

Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board

together

Awards for excellence



Minutes of the January meeting Justice for vulnerable victims of crime



Manchester



Learning Disability Partnership Board Issue 35 • Free • Every two months
March and April 2010

www.partnershipboard.org

together



Meetings for 2010

Tuesday

16 March

18 May

13 July


14 September

16 November

All meetings start at 10:30am

We meet at Manchester People First's offices:

3 Broughton Street, Cheetham Hill, Manchester, M8 8RF

 Phone or Fax: (0161) 839-3700

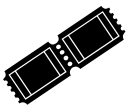
 Email: mcrpeoplefirst@googlemail.com

 Web: www.manpf.org

The Partnership Board's web site is at: www.partnershipboard.org

Do you need a print copy of the newsletter?

Everyone wants to be greener. Instead of us posting you a copy of the newsletter, we can email it you as an Acrobat (pdf) file. Or you can download every issue from our web site as a pdf, a plain text file or an mp3 audio version and save paper.



January 2010 meeting

Co-Chair of the Partnership Board

Andrea Libman told us more about having a Co-chair of the Partnership Board. This will depend on getting funding from the Learning Disability Development Fund sub-group.

The job will be paid and tried out for 12 months.

To apply, people must have a learning disability and have done a training course being run by Manchester People First from January to April. People First and Manchester Mencap will agree how to support the co-chair to do their work.

The co-chair will help us know more about how to make the lives of learning disabled people in Manchester better.

We will get an update later this year.

Food Futures

After the talk by Food Futures at our last meeting, Manchester People First were thanked for having fruit at today's meeting.



Annual report

The easy read Department of Health guide about what a good learning disability partnership board should be like, can be downloaded from our website.

Each learning disability partnership board has been asked to do an annual report for the Department of Health by 31 March 2010.

We will make sure family carers and learning disabled people in Manchester help, to make sure it covers what is important to them.



VOICE UK

promoting justice and wellbeing for vulnerable victims

Justice for vulnerable victims of crime

James Gibbs is the Regional Co-ordinator for Voice UK. He told the meeting about their work. They are doing more in Greater Manchester. Voice UK is a national charity. It was set up in 1993 to support learning disabled adults who have been a victim of crime and abuse.

They give services such as:

National Helpline for vulnerable victims or witnesses of crime.

This is for learning disabled people, family carers and staff.

- Phone: 080 8802 8686
- Text: 07797 800 642
- Email: helpline@voiceuk.org.uk

Training for professionals including disability hate crime, getting best evidence and adult protection. Training catalogues can be downloaded from our website.

Free workshops for learning disabled people on keeping safe and bullying and abuse awareness.

Chances for learning disabled people to volunteer to work with local self-help groups, run workshops and become community learning champions.

Direct support across Greater Manchester for vulnerable victims of crime to help them with the criminal justice system.

To make a referral, contact the Helpline or:

- James Gibbs: 07879 555 457
- james@voice.org.uk

Paul Cassidy said workshops could be run in day services.
Delia Murphy asked what support there was for people who may have to give evidence in court?

James said Voice UK trains police forces and gives one-to-one support to vulnerable victims of crime.

Glynn Evans said how the Crown Prosecution Service had spoken to the Partnership Board about their plan to make sure disability hate crimes are dealt with.

Stephen Hughes said the Crown Prosecution Service is setting up a scrutiny panel and People First is part of this work.

Action: The Crown Prosecution Service will be asked to come again to our meeting to tell us how they have been doing.



Getting a life

Mark Burton and Kevin Bell from Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board, told us about what has been happening with the Getting a Life project. Mark told us about this in November 2008 and gave an update in May 2009.

Getting a Life is a project for young people with severe learning disabilities.

It raises ambitions, makes changes to the way things are run and gives a clear way to paid work.

It aims to help young learning disabled people get a better life when they reach adulthood.

The things they have been working on are:

Better Plans for transition to adulthood

Planning starts at 14 years old (school year 9).

Some people have had person-centred review training and reviews have been held in 3 schools.

Parents of young people with a learning disability, have told special school managers about the benefits of these reviews.

A folder has been designed which will hold the young person's plan and other information.



Planning and funding of services

Children's and Adult services are looking at how choices are made and the best way to spend the money they have.

Children's services are looking at having Individual Budgets for young people who are 16 years old and over.

Team for people as they become adults

There will be a joint staff team from Children's and Adult services.

There will be 6 social workers, 2 health staff and a manager.

They are still waiting to recruit the manager, but this will be done as soon as possible. The team will be in Moss Side and work with schools, family carers and Connexions.

Telling people about Getting a Life

A newsletter is being done and Manchester College hopes to do a DVD with students who have done work experience or got paid work.

Self-advocacy for young people

Barry Hills works for Manchester People First and is setting up a young peoples' parliament.

Barry will be talking to schools and colleges and holding open days to get people involved.

Work with family carers

The Gaddam Centre and Pure Innovations have got funding to do some work with family carers about getting paid work.

A parent leadership course will be run, which they hope will lead to a family carers support group being set up.

Get people jobs

Danny Rushton works for Pure Innovations running the Youth Supported Employment Scheme.

This will help young people to get work experience before they leave school or college.



Manchester will be running Project Search, which will give school leavers the chance to work and learn at the same time. Employers along Oxford Road will give jobs, The Manchester College will do the teaching and Pure Innovations will give the employment support officers.

Learn from the project

The Welsh Centre for Learning Disability will look at Getting a Life projects from all over the country, asking young people and families how they got on.

To find out more about Getting a Life, contact:

Kevin Bell, Project Manager

- Phone: 0161 958 4056
- Email: k.bell@manchester.gov.uk

Mark Burton, Project Lead

- Phone: 0161 958 4014
- Email: mark.burton@manchester.gov.uk

Anna Fedeczko said that family carers have helped Getting a Life be a success, even if some people had doubts about how well it would work.

Deborah Goodman said there may be money in the Manchester Community Health Innovation Fund.

Paul Cassidy said the public and voluntary sectors must lead the way to help the 30 people on Getting a Life get a job.

Mark Burton said employers need to change the way they hire so working interviews can be done.

Anna Fedeczko said employers can help by giving work experience. Glynn Evans said local housing groups may be able to give work experience.

Service provider awards for excellence

Paul Cassidy said the Care Quality Commission checks that people in their own homes, supported housing and registered housing, get proper care.

Services are rated 'excellent', 'good', 'adequate' or 'poor'. In Manchester about 8 out of 10 providers of services for learning disabled people give services rated as excellent.



People from groups that give 'excellent' services came to a meeting and were given certificates by Councillor Glynn Evans. They had a lunch and photographs of the event and information about the services will be put on our web site.

Services in the bad weather

Deborah Goodman thanked everyone who gives services to learning disabled people for keeping services running during the bad weather.

Having more say

Anna Fedeczko said Manchester Adult Social Care want their customers to have more say in how services are planned and run. There was an event for customers in July 2009 and the ideas put in a plan. An easy read version of the plan was at the Board Meeting and has been put on our web site at:

www.partnershipboard.org

If people have any comments or ideas, they should be given by 12 February 2010.

