

Work & Skills Group

Tuesday 10 March 2009

Present: Maureen Pasmore (Chair)
 Suzette Attwood (Volunteer Work Project)
 Diana Bernhardt (Leading Commissioner for Learning Disabilities)
 Wendy Akehurst (Employment Support Team)

Apologies: Liz Hall (Carousel)
 Neil Holmes (Care Co-ops)
 Gloria O'Mahoney (Learning Disability Day Service)
 Chris Bland (Grace Eyre Foundation)

Item No		
1.	<p>Minutes from last meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Item 4, line 2 reads “.....Partnership Board with the and.....”. It should read “.....Partnership Board with the ‘Taking Part in The City’ Group and.....”. <p>Matters Arising Feedback from Learning Disability Partnership Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Group need to agree information to go on the webpage www.brightpart.org. MP suggested minutes of the meetings, work plan and details of services that are what's currently available. Each member to prepare a short (100 words approx) profile of themselves. <p>Update from Work & Skills Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact with City College has been made but no-one has yet been nominated/volunteered. Matter progressing. 	<p>Maureen</p> <p>All</p> <p>Maureen /Neil</p>
2.	<p>Work and Skills Work Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MP reviewed with a view to making the document more concise and focussed. A discussion took place on various matters including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Information provision – support etc that clients need ➤ Skills required for service users to obtain work. WA suggested a tick box form for preparing someone for work and workshops for professionals to establish two way communications. ➤ Impact of recession on availability of jobs ➤ Difficulty of getting employment on agenda of appropriate groups - Some groups we need to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SE JobCentre Network ➤ Speakout/ people with learning disabilities ➤ Care managers 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MP summed up three sub headings of the Workplan as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Fundamental Change 2) Good Information 3) Delivery <p>Action points MP and WP to plan workshops (SA to input as time allows) MP to re-draft Work Plan. DB to take forward re-draft, once ready to Naomi. DB will take forward influencing staff in her area. MP asked if she might see a sample Person Centred Plan/Review.</p>	<p>Diana</p> <p>Maureen /Wendy Maureen Diana Diana</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>2009/10 LDDF project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MP reviewed. The chosen bid was from Care Co-ops/Impetus, going forward for ratification with Partnership Board on 16th March with a view to start date in April. - The LDDF project [name to be confirmed] will build up a network of providers both specialist in working with people with a learning disability and others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ to improve the way organisations work together adding value for local people and the organisation ➤ to increase access to opportunities ➤ to increase the number of people accessing learning , training and work ➤ to increase capacity in the city by attracting new funding ➤ to improve the presence of people with learning disabilities in the life of the city 	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Learning Disability Employment Strategy – call for evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MP to respond on behalf of the group [response date extended to 18th March 09]. SA has responded, still awaiting other responses. - MP gave some background – the emphasis from ‘Valuing People Now’ is to aim forget them into paid work in excess of 16 + hours perweek work for all who want it - - MP went through the questions that require answering and discussion took place to clarify points to raise and general completion of the form. <p>Action point MP to prepare document and forward to members for agreement.</p>	<p>Maureen</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>IDEAS – DWP Specialist Employment contracts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MP explained that IDEAS is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Replaces the current Replacement for Workstep contract ➤ New from DWP (Large contracts crossing counties) 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Modular – work preparation, short term support in work, longer term support in work. ➤ Funding regime focused on outcomes different from before ➤ Timescales for support reduced ➤ Workstep clients will be offered the opportunity to switch to IDEAS - MP went on to further explain that whilst DWP have been stating that the new scheme will cover all needs feeling are that this is unrealistic - AnThe IDEAS group covering East and East Sussex, Surrey, Kent and Brighton & Hove Councils are looking to influence contracts on various fronts and in the future raise a possible bid for the contract as a Special Purpose vehicle. 	
6.	<p>Update from Members</p> <p>WA feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Careers fair at City College - Second Work Prep course currently ongoing - Lack of work placements for clients in BHCC <p>Action point</p> <p>WA to send details of the Work Placement programme to DB for raising with her staff.</p> <p>MP feedback for NH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Care Co-ops are providing a range of activities and options for people who access their service. They are continuously looking to develop their offer for people and build upon their volunteering, training, work placements and social enterprise work. <p>SB Feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report on day services agreed: ➤ Smaller service to include previous ideas (day services to lessen) details to be shaped ➤ Individual budgets to be put in place for all new clients <p>SA feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Her role in the Voluntary Project is funded for 3 days per week until end March. There are 20-25 people involved with 10-15 people looking for voluntary work. Group work is taking place in BHCC and charities and in schools teaching Makaton Makaton. - Looking ahead to April SA is exploring funding options but the service may well be scaling down. - A brief discussion took place about those people that SA cannot take on for various reasons. SA confirmed where people are ready to engage with work work possible she refers them to Supported Employment. Those with no 	Wendy

	<p>work/life experience present their own difficulties.</p> <p>MP feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MP suggests Work going ahead on IDEAS ideas - Working with Employment leads for other Partnership Board areas to look at best practice - Working with the Community Learning Disability Team to complete the performance indicators information ➤ Meeting held with SkillsNet , Eva JarvisJarvisin local authority and representatives of Speak out to look at how to take the South EastEastshared ideas SE Jobs Action Network forward for Brighton & Hove residents. The plain is to hold an event on employment and skills in Brighton & Hove. discussion re meeting/event in Brighton/Hove 	
7.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Membership ➤ Representation from Local Authority Day Services [Gloria O'Mahony is there will be a gap in the group from Gloria O'Mahoney retiring from the council: MP is will be meeting with the day services servicene managers in the near future to confirm who will attend ➤ Representation from the care management team would be great -but difficult to release staff. DB to represent care managers ➤ People with learning disabilities – The minutes in both formal and accessible versions will be sent to Speak Out and published publisheda view to bringing some on the BrightPart Website <p>board.</p>	<p>Maureen</p> <p>Diana</p>
8.	<p>Date of next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As per last minutes: ➤ 12 May at 10-12 am Venue: Castleham Hove ➤ 14 July at 10-12 am Venue: Care Co-ops [provisional] ➤ 15 September at 10-12 am Venue: Denmark Villas [provisional] 	<p>Neil</p> <p>Suzette</p>
9.	<p>Meeting closed at mid-day</p>	

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