

Learning Disability Partnership Board



Minutes from our meeting on 31 January 2024



Definition

'Minutes' are notes from the meeting that tell you what we talked about, and what we decided to do.



People who came to the meeting



Luci Maxwell-Stewart – Speak Out



Frances Sulikosky – Speak Out, Engagement Coordinator



Will Davies - Speak Out, CEO



Sarah Digon - Council Specialist Community Disability Team, Inclusive Communication Officer



Cameron Brown - Council, Head of Service 25+ and Specialist Clinical Services



Ian Metherall – Speak Out



Fiona England – Parent Carer’s Council, Representative



Sussex Partnership

Karen Kimberly – Sussex Partnership NHS Trust, Clinical Service Manager & Specialist Occupational Therapist



Steve Hook – Council, Assistant Director for Operational Services in Adult Social Care



Lou Aish – Council, Commissioning Manager



Jane Viner – Council, Learning Disability Health Facilitator



Naomi Cox – Grace Eyre, Operational Services



Steve Castellari – Carers Centre, Engagement Lead



Jenny Cain – Council, Commissioning Officer



Natalie Baldwin – Council, Community Health Trainer



Vanessa De Guzman – Parent Carers’ Council, Participation Workers



Jess Harper – Council, Engagement Lead



Carla Butler – Council, Employability Service



Mikey Price – Council, Supported Employment



Francisco Vidal – Southdown, Operations Manager



Julie Rossiter – Grace Eyre, Director of Income Generation



Josh Puglia – Grace Eyre and Accessible Transport Panel



Michael Robinson – Speak Out



Kirsty Pentecost – Grace Eyre



Ben – Grace Eyre



Jem Hadert – Amaze



Sarah Watson – Speak Out



Audrey Miller – Speak Out



Gary Capelin – West Sussex Partnership Board



Simona Giunta – West Sussex Partnership Board



People who could not come to the meeting



Georgina Carke-Green, Council,
Assistant Director Health, SEN &
Disability



Rhianedd Hughes – Council, Head of
SEN Statutory Service



Lorraine Hughes – Council, Specialist
Community Disability Team



Victoria Garcia – Brighton & Hove
Buses and Metrobuses, Accessibility &
Communities Manager



Becky Quin - Sussex Partnership NHS
Trust

How these minutes work



Important information will be in blue, so you can see it easily. These are things like definitions of difficult words, decisions we make, or where you can find further information.



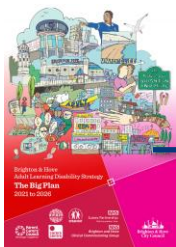
Actions will be in red, for the same reason.



Definition

An **'action'** is a task that somebody at the meeting is supposed to do. We try and achieve these tasks between each meeting.

Have we done what we said we would do last meeting?



Steve Hook confirmed the Health and Wellbeing Board agreed to extend 'The Big Plan' for 3 years to 2029, as we asked them to.



Frances has invited more young people through Sally Polanski at Amaze. Jem Hadert from Amaze is attending today as a start.



Josh Puglia got in touch with Lorne Power about the Autism Board. He is waiting to hear back.



Lorne Power sent through information about LGBT groups for people with autism. Links below:



Links for LGBT groups for people with autism:
[LGBTQ+ Neurodiversity Meet-up - The Ledward Centre \(ledcen.org.uk\)](#)
[Home - Stay Up Late](#)
[Neurodivergent Group | The Clare Project](#)



Policy
 Short breaks for carers of disabled children

Fiona England has talked with Lorne Power about the 'short breaks' document. Get in touch with either of them if you want to know more.



Fiona England has talked with Lou Aish about the housing provider event the Housing and Advice Working Group is holding on the 19th of February. Jane Viner has talked to Lou about this too, about linking people with the GP surgery when they move in.



Action

Steve Hook will present some information about the council's new budget next meeting.

Link Group update for January



The Link Group gave a presentation about what has been happening for some of the Learning Disability community since the last meeting.



This presentation is available if you email info@bhspeakout.org.uk . It is also on the Padlet: [Click here for Padlet.](#)



Social workers

Some people said it was difficult to get hold of their social worker. Steve Hook wanted more information to be able to address this point.



Frances Sulikosky explained that it was a mother trying to get hold of her son's social worker. Steve Hook said there is a single contact for social work that you can call or email if they need to.



Getting hold of your social worker

If you cannot reach your social worker, please call the Community Learning Disability Team.

Phone: 01273 295550



Steve said that there has been an issue with hiring enough social workers and getting them to stay in their jobs. This has affected people. The council is trying to make the job a good option for people so they can fix this issue.



If this problem kept happening, people can also make a complaint.



Making a complaint if you keep having a problem

This is the link that tells you how to make a complaint if you keep having problems getting hold of your social worker.

<https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/feedback-about-council-services/how-make-complaint>



Bus passes

People said it was confusing that different parts of Sussex have different rules for the disability bus card. Steve Castellari said Brighton and Hove get carers discounted on the carer's card.



But if you go into East or West Sussex the rules are different for who goes free and when.



Action

Frances Sulikosky will talk to Victoria Garcia about the Brighton and Hove rules and why they are different. The Link Group will continue to look at the issue to see if we can make it simpler to travel between the different places.

Amaze Presentation about their Transitions Consultation



Jem Hadert from Amaze and Fiona England from the Parent Carer's Council told us about the big consultation they had done with their young people about transitioning into adulthood.



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Jane Viner said she would like to talk to them both more about the information about health. She had met with a Paediatrician and Adults Clinical Lead for Learning Disabilities and Social Care Transitions workers and they had talked about some of these issues.



Action

Fiona England and Jane Viner to talk about the health parts of the consultation later.



Karen Kimberly said that they have been working on rebuilding links with children's services. She will keep Fiona updated.



Steve Hook said the health part of transitioning into adulthood was one of the things they will deal with in the new transitions plan, as people went from having their own specific paediatrician (children's doctor) to getting less support in adulthood.



Jess Harper said that they need to consider how they promote the local offer when updating the easy read information on the Council website. It is currently on the children's services page.

Update from the Health and Wellbeing working group



Karen Kimberly gave an update about what the Health and Wellbeing working group had been doing recently.



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One of the updates was about a new weight management support service called 'Thrive Tribe'.

Jane Viner said they are working with them to make sure it is accessible. She will send out information when they are set up.



Some people with learning disabilities said the old weight management service had not been very accessible or helpful.



Abby Lonsdale said that Oliver McGowan training for NHS staff should improve most staff's understanding of people with learning disabilities. It is starting in Sussex at the moment.

Update from the Activities Work and Learning working group



Mikey Price and Cameron Brown gave an update about what the Activities, Work and Learning working group had been doing recently.



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Simona Giunta from West Sussex said that activities was one of the main things that was concerning people at their partnership board too. She would like to learn from our work.

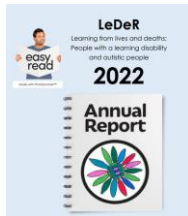


Action
Frances Sulikosky will link Simona to the working group.



Vanessa De Guzman asked if the group had found any gaps in the activities offered to people. Cameron said that is the next task.

Presentation about the LeDeR program and heart health work



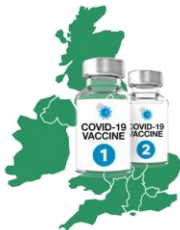
Abby Lonsdale presented about the work that LeDeR do learning from the lives and deaths of people with learning disabilities.



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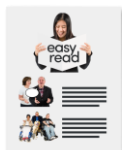
Vanessa De Guzman asked about the vaccination clinics that the NHS had run during lockdown. She said they were really good, but didn't happen this year so people missed out.



Jane Viner said that there had been problems with the vaccine program this year, and that it depends on the national vaccination program. She is hoping it will be better next year.



Danielle Garrett from Speak Out presented about the 'Cardiovascular Disease Prevention' work that Speak Out has been doing with the NHS.



There are lots of resources and trainings to use and share.



Action

Frances Sulikosky has shared the leaflets and information with the email list.

Other notices or comments?



Naomi Cox said that they are really worried about the council's new budget coming up and wanted a chance to talk about it as a meeting.

Fiona England agreed and talked about how important it would be for the local politicians to hear from providers about how savings / service cuts will impact the people they support.



Steve Hook said that politicians are informed by advisors like him and other council members that are part of the meeting, so they do hear from the partnership board in that way.



Action

Frances Sulikosky set up some time to discuss the budget further after the meeting.

Find out more



If you want to find out more about the Learning Disability Partnership Board or Speak Out, please contact:



01273 421 921



info@bhspeakout.org.uk