Hampshire Carers Partnership & Learning Disability Partnership

Carers LD Working Group Meeting

Date: Tuesday 4th March 2025

Time: 10.00am – 12.00

Method: Zoom

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| **Attendees** |  |
| 8 Carers  |  |
| **Visitors** |
| 2 visitors  |  |
| **Apologies** |
| 9 Apologies  |  |

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|  | **Welcome/Apologies/Introductions**Introductions were made.**Conflicts of Interest** – none declared.  |  |
| **1.0** | **AHC Update – DH & JN** – see Appendix 1 below and presentation on SEND update – available on request  |  |
| **2.0** | **Actions and Feedback from last meeting –** If no update, action has been achieved; updates in italics. See summary of actions on pages 3&4* Recruitment of new shared lives respite carers – *from MG - since December 2024 we have recruited a further 3 carers to provide respite support, 1 of which also supports long stay service users.*
* DH to consider the setting up of a small working group, with carers, to consider the learning from the automated reviews pilot – post meeting note*: initial meeting took place on 8th April. DH will keep us updated*.
* Companion Bus Passes – *causing lots of upset; a number of letters and petitions have been submitted. JL and NF MENCAP are considering some in-person resistance, in Winchester. JL, MP for NF has been very supportive and has had lots of local conversations. Maybe costs could be added to Disability Related Expenses (DREs) or Direct Payments. Included in the conversation needs to be the times of day, when bus passes can be used, as this is also changing, to the detriment of the bus pass holder. There is already a group in NF who are concerned about wider bus pass services. JS hasn’t yet received a response to her letter, to her MP. On a different note, Paultons Park, and other companies are also starting to charge for companions.*

*Action 2.1: DH to feedback concerns.* * JN to provide information on Access to Work benefit to JL: *no definit****e*** *statement about time limit, but the language implies there is not a time limit.*
* Autism Ambassador training:

*17th March: Havant – places available**12th May - online**23rd May – online**26th June – Speaking Space, Romsey*Action 2.2: MW to send details to JHAction 2.3: Add Autism Ambassador details to the new carer’s website.* Action 2.4: Leaving the parental home: there has been feedback times re: a lack of guidance on people leaving the parental home, and what the process is. JN to circulate the first draft before the next meeting *– not drafted yet*.
* JN will ask if it has been suggested to people taking MARS that they could consider becoming a PA – *JN spoke to HR Lead, but given that people cannot have another Local Government contract within 12 months, it was felt to be inappropriate.*
* Action 2.5: TW to send JH a timeline of when pay rates will be announced – *still being discussed*
* TS to send JH details of the Health Fairs – *post meeting note: achieved.*
* AL to put JL in contact with TH, the Self-Advocate for the New Forest – *AL has provided contact details for TH, JL has contacted her but not heard back.*
* There is a turnover of self-advocates and at present there are 4 new self-advocates who are very keen to meet people. The group agreed a pilot over six months in New Forest, with TH attending every two months *– Action 2.6: AL to raise this at the meeting with co-chairs next week.*
* Action 2.7: AL to give feedback to this meeting and provide presentations slide deck for JH to circulate on the work of the LDP
 | DHMWDHJNTWALAL |
| **3.0** | **Updates:****Complex Needs Group (CNG):** JS and AM attended. The information received on respite care is something which would benefit both groups, so it's still feels appropriate for the CNG to be combined with this group. JS doesn't have time to attend both groups. The Chair is not a carer put a provider, is this appropriate? DH also feels there is an obvious overlap. DH would have loved to have been part of the respite conversation. The Chair of the CNG is quite vocal about having a separate group. DH has previously raised this issue with AL. AM also agrees we need to integrate the groups. Action 3.1: AM to discuss with DH re amalgamating the complex needs group and this group and involve AMC, as AM already has spoken to ALAction 3.2: AM to raise the issue of booking respite at Orchard Close with JS again as no improvements since last year.**Hampshire Older Adults Partnership (HOAP)** - AM: now has Terms of Reference and the group are designing a survey to go out to older people. This is a very positive and active group, largely due to the support of Matt Hutchinson from AHC. The next Hampshire Place Assembly is going to be focusing on dementia. There is a Dementia Alliance with 66 organisations. **Carers Website** - DH: funds have now been agreed; also needs to be signed off by Cllr. LF on Decision Day, 11th March, after that we will receive the funds. DH wants views from as widely as possible about what people would like to see on the website; the aim is it for it to be the first touch point for carers, and the home of the Hampshire Joint Carers Strategy and action plan. Action 3.3: feedback any thoughts to DH.  | AMAMAll |
| **4.0** | **New Information:*** AM is in contact with NIHR [**Homepage | NIHR**](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/) who do lots of research; there is funding for research too.
* 2 leaflets have been designed on the Well-being Hub: one for the New Forest area and one for Romsey. They are available in PDFs. It has been suggested to Connect to Support that they might want to take up and provide information about what goes on in localities/communities.
* Princess Royal Trust for Carers (PRTC) have produced two handouts on staying safe from abuse and safer recruitment of PSAs.

Action 4.1: JH to circulate links.  | JH |
| **5.0** | **AOB:*** JS again has raised the issue that the PA Finder website just doesn't work. JS has met with LF and she now understands why it's not working and has taken this back to AHC.
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|  | **Date of next Meeting:** Tuesday 13th May, 2.00 – 4.00pm |  |

See below for Action Summary

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| **No.** | **Ref** | **Actions from previous meetings** |  |
| 1 | 2.1 | DH to feedback concerns to AHC, re Companion Bus Pass withdrawal (see above for details) | DH |
| 2 | 2.2 | MW to send details to Jo | MW |
| 3 | 2.3 | DH to add Autism Ambassador information to the new carer’s website | DH |
| 4 | 2.4 | Leaving the parental home: there has been feedback times re: a lack of guidance on people leaving the parental home, and what the process is. JN to circulate the first draft before the next meeting – *not drafted yet* | JN |
| 5 | 2.5 | TW to send JH a timeline of when pay rates will be announced – *still be discussed* | TW |
| 6 | 2.6 | There is a turnover of self-advocates and at present there are 4 new self-advocates who are very keen to meet people. The group agreed a pilot over six months in New Forest, with TH attending every two months *– AL to raise this at the meeting with co-chairs next week.* | Al |
| 7 | 2.7 | AL to give feedback to this meeting and provide presentations slide deck for JH to circulate on the work of the LDP  | AL |
|  | **Actions from 4th March 2025** |  |
| 8 | 1.1 | DH to send JH a structure chart, showing the structure since MARS. | DH |
| 9 | 1.2 | JN will send links to MPSs and suggest how members look at information and make comments.  | JN |
| 10 | 1.3 | JN to email JH re Quality Assurance Team  | JN |
| 11 | 1.4 | AM to give JN a written statement on concerns on community services, charities, etc for MPS.  | AM |
| 12 | 3.1 | AM to discuss with DH re amalgamating the complex needs group and this group and involve AMC, as AM already has spoken to AL | AM |
| 13 | 3.2 | AM to raise the issue of booking respite at Orchard Close with JS again as no improvements since last year. | AM |
| 14 | 3.3 | Carers Website: feedback any thoughts to DH. | All |
| 15 | 4.1 | Princess Royal Trust for Carers (PRTC) have produced two handouts on staying safe from abuse and safer recruitment of PSAs. JH to circulate links. | JH |