



HEREFORDSHIRE'S
LEARNING DISABILITY
PARTNERSHIP BOARD
everything about us but not without us



Meeting-LDPB

Date/Time-4th June 2024, 2:30pm-4:30pm

Venue: Fownhope Room, Microsoft Teams

Attendees:	
Name	Organisation / Role
Mike Cook	Chief Officer, Echo
Glen Crosier	Senior Commissioning Officer, Community Wellbeing, Herefordshire Council
Paul Choppen	Partnership Board Assistant, Community Wellbeing, Herefordshire Council
Helen George	Accommodation Support Officer, Herefordshire Council
Stephen Weller	Head of Hoople Care
Alan Bowyer	Operations Manager, Hoople Care
Chris Beckingham-Paul	Managing Director, Aspire Living
Su Waters	Operations Manager, Aspire Living
Charlie	Expert by Experience, Ivy Close, Aspire Living
Michael Hopkins	Expert by Experience, Ivy Close, Aspire Living
Kirsty Marston	Expert by Experience, Ivy Close, Aspire Living
Alisha, Siegel	Occupational Therapist Community Learning Disability Team
Ginnie Jaques	Shared Lives Manager, Herefordshire Council
Rob Gorle	Parent Carer
Gill Gorle	Parent Carer
Ian Harper	Service Quality Director, Aspire Living
Barbara Brown	Executive Assistant to Ian Harper, Service Quality Director, Aspire Living
Mary Simpson	Healthwatch Herefordshire
Mick Gillick	Head of Services, Onside Advocacy
Dave Evens	Project Officer, Herefordshire Health Checkers
Julie Swash	Learning Disability Nurse, Community Learning Disability Team

Apologies

Name	Organisation / Role
Paul Scott	Trustee Herefordshire Mencap
Rose Hunt	Herefordshire Mencap
Kevin Stuchbery	Trustee Herefordshire Mencap
Jack Caine	Programme Lead for LD & Autism, ICB
Tammy Moss	Hoople
Tracy Crum	Chair, Echo

Welcome and Introduction

Mike welcomed everyone, explained he was chairing the meeting in Tracy's absence before asking members to introduce themselves.

Meeting etiquette

Mike went through the meeting etiquette.

Previous Minutes

Paul went through the actions from the previous Learning Disability Partnership Board meetings.

5th December 2023 Actions

Name	Actions	Detail	Status
Collet Gardner	Action 1	Mary asked Collet to seek update from Rebecca Hill (CLDT) on LD Strategy Implementation Plan outcomes LD3.02. Specialist community learning disability healthcare	No update as yet- Paul will chase.
Paul, Tracy, Mike, Glen, John and Mary	Action 2	To set out when planning the agenda the questions and outcomes that strategy leads and speakers need to report back on.	Complete
Jack Caine	Action 3	Mary asked Jack for feedback on LD3.01 regrading whether people with learning disabilities receive high quality end of life care.	Jack met with Mary separately to discuss her questions – although I'm not sure we discussed end of life care. I will email her separately to ask her to put any outstanding questions she has in writing and we will consider a response.
Gillian Pearson / Jack Caine	Action 4	Liaise with each other on issues such as annual health checks and briefings to GP Surgeries.	Gillian is now linked into our Annual Health Check improvement work via our priority action group meetings.
Paul Choppen	Action 5	Email board members calendar invites and venue details of the Joint LDPB meeting.	Complete

Actions from 4th March Meeting

Name	Actions	Detail	Update
Paul	Action 1	Will liaise with Glen on who is carrying out the direct payments review and invite them to a future meeting.	This is still due to be discussed at future meeting. forward
Paul, Glen, Mike, Mary and Tracy	Action 2	Will discuss the best way the board can address issues with the Learning Disability Strategy's Implementation Plan being out of date and not reflecting the current work being carried out before the next LDPB planning meeting.	Next steps to be discussed at today's meeting.
Craig Lewis	Action 3	Will play video from Herefordshire Mencap of peoples experiences of using buses at the next meeting he has with the bus operators to get their response. He will also discuss the issues raised with the owners of the bus companies.	Unknown whether this was done, Paul will chase Craig for an update.

Matters arising (all)

There were no matters arising.

Election of new Vice Chair

Mike discussed how a new vice chair needs to be elected due to John Gorman's retirement earlier this year. The role had previously been held by members of the Adult Commissioning team at Herefordshire Council. However it is not in the group's terms of reference that this has to be the case.

No members put themselves forward to stand as the Vice Chair. Mike suggested that the matter be taken back as a discussion with Glen Crosier. In the interim Mike was happy to step in as Vice Chair but only in a temporary basis in part due to the potential conflict of interest of interest in work he does supporting Tracy Crum the board's chair.

Mary raised the point that if a volunteer with a learning disability wanted to put themselves forward as vice chair they would likely need additional support to help them fulfil this role. Stephen asked if the responsibilities of the vice chair could be shared with the group.

Action 1- Paul, Mike and Tracy to take the role of vice chair back as a discussion point with Glen. They will also send of the terms of reference and write up a job description for the role of the vice chair.

Since John Gorman has retired it is difficult to predict how his responsibilities will be replaced. This is due to restructuring going on in of All Age Commissioning within Herefordshire Council, Mary has raised concerns about Glen taking on John's former responsibilities and therefore being unable to regularly attend board meetings. Mike and Chris B reiterated the need for representation from the Councils' Commissioning Team at meetings.

Action 2-Paul will discuss with Glen concerns over the re-structure, the need for regular commissioning representation at meetings and on who is responsible for the delivery of the Learning Disability Strategy.

Reviewing the LD Strategy (Theme 1 Where I live)

Mike explained that the main theme being discussed at the meeting was around where I live before handing over to Ian Harper from Aspire.

Expert by Experience, an account from an individual with a learning disability re: moving into different housing developing independence

Ian explained as Service Quality Director he is responsible for overseeing all the individuals Aspire Living support in Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire. Making sure they both have the required support to develop their independent living skills but also to help them achieve their dreams, goals and aspirations whenever possible.

Mike, Charlie and Kirsty from Aspire Living's Ivy Close Residential Home explained a bit about themselves, their interests and what they wanted to do in the future.

During their discussion they explained some of the day to day things that were important to them such as: financial support, having a job, being able to go on holiday, study, find a home, to socialise and take part in community projects that matter to them and support to use public transport. They also discussed advocacy, the importance of being able to speak up and be understood. Knowing and understand your options and being able to make their own choices. Lastly they mentioned the importance of support from social workers, support workers, personal assistants and of course from their family network and friends.

Police representation- Sue Waters mentioned Ivy Close residents had been dealing with county lines issues on a daily basis, no residents have currently partaken. She suggested having police representation at LDPB meetings. She also hoped Ivy Close residents would be able to attend a future meeting and be able to express their concerns to a police representative on the issue. Mary also suggested getting quarterly reports on hate crimes incidents from the police in the same way as the Autism Partnership does.

Action 3- Paul will contact Marie Bridgewater the Hate Crime Officer at West Mercia about having police representation at LDPB meetings and getting hate crime reports.

Housing Provider input- ASPIRE- Hollie Jenkins, Sue Waters, Chris Beckingham Paul

Chris explained that Aspire is a care and support provider in Hereford, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, and works with around 15 various housing providers. He proposed inviting Forward Housing to a future meeting to discuss their approach to sorting and accessing housing. (Forward Housing is one of Aspire's housing partner and a Sister Company within the Thera Trust).

Chris then discussed the need for strategic planning to understand the current and future needs of the current cohort of people needing support. The use of person centred planning to build up an individual service design over a 3-5 year period and gradually supporting people to become more independent. He mentioned how technology and flouting response support can be used to improve support.

Sue mentioned there wasn't enough purpose built flats available to fill the demand from their clients, whose preference was to have their own home rather than being in a shared/ cluster living arrangement. The bidding system via Home Point was also raised as not being good for the people Aspire support.

A discussion ensued on the how data is currently collected on the housing needs of people with learning disabilities through accommodation and social care reviews.

Chis and Sally and Mike mentioned the need to do more strategic planning on the current and future housing needs, emphasising a particular focus on the future housing needs of teenage students, the aging population who may need a change in housing support as their parents become no longer able to look after them and in county placements that suits people with complex needs.

Mary questioned whether the Council's transition workers could work more closely with educational establishments so they can educate their discuss options with young people.

It was suggested that the LDPB could influence the next market position statement for people with learning disabilities and provide support and recommendations to the council. As was now the opportunity for providers to come together with the Council re-commissioning its frameworks for day services and supported living, He is suggested that with the Learning Disability Strategy running till 2028, now is a good opportunity to look at what a future strategy would look like, to understand the future demand, gather the data and understand the future needs and aspirations for the citizens of Herefordshire.

Shared Lives updateGinnie Jaques

Ginnie mentioned that shared lives is another person centred option that gives individuals the live independent lives. She updated the board on Shared Lives securing some of the accelerated Reform Fund money which will be used to help raise awareness of Shared Lives and promote the scheme and help recruit more people to be shared lives carers. This included doing some promotional work and re-designing of the website.

Ginnie also mentioned Shared Lives Week was between the 24-28th June. During this week they plan on doing co-production work at Plough Lane Offices foyer. They wanted people to understand that Shared Lives are not just looking at long term arrangements but also looking to on offer respite accommodation for family carers wanting to take short breaks. They also want to branch into Short Days where shared lives carers can use their home as a base to support individuals during the day time.

Ginnie raised again the need for more work to be done on preparing people sooner in their lives on understanding what all their housing/ accommodation options are.

Mary and Ginnie pointed out the need for more joined up working between services and unified publicity such as a broacher so people can understand the different hosing and accommodation options available and which option is best for them. Mary suggested as a partnership providers could produce an easy read guide or some films on housing options.

Supported Housing team, Strategic Housing team, Commissioners Collette Clutter / Helen George

Helen briefly discussed the Housing Pathway. Please see attached.

She mentioned that social work will discuss accommodation options with an individual with individual during assessments and should the accommodation team get housing/ accommodation request they will pass them through.

Mira and Helen have very good communication with the transitions team and are made aware of 16 and 17 year olds who may need future support with the accommodation team. The accommodation can only offer support once individuals are eligible at 18 years old.

Helen supports individuals directly to find out what their needs and aspirations are. She has supported people who have come from a family home directly into an independent living arrangement when they are brave enough. Prior to developing the housing pathway Helen used to go and visit individuals to understand their needs, writing void and vacancy lists by liaising with providers to compile list to locality teams on number of placements in extra care ,mental health, supported living and residential care. Helen has noticed a drop in the number of available properties over the past five or six years. Helen would like to be able to take individuals to see placements when they become available so even if they aren't ready to move they understand what is available should they wish to move in a year or twos time.

Council Update on Housing-Sally Wilson

Sally is aware of good practise, struggle for accurate data from a strategic perspective. Colleagues are pulling together data to help map the future provision that is needed, this includes looking at national trends. She mentioned how this can be more difficult for the younger and middle age adults who made need extra support. They aim to develop an co-produced accommodation strategy that helps take things forward and refresh of the market position statement. Decisions need to be made on how service users, carers and providers are engaged with on their housing needs and strategy development.

Allan suggested having a representative from children's services/ SEND at board meetings who can help with forecasting what support needs to be provided through adult services.

Mary also question whether there was any independent ways that people can give feedback on what is and isn't working and how do we go on capturing that data, especially from carers, particularly elderly carers and their knowledge on their own children.

Mary asked whether the board could facilitate a meeting of all the care and support providers to look at the housing provision and potentially through a survey.

Views of people in supported accommodation

Mary went through a presentation where she shared the views of people with a learning disability on their housing pretences she, Rob and Gill had gathered through previous survey she'd done in 2022 on behalf of the board. Please see attached.

Mary mentioned how they'd asked individuals what they like about where they live. From the feedback given it was clear the individuals wanted similar things to all of us i.e. to live close to locations that were important to them, somewhere they could have a pet and internet access,. It was also important for them to have good neighbours, to have space and a room they liked, it was also important that they had good care staff and to be part of a family.

In the survey people also mentioned they needed practical help and daunted by not knowing what happens or what to do when things go wrong such as if their shower brakes, get on with their house mates or mention their house or manage being alone and how do they get help with moving.

Feedback from the survey reiterated the point that there should be more housing for people with a learning disability and an easy read guide explaining the different housing and accommodation provision available.

LD Strategy Review and the Terms of References-Mike Cook

Mike discussed how he was originally going to propose that the Council to review the Learning Disability strategy and update the Implementation/ Action plan that we're working on.

However on reflecting on the discussions Mike proposed that we review board's terms of reference and strategy and decide what the fundamental purpose of the board is by and looking at answering questions:

What do we want to focus on?
 What do we want to achieve?

Mary suggested that if the Board could come up with a few projects that help strategically then maybe the more influential people will prioritise the meetings.

Action 4- With members showing agreement Paul will add reviewing the Board's Terms and Reference, Strategy, purpose, focus and goals will form the basis of the next meeting.

A.O.B

No one raised any other business.

Date of Next Meeting: 10th September Mordiford Room, Plough Lane Offices, HR4 0LE

Date of Joint Learning Disability Partnership Board- Tuesday 2nd of July 2-4:30pm, Conference Room, Plough Lane Offices / Microsoft Teams

Actions

Name	Actions	Detail
Paul, Mike and Tracy	Action 1	To take the role of vice chair back as a discussion point with Glen. They will also send of the terms of reference and write up a job description for the role of the vice chair.
Paul	Action 2	Will discuss with Glen concerns over the re-structure, the need for regular commissioning representation at meetings and on who is responsible for the delivery of the Learning Disability Strategy.
Paul	Action 3	Will contact Marie Bridgewater the Hate Crime Officer at West Mercia about having police representation at LDPB meetings and getting hate crime reports.
Paul	Action 4	To add reviewing the Board's Terms and Reference, Strategy and purpose, focus and goals on the agenda of the next meeting.