



## **Personalisation Expert Panel**

Minutes of a meeting held at Unity 12, Southampton on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2012

Present: Janet Chierchia (Carers Together), Tina Coldham (Service User), Barbara Crofton (Service User), Ruth Dixon (HCC), Robert Droy (SCIL), Esi Hardy (Service User), Jane Hunt (HCIL), Ian Loynes (SCIL), Anne Meader (Service User), Iain Speed (All Inclusive Ltd), Bernard Stagg (Service User) and Berni Vincent (SCIL) and Ed Walton (HCC)

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from John Evans (HCIL), Ami Guy (Service User) and Ross Smith (Service User).

### **2. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011 were agreed as a correct record.

### **3. Matters Arising**

#### **(1) Technical Support and Support Planning**

There were still concerns about funding and the availability of technical support to Service Users, particularly at the beginning of the process when SU's needed to set up arrangements for the employment of personal assistants. Other concerns related to advice/responsibility in relation to CRB checks. The issue of organisations wishing to get involved in support planning and confusion about deadlines for submitting expressions of interest to HCC was raised.

#### **Action:**

**(a) Ruth to investigate further the points of concern in relation to the availability of technical support and to report back at the next Panel meeting;**

**(b) Ruth to issue an urgent e-mail relating to Support Planning and the deadline for submitting expressions of interest in order to clarify the position.**

### **(2) Completing the Circle Update**

Janet advised that the Group was continuing its work with Adult Services on the accessibility of information for Service Users and the next stage would involve compilation of a bullet point guide which would be accessible to all. It was hoped that such a document could be used across all Council departments.

### **(3) CAF Update**

Anne reminded the meeting that the current project would be finishing at the end of March. The various overview groups were in the process of discussing those matters which they would wish to see taken further with the Board expected to make a decision by the end of February.

### **(4) Health and well-being**

Ruth reported on the current progress with regard to the 5 Clinical Commissioning Groups set up in Hampshire; Gill was leading on the engagement process. As soon as a plan was in place and the local authority's position clearer, the question of Panel representation would be pursued.

Ed referred to the NHS 'Everyone Counts' website providing community views which Panel members might find useful - [www.surveymonkey.com/s/everyonecounts](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/everyonecounts)

**Action: Jane to e-mail NHS contact details to Ruth/Berni.**

### **(5) Personal Development/Mentoring Project**

Berni advised that mentors for the project had been agreed but further mentors were still required; details would be circulated by e-mail shortly. An experienced trainer, who had previously worked with SCIL, had been appointed to undertake the mentoring training; the training programme would be finalised in the next few days. The training would take place on 25<sup>th</sup> January and it was essential that those participating attended on this day.

Research governance elements had been agreed and Service Users from Audleys Day Centre (5 to date) and the Hexagon Centre (7/8 to date) had been nominated although more were being sought. Recruiting Service Users, particularly from Audleys, had not been easy and there appeared to be many concerns about the training such as getting to the venue, location and length of sessions.

In light of the above, it was suggested that:-

- Consider offering training at the Centres (there were, however, benefits to holding workshops at an alternative, neutral location);
- Consider offering mentor places to people at the Centres to encourage participation of mentees;

- Esi offered to 'do a pitch' at one of the workshops if necessary.

**Action:**

**(a) The Project Board to progress the above project taking into account the suggestions highlighted at the meeting;**

**(b) Ed to look at the possibility of recruiting Service Users at John Darling Mall (respite centre).**

**(6) PEP Conference**

Robert reported back on progress to date with action agreed at the last meeting to take issues forward and ways in which to maintain momentum and enthusiasm for the future.

The Office for Disability Issues had been contacted in relation to the 'Fulfilling Your Potential' consultation. The Department had indicated that funding might be forthcoming to help with the staging of an event to cover such costs as venue, interpreter, catering, printing costs and so on. A joint event with the Hampshire Independent Equality Forum taking advantage of this available funding was therefore worth pursuing; volunteers would be needed to assist with co-ordination of the event.

**Action:**

**(a) Robert to e-mail Jane Rawlins- Mateus (Hampshire Action) about the possibility of pursuing joint arrangements and volunteer opportunities in relation to staging an event with a view to meeting**

**the funding deadline of 6<sup>th</sup> March under the  
'Fulfilling Your Potential' proposals;**

- (b) Robert to send a follow-up e-mail to all delegates attending the Conference on 6<sup>th</sup> December and issuing further membership application forms to generate more interest in PEP membership;**
- (c) Ed to investigate further the suggestion about talking to young disabled people through the Hampshire Youth Council and to report back at the next meeting.**

#### **4. PEP Workstreams**

##### **(1) PEP Governance**

This work was now largely complete subject to the necessary work in getting the information uploaded to the website and converting all documentation into easy-read versions.

##### **Action:**

- (a) Robert/Anne to liaise with Alison Flack (Connect Advocacy) to promote closer links with the Self-Advocacy Conference and to seek their assistance in converting the PEP information into easy-read documents;**
- (b) Anne to review this work in about 3 months' time pending further progress on Face to Face and E-engagement work.**

##### **(2) Face to Face Engagement**

This work was progressing with work continuing on a mapping exercise involving user-led organisations in Hampshire; those organisations with an existing association with the Panel had been contacted initially.

**Action:**

**(a) Berni/Ed to set up a working group meeting (Face to Face and E-engagement) to discuss outstanding issues and to formulate a work-plan for taking this matter forward;**

**(b) Ed to advise of forthcoming dates of engagement workshop sessions planned in March/April to raise awareness of SDS issues within the BME community with a view to PEP members participating.**

**(3) E-Engagement**

Development work was continuing on the website and would encompass facebook, twitter and so on.

**Action: Robert to progress above development work and to ensure that work done on Face to Face engagement was reflected on the website.**

## **5. Community Right to Challenge**

Ruth presented a report summarising the proposals contained within the Localism Act 2011, which introduced a 'Community right to challenge' giving power to certain groups to express an interest in providing or assisting in the provision of a service on behalf of the County Council. Those organisations which may have submitted tenders for council work would not be covered by the legislation.

The County Council welcomed the opportunities under the 'Right to Challenge' proposals, and was keen to engage with suitable organisations and building the necessary capacity to enable such changes and new ways of delivering services. The Authority would need to alter the procurement process to enable groups to get involved. The changes would come into effect in early April and the Council was currently working on the governance arrangements pending further information required from central government. It was hoped that funding would be made available for social networks to enable groups to be in a position to tender for contracts.

Comments arising from the report included:-

- Funding opportunities would be essential to help build capacity and to enable excluded groups to be involved in the process;
- It was important that small groups wishing to tender for services could compete on an equal footing with other organisations;
- Groups wishing to bid for the provision of local services should have an interest or connection with the local community;
- It was important that all groups know they have a right to challenge under the legislation;
- HCC's success in relation to engagement in this area would link in to the 'personalisation markers'.

**Action: Ed to co-ordinate the production of a Brief, involving all shareholders and linking it to other relevant work, including the co-production model formulated under the CAF Project, with a view to the Panel submitting a bid expressing an interest under the legislation to meet the deadline of 3<sup>rd</sup> February.**

## 6. Future Agenda items and Priorities for 2012

Agenda items/priorities for 2012:-

- SDS - Mamie Branthewaite to attend;
- SDS and the BME community;
- Personalisation Markers – discuss with DMT;
- Overview of HCC's Culture, Communities, Business Services work in relation to disability – Marcos Frangos (Equality and Diversity Steering Group) (HCC) to attend;
- 'Inspiring Inclusion' conference – feedback by Esi/Iain;
- Healthwatch;
- Establishing and maintaining links elsewhere (i.e. SENDPO) – invite Development Worker to PEP;
- HCC staff briefing – assist in promotion of personalisation vision;
- Clinical Commissioning Groups;
- Learning Disability Transformation – update;
- 'Extra Care' development
- Review of Contributions Policy;
- Equality objectives published by HCC;
- Telecare – developing strategy to support disabled people;
- Face to Face Engagement – attract new faces onto Panel.

## 7. Carers Together – AGM/Workshop

Anne advised that, in conjunction with this year's AGM, Robin Murray Neill had led a day workshop on personalisation and its outcomes.

**Action: Anne to circulate to PEP members a report by Robin Murray Neill concerning the above workshop on personalisation.**

## 8. Welfare Reform Consultation



**Action: Robert to circulate a link to correlated responses recently published following the above consultation ('I am Spartacus!' Welfare Reform)**

**Next meeting: Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2012 from 10.30am to 2.00pm**

**Forthcoming Events:**