what service provisions would there be in the future, not only for those presently attending but to people coming through the schools in the near future.

The Mental Health Partnership will write expressing their concerns to the Social Work Committee about consultation.

### **3.5 Ardseileach Refurbishment**

Alan Monks reported that the upgrading of Ardseileach, whilst people are in residence was not feasible. The current number of beds are 8 permanent and 3 respite. Whilst the upgrading is not being forced, alternatives are being discussed and any new proposals will be reported back to the Partnership.

## **4. Pathways to Work**

Mairi Campbell gave a talk on this current initiative which commences on 29 December 2006. It is to help people on Incapacity Benefit who have health issues to voluntarily return to work with relevant support. Anyone who is on Incapacity Benefit will be seen in the first 8 weeks. There are no priority groups and no specific targets. The funding for supported employment come from central government via the Leonard Cheshire Foundation to the employer.

The importance of links with OFTTI were noted and will be emphasised at the meeting on 4 December.

Mairi Campbell, Dr Latham, Joan MacCuish and Ross Blackman left the meeting.

## **5. Person Centred Planning**

It was reported that within the framework it states that the Co-ordinator report back to the Adult Services Manager, Social Work Department and the Council. It was agreed that this was for clinical governance and that role should be with the facilitators' line-managers and that they should report to the Partnership. A complaints procedure also needs to be produced.

PIP and Chairmanship of the Partnership to be discussed at the next meeting.

## **6. Any other competent business**

6.1 Phil Tilley will send 40 copies of "Helping People in Court with Learning Disabilities" booklet and CD to Janet to distribute.

6.2 Jane Brydon said her farewells to the Partnership after resigning for her post as LAC for Lewis and Harris.

**Date of next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 11 January 2007 at Grianan, Westview Terrace, Stornoway.