

## Work and Skills Group

**Meeting: Tuesday 14 July 2009**

Present: Diana Bernhardt, DB (Leading Commissioner for Learning Disabilities)  
 Maureen Pasmore, MP (Chair)  
 Marina Slade, MS (SET )  
 Suzette Attwood, SA (Volunteer Work Project)  
 Jacqui Streeter, JS (Local Authority Day Services)  
 Chris Bland CB (Grace Eyre Foundation)  
 Neil Holmes NH (Care Co-ops)  
 Cherrie Thaxter (Minutes)  
 Liz Hall (Carousel)

Item no		
1.	<p><b>Minutes from last meeting 12 May 2009</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minutes agreed</li> </ul> <p><b>Matter arising</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maureen is waiting for the last few profiles for Brightpart - 100 words will suffice.</li> <li>- Commissioning team work placement – Employment Officer should have made contact with team</li> </ul>	
2.	<p><b>Update from members</b></p> <p>MP updated all on various matters including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Valuing Employment Now</li> <li>- Making it Happen</li> <li>- SE Jobs Action Network – Regional meeting – Brighton to host in September 2009.</li> <li>- Local Opportunities &amp; Enterprise and Supported Employment to share a staff member</li> <li>- Transition forum – not covering employment for young people giving an opportunity to raise this.</li> <li>- Work Choice 16hrs+ new contract replacing Workstep</li> </ul> <p>.</p> <p>NH update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Care Co-ops has been awarded Next Step contract enabling them to provide information, advice and one to one assistance to clients</li> <li>- Developing in house procedures for personal funding</li> <li>- 4 people with direct payments</li> <li>- 1 person with IB</li> <li>- Care Co-ops have also been awarded the Social Impact Measurement Tool pilot exploring additional elements and wider benefits</li> <li>- NH met with Naomi to explore potential for funding etc.</li> </ul>	

	<p>JS update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IB scoping identified 53 people want IB discussions are ongoing: how to develop with lots to learn. 17 people in service want to work. Further work will be needed to develop this into reality</li> <li>- Choices events day to be held on Wednesday 9 September at Hove Town Hall. There will be stands etc to find out what people need and to set the scene for going forward.</li> </ul> <p>DB update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Meeting with Care Quality regarding BHCC star rating. Doing really well. DB expressed her thanks to all those who helped. Results are that 18% use the service (Nat Av. 10%) it will be challenging to keep up this level. Considering any short term funding – there will be a lot of work to do. Provider forum to develop way forward.</li> </ul> <p>SA update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SA shared her mapping re voluntary work project. Short discussion explaining figures etc. there is a new referral form to help matching people to roles.</li> <li>- SA had a stand at the staff conference where quite a few people showed an interest, she is hoping for a stand at Choices Event (9/9/09)</li> <li>- SA advised her job title is changing - details to come.</li> </ul> <p>CB update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CB shared job map and gave details, some work placements have proved hard to site. There are 3 people employed as travel buddies.</li> <li>- Volunteers are to have more focus to develop specific skills.</li> <li>- Review due of Angel Cake project – to next stage - social enterprise.</li> <li>- Reception developed and linked with café.</li> </ul> <p>MS update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work placements at Surestart Café, Avondale Centre, Sainsbury, Co-op, Boots, Children’s Disability service and others. Lots going on!</li> <li>- 95 people with LD are being supported in employment in various roles. Discussion took place.</li> </ul> <p>LH update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Last year there were 40 people – very broad group of unpaid. Each area lead by people with LDs.</li> <li>- Now in the second year of an accredited course</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concern that people are not moving on.</li> <li>- There is to be a festival at The Old Market in Hove on 17/18/19 November featuring national and international films made by people with LDs.</li> </ul> <p>MP raised interaction with other groups to encourage “paid” work for volunteers.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Valuing Employment Now, Work Planning and Performance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is a briefing but it is a long document – easy to read version to follow.</li> <li>- The goals are aspirational rather than target driven aimed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ People with LDs</li> <li>➤ Work as default option</li> <li>➤ Volunteering and work placements both useful</li> <li>➤ Work should be 16 hours+</li> <li>➤ People with profound difficulties and severe LD should be encouraged to contribute.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- There is no fund – use to be made of what’s available and will need to refocus on current spend</li> <li>- What to do: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Change expectations from an early age</li> <li>➤ Person centred pathways</li> <li>➤ Smoothing transition</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>It was felt that a dedicated meeting for discussion on this whole area needs to be held (hopefully beginning of September).</p>	
4.	<p><b>Learning Disabilities Together Network</b></p> <p>Funding – Steering group putting together work plan – to be forwarded. NH went through.</p> <p>2 events to be held – first to be a mapping event on 29 September 2009 at Brighton Town Hall. NH expanded on this and details of development and continuing to encourage service users to lead.</p>	
5.	<p><b>LDDF funding 2010-11</b></p> <p>MP – Funding for next year, partnership will vote next week. Allocation always a problem. MS attended event. Although we don’t know about the funding we still need to develop where next year going. CB added his thoughts re collectively funding across borders to maximise funding usage. Discussion took place.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p>	

	None	
7.	<b>Next meeting: 13<sup>th</sup> October - Castleham</b>	