

Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board

# together

## Changing Places



**Campaign for  
accessible toilets**

**Minutes of the  
September Meeting**

**Manchester LINK**

**Ring and Ride**



Manchester

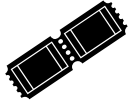


Learning Disability  
Partnership Board

Issue 33 • Free • Every two months  
November and December 2009

[www.partnershipboard.org](http://www.partnershipboard.org)


# together



## Next Meeting

Tuesday 17 November 2009 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](mailto:mcrpeoplefirst@googlemail.com)

 Web: [www.manpf.org](http://www.manpf.org)

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# September 2009 meeting

An easy read Valuing People Now plan was given out. An easy read Green Paper for Adult Social Care was also given out.

## **Ring and Ride**

A Ring and Ride steering group has been set up to make the service better. It will meet on:

Friday 30 October 2pm

Committee Room 4

Manchester Town Hall

Councillor Naeem Hassan will chair the meeting.

If you want to go contact:

Andrea Libman

Phone: 0161 434-7316

Email: [a.libman@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:a.libman@manchester.gov.uk)

## **Should we have a Co-chair?**

Andrea Libman from the Joint Commissioning Team said Valuing People Now says we must make sure our Partnership Board works well.

Self-advocates and family carers have always played a big part in our work.

To give adults with a learning disability more of a role, we should look at having a Co-chair of the Board.

They would work with Councillor Glynn Evans to plan and run the meetings.

Some local Partnership Boards and the North West Regional Partnership Board already have a Co-chair and there is a national Co-director for learning disabilities.

There are also other ways self-advocates and family carers could play more of a part in our work. They could help decide what we talk about at the meetings and do some of the follow-up work.

Anna Fedeczko said she could help with training on how to run meetings. Stephen Hughes said that having a Co-chair would help people play more of a part in the work we do.

Mark Burton said we used to have small groups at some meetings. This helped people get to know each other and come up with ideas.

Kath McDermott said Manchester Mencap's citizen advocacy service could help a Co-chair do their work. Paul Brannick said he is very interested in the idea of having a Co-chair.

It was agreed to think about how we can do something about this. We will look at it again.

### **Changing Places: Changing Lives in Manchester**

Dean Cavanagh is the Access Manager for Manchester City Council. He told us about Changing Places, a national campaign for accessible toilets that fully meet the needs of people with multiple disabilities, their family and carers.

Ordinary accessible toilets do not have enough space and the right equipment to meet these needs. This means that some people cannot visit and enjoy the city centre and take part in social activities.

The campaign says there should be Changing Places toilets in all big public places such as shopping centres, leisure centres and railway stations, as well as standard accessible toilets. In Manchester it is planned that there will be 2 Changing Places toilets in the Town Hall and Central Library complex when it is made better over the next 4 years.



In the next 18 months there will be 2 toilets in the city centre. These will be paid for by the Aiming High for Disabled Children project.

Manchester City Council has put Changing Places toilets into children's centres, primary and secondary schools and they are looking at having one in the Arndale Shopping Centre.

The meeting thought some good places for more toilets might be:

- Places children visit
- Places open at night, such as the Printworks
- Piccadilly Gardens
- Train station
- Airport
- Motorway service stations

We had some ideas about how to look after the equipment in Changing Places toilets.

It may be possible to use the RADAR national key scheme ([www.radar.org.uk](http://www.radar.org.uk)).

Bernie Woods said Changing Places would help families in Manchester.

Ros Nesbit said she had used an accessible toilet in Israel that could automatically change the disposable seat cover.

Glynn Evans said Changing Places should be asked for when new buildings are planned in the city centre.

Dean said Changing Places are good practice in British Standard guidelines, but they are not part of the Building Regulations now, but they will be by 2013.

You can get more information about Changing Places in Manchester from:

d.cavanagh@manchester.gov.uk

or nationally at:

www.changing-places.org

Action: Dean will do a list of sites in Manchester where there are Changing Places.

He will find out who can get a RADAR key and where from.



### **Manchester LINK**

Valeska Matziol from Manchester LINK told the Board about what they do.

It is a network of local people and groups who want to make health and social care services better.

Anyone in Manchester can join.

The LINK asks people about what they have found using services, what works well and what can be done better.

It also:

- Helps people and groups with the same interests meet up.
- Runs projects about things.
- Helps services get better by telling them what people think.
- Does a monthly newsletter to tell people about local services.

The LINK cannot take on individual complaints about services, but can tell people where to get help with making complaints.

Valeska saw people at Manchester People First who told her about their experiences of day services, hospitals, personal assistants and the support they get to live independently.

There will be an event about the government's plans for how

social care will be paid for in the future.

Your Care, Your Say – Join the Big Care Debate

14 October 2009

10:30am to 3:30pm

Cross Street Chapel, Cross Street, M2 1NL

For more information or to join the contact Valeska:

0161 214-3909

valeska@blackhealthagency.org.uk

### **Any other business**

It was agreed to have a Christmas get-together.

Mark Burton told people about the 12 month Health and Adult Social Care Plan for learning disabled people in Manchester. For more information contact Mark:

0161 958-4014

mark.burton@manchester.gov.uk



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