



Wokingham
Learning Disability
Partnership Board

Minutes from the Partnership Board's ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Town Hall, Wokingham
Tuesday 19th January, 2010



Welcome and What's Going On Today!

David Chaffe and Luke Joy-Smith welcomed everyone to the Partnership Board's AGM. We had a great turnout ... **75 people in total!** We hoped that today's AGM would give everyone the chance to look back over the past year and celebrate what the Partnership Board has done in 2009, and talk about what we would like the Partnership Board to do in **2010**.



Icebreaker – Phillip Pearce

Phillip started off today's AGM with an icebreaker called "**Priority Bingo!**" When people signed in at the beginning of the meeting, they had to choose a card which represented one of the **4 Big Priorities**:



Housing



**Choice &
Control**



Jobs



Health

The aim of the game was to make a complete set of 4 priorities. Everyone had to look for people who had the 3 other priorities ... and when a complete set of 4 priorities (and people!) came together, the group had to shout out **BINGO!!!** Patsy's team was the first group to shout out "Bingo!", closely followed by Steven's team, Peter's team and finally Tanya's team - they all won a prize!

Then we thought about why we chose our Priority Bingo Card and shared what was important to us. This is what people had to say:

HOUSING

Pauline said: "There are lots of people who would like to live independently, but there aren't enough houses."



HOUSING

Mel said: "Everyone has the right to live in their own home."

CHOICE & CONTROL

Tracey said: "It's important for everyone to have choice and control in their lives but sadly some people don't."



CHOICE & CONTROL

Jenny said: "CTPLD are working on a project to support people to have more choice & control in their lives."

JOBS

Tim said: "I've just been offered a new job as a transport consultant. It's a good job for me because I know all about buses. I think jobs are important."

JOBS

Michael said: "I agree - jobs are important."

JOBS

Peter said: "I have a job which I get paid to do."



JOBS

Mette said: "If you have a job, you are more likely to be healthy, and more likely to have choice and control in your life."

HEALTH

Steven said: "It would be good to see the same doctor each time I go to the surgery. It's hard to build up trust when you see so many different doctors."



HEALTH

Nicky said: "It's very hard to live independently and hold down a job if you don't have good health."



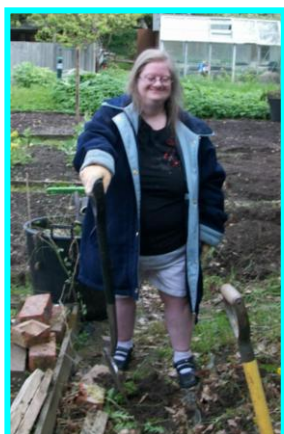
Learning Disability Development Fund (LDDF) Update and Celebrations!

Every year, the Partnership Board uses the Learning Disability Development Fund (LDDF) to support exciting projects that **make a real difference** to the lives of people with learning disabilities in the Wokingham area. Every spring the Core Group invites groups to bid for the money. This financial year (April 2009 – March 2010) we had **£97,580** to spend. Here is some feedback on some of the great projects we have supported this year:

Friday Alternative Social Group - £3,053

Robert Pasterfield

This social group was set up to help adults with autism **to be part of their community, make new friends, increase their self-esteem and confidence**. The group meets once a month at Ye Olde Leathern Bottle pub in Wokingham. Last year the group also went to Marwell Zoo, had a ride on the Watercress Line, ate a picnic by the Thames, and went on a coach trip to France. The LDDF money helps to pay for these trips and also pays for the first drink at the monthly meetings so that people feel relaxed and comfortable when they arrive. It also pays towards volunteer expenses and administration costs.



Rose Buddies Community Allotments - £1,610

Lisa Hookway and Frankie Brewer

Lisa works for Prevention Services and one of their projects is the Community Allotments at Oakfield Court. The allotments allow people with learning disabilities to **work alongside volunteers to grow their own fruit and vegetables, and help them lead a healthy life**.

Lots of people joined a working party to help dig over some ground at Oakfield Court and prepare it for planting fruit and vegetables. The LDDF money pays for the tools and equipment to turn the disused ground into really good allotments!

Rose Buddies Internet Café - £1,820

Lisa Hookway and Vicky Stubbs

The internet café is a meeting place for adults with learning disabilities where they can **use the internet, write letters and emails, and get support to use the computers** – all useful skills for getting a job! The internet café runs every Friday afternoon at the Bradbury Centre, and LDDF money pays for the hire of Bradbury Centre and the computers as well as newspapers and other things

ROSE BUDDIES



the group need. The Internet Café also hosts the Hate Crime Reporting Centre – more about that in a minute.



InnerSense – £5,000

Paul Wilkinson

InnerSense run multi-sensory theatre workshops for people with learning disabilities and complex needs. They have a studio at South Hill Park and employ actors, dancers and musicians to create different environments.

They use lots of props, percussion instruments and multi-sensory objects to make the whole experience special. Paul brought a ‘thunder drum’ and an umbrella that looked just like a jelly fish! This is the 2nd year that the Partnership Board has supported InnerSense. The LDDF money is used to run the workshops as well as buy equipment.

Art Beyond Belief – £3,580

Emel Soyu and David Sparrow

Art Beyond Belief used LDDF money to fund a computer project to help adults with autism express themselves through art. The group met every week for 16 weeks. They used computers to create stories through pictures and captions, and allowed the students to think about how they manage their day to day life, and what it means to have autism.



Fun Fit Club – £3,000

Mavis Henley and Alexa McKenzie

The Fun Fit Club is a lifestyle group for people with learning disabilities to help them eat in a sensible way, exercise and lead a healthy life. The LDDF money paid for the support workers to run the sessions, equipment for the group, and bought food and materials for their taster sessions. People are trying and buying different fruit and vegetables as a result of the Fun Fit Taster Sessions – and losing weight too! Mavis showed us some of the materials they use in the sessions.

Travel Buddies “You Can Get There” Project – £4,000

Tracey Mallett

This project is about making a difference to people’s lives by helping them to get around their local community. The project will employ people with a learning disability to become Travel Consultants and teach other people with a learning disability about transport – things like how to use a bus or a train, give



them help with a bus pass and explain how to use it and where it can take them. They have already recruited 2 travel consultants. The project will campaign to make people think differently about how they travel – whether they can offer a lift to someone else or take a bus. They also plan to set up a walking group.



LDDF money has paid for things like marketing and research, travel and refreshments, and wages for the Travel Consultants. Dimensions will be holding an event in the spring to promote this campaign, and hope to have the travel consultants trained and working with people by the summer.



“Doing It Project”, Dimensions – £4,000 Tanya Emmons

The Doing It Project is a 3 year project about giving 5 people who have profound and multiple learning difficulties more choice in their lives. These 5 people live in care homes and go to day services, and have very little contact with people who aren't paid staff – so the Doing It Project is

looking at how to support them to lead fulfilled lives and have opportunities in the same way as other members of the community. LDDF money has paid for some camcorders so that each person can record their journey, and the rest of the money will pay for things like expert advice, training etc and meetings with their circle of support.

Mencap Karaoke Nights – £3,500

Kirsty Regan and Mary Durman

Kirsty works for Wokingham Mencap and helps to run the Karaoke Nights. LDDF money pays for Kirsty's wages and the room hire at the Rose Street Methodist Church. Karaoke Nights take place on the 2nd and 3rd Wednesday every month. For more details, ring Wokingham Mencap on tel: 0118 979 8539.



That was the end of the presentations - but we have supported more projects than this!! Jodie gave a brief summary of the other projects.



Partnership Board running costs - £5,000

Running costs are things like paying for room hire and refreshments at our meetings and events, and paying for office equipment and printing costs. It also includes the money we pay to Support Horizons to be our host.



WEBCAS to employ the Inclusion Worker – £22,962

Julie White is our Inclusion Worker. Julie supports people with learning disabilities to speak up at our Partnership Board meetings and regional forum meetings, and helps develop the self advocacy groups in Wokingham (CLASP, Take Notice).

The Sun Club - £1,000

This is a Friday night social club in Reading for adults and young people with disabilities, and LDDF money went towards their rent and equipment (this year they bought a karaoke machine). 10 people from Wokingham regularly attend this club.

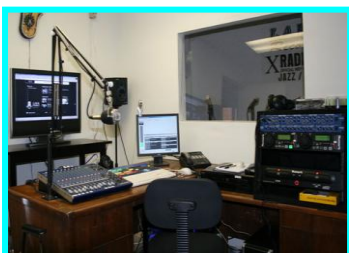


Community Team (Occupational Therapy), Healthy Activity Days - £300

Sara and Gareth in the Community Team took groups out last summer to try new and interesting ways to get fit and healthy. Activities included tobogganing, a boat trip in Windsor and visit to the hawk conservancy.

Friday Night Project, Driver Training - £780

The Friday Night Project (FNP) runs activities all over the Wokingham Borough. The LDDF money paid for mini-bus driver training for 10 volunteers. Now more people with learning disabilities can get transport to the FNP activities, outings and holidays.



The Ark & Ravenswood, Radio Marmalade - £3,740

Club Marmalade used LDDF money to pay for a project worker and equipment to get Radio Marmalade off the ground. Radio Marmalade is an internet radio station run by people with disabilities and they hope to go live later this year.

Berkshire Autistic Society, Autism Alert Card Project - £1,000

Groups from the Thames Valley are part of this project which aims to offer everyone with autism a card that they can use in difficult situations. The card has the person's contact details plus information about autism.



Those were all the projects we supported during the first half of the year - but there was some money left over! So we held a mid-year bidding round and agreed to fund the following projects:

Hate Crime Reporting Centre Project Worker - £670.80

The Hate Crime Reporting Centre is where vulnerable people can get support and information if they have been a victim of crime. LDDF money will pay for Vicky Stubbs to be the Project Worker for 6 months, and part of her job will be to tell people about the reporting centre and to help them report hate crimes. The Centre will be based at the Rose Buddies Internet Café, Bradbury Centre, on a Friday afternoon, and there will be a launch event on 29th January.



Prevention Services, Community Factors Group - £789.32

The Community Factors Group meet on Thursdays at the Bulmershe Leisure Centre. LDDF money will buy a 'body board' for the group, which is a training resource to help people with learning disabilities when they are talking about things like relationships, personal hygiene and healthy lifestyles - and it can be used by other groups too.

Wokingham Borough Employment Service - £2,000

Wokingham Borough Employment Service (WBES) will use LDDF money to pay for people with learning disabilities who volunteer at the Rainbow Café to get training. Hopefully, the work experience and qualification they get will help them get paid work elsewhere.



Good Health Sub Group, Eye Care - £? (to be decided)

The Good Health Sub Group is working on a project to help people with learning disabilities get better eye care. They will work with a national organisation called SeeAbility. We have agreed to support this project, but we have asked the group to come back with a clear plan.

Changing Places Toilet - £15,000

A Changing Places Toilet has a hoist and changing table, and lots of room for someone to be supported to use the toilet. There are very few Changing Places Toilets in the South East so we are very pleased that there are plans to build one in Wokingham Town Centre. LDDF money will go towards the building costs.



Tea Break



After all that information, it was definitely time for a tea break! Jodie put out sheets of paper with the different **Valuing People Now headings**, and during the tea break, we asked everyone to share the good things they have been doing in the last year under each heading, and also give us ideas for things we can do in 2010. This feedback will help us with our **Annual Report**, and also give us suggestions for things to work on this year.



Celebrations!!



After the break, we looked at some projects that need **Celebrating!**

1. Wow4me website
2. 4 Big Priorities

Wow4me Website:



Leilah and Sarah gave us an update. The wow4me website (www.wow4me.org.uk) was set up to help people find out what is going on in the Wokingham area. There are lots of different sections, including one called "I want to" where you can place an advert to meet people who are looking to do the same sorts of things as you. Julia from CLASP adds new information to the website every week.

Last August, the website celebrated its **1st birthday** and CLASP held a **Celebration Event** at Wokingham Library. Lots of people came to find out about the wow4me website, and hear about the launch of the **wow4me prize draw** - where people can send in their reviews about places they have visited and once a month, someone wins a prize!

(Andy won a restaurant voucher.)



If you don't have a computer but would like to use the wow4me website, there are laptops available at the CLASP coffee morning (Tuesdays 10am-12 noon) and at the Internet Cafe (Fridays 1-3pm) where there is always someone there to help you!



4 Big Priorities:

The sub groups have been doing some great work this year, and we wanted the sub groups linked to our 4 Big Priorities to share a bit about what they are doing:

Sub Group: Choice and Control
Who is the Lead? Jodie Newman

Something good in 2009

Supported a **successful event** in December ran by the council about Personal Budgets. Feedback from the day was really good, and afterwards some people felt they would like a personal budget.

Something planned for 2010:

Currently working with Support Horizons to **write an easy read guide** about how people can choose their own support.



Choice & Control

Sub Group: Housing
Who is the Lead? Rod Clay

Something good in 2009:

Held a **successful event** with Dimensions last June about housing. There was some very positive feedback.

Something planned for 2010:

To help people with learning disabilities **own their own home**. They hope to get some money from Big Government to make this happen.



Housing

Sub Group: Employment
Who is the Lead? Luke Joy-Smith & Katrina Reeves

Something good in 2009:

Worked hard to find out what services and opportunities are available to help people **find and keep jobs** in Wokingham. There are more people with learning disabilities in work, in Wokingham, than anywhere else in the country!

Something planned for 2010:

Planning a campaign to help young people and their families think about **work as the first option** when they leave school or college.



Jobs



Sub Group: Health
Who is the Lead? Jenny Harris

Something good in 2009:
 Worked with CLASP to make **Health Action Plans** easy to read. The final version will be ready soon.

Something planned for 2010:
 To work with local opticians to **develop good eye care** for people with learning disabilities in Wokingham.

The 5th Priority

The **Regional Programme Board** has set local Partnership Boards in the South East a 5th priority to work on...

“Keeping People with Learning Disabilities Safe”



The **Take Notice Group** has been working on a campaign to stamp out Hate Crime - and Phillip, Peter, Andrew, Tim, Vicky and Frankie talked to us about **Hate Crime**, the new **Hate Crime Reporting Centre** and the **Safer Places Campaign**.



Take Notice Group

What is Hate Crime?

A hate crime is when someone bullies or hurts someone because they think they are different – it might be because of their race, their religious beliefs, they have a disability, they are gay, lesbian or bisexual, or they are transgender (this means someone who feels the body they are born with is not right for them, so they have changed from being a man to a woman or the other way round).



Peter and Debbie did some brilliant role play to show different crimes that could be hate crimes, if the reason the person commits the crime is because the person is different. Hate crimes are extra bad because they make people feel bad about who they are. Leilah told us a story about bullying...



“Harry wasn’t allowed to sit with his colleagues during tea breaks at work. His work colleagues followed him around, talked loudly about him saying rude things. They also took his work tools and said to his supervisor that he had been careless and lost them. Harry got upset and left his job – but he didn’t tell anyone the real reason, and so everyone was cross with him for giving up his job for no good reason.”

Some people don't always report hate crime and here are the reasons why:

- They don't know that what is happening to them is a crime.
- The people who support them, and the police, don't know it is a crime and don't understand how much it hurts.
- They don't know there is a separate thing called a Hate Crime.
- They don't know where to go to report a crime.
- They are scared of the police.
- They don't think people will listen or believe them.





Hate Crime Reporting Centre:

Lisa Hookway from Prevention Services and CLASP got together with the police and the Community Safety Officer at the Council to set up a **Hate Crime Reporting Centre** at the Bradbury Centre. This reporting centre will help people to feel safe and comfortable if they need to talk

to someone about a crime. **Vicky Stubbs** has just been given the job as Hate Crime Reporting Officer and has been trained to take notes and keep everything confidential. **The Hate Crime Reporting Centre will run from the Rose Buddies Internet Café which is at the Bradbury Centre, every Friday, 1pm-3pm.**





Safer Places Campaign:

Next, David talked about a Hate Crime Conference that the Take Notice Group went to at the end of last year. Then Phillip talked about the **Safer Places Campaign** that the Take Notice Group started work on last year. The Safer Places Campaign will let shops and

businesses in Wokingham put a sticker in their window, to show vulnerable people that it is a safe place to go to if they need help. **Radio Berkshire interviewed Phillip about the campaign!** The Take Notice Group still have work to do on this campaign and when it is ready to be launched, we will let you know!

LUNCH

During the lunch break, everyone had the opportunity to add to the comments they wrote in the tea break about good things that happened in 2009 they would like to share, and suggestions for things we should do in 2010.



Partnership Board Update

What has the Partnership Board been doing this year? Here's a quick look at what's been going on.

1. Independence!

At the end of last year, we took a step towards becoming independent from the Council. We invited organisations to apply to be our host (give us some office space and help us to look after our money). We had some good proposals, and after holding interviews, decided that **Support Horizons** would be the most suitable for us because they:



- ☺ were good value for money
- ☺ had good facilities (central location and ready to go)
- ☺ offered good support (IT and phone line)
- ☺ are a good organisation (people with learning disabilities have a say in how it is run)

Our new contact details are:

Learning Disability Partnership Board
3 The Courtyard (off Denmark Street)
Wokingham
RG40 2AZ

Tel: 05600 766 114



jodie.newman@partnershipboard.org.uk
jennie.grieve@partnershipboard.org.uk
admin@partnershipboard.org.uk

(David, Julie and Nick will be using their usual email for now.)

On 25th February at 4pm, we will be holding our official **Opening Event** to give people an opportunity to visit us, have a drink and chat about things. Please let us know if you think you might drop in and share a biscuit or two!

2. New Look Website

www.wokinghampartnershipboard.co.uk

Tony Bland has updated the Partnership Board website and given it a new look! Please have a look and give us some feedback – let us know what **you** would like to see on the website.





3. Our Members Get A Say!

We have been involved in many consultations in the last year. Jodie gave a summary of some of them:

- Standards for Better Health (April 2009)
- National Autism Plan: A Better Future (September 2009)
- Wokingham Ethnic Minorities Report (October 2009)
- Wokingham Health and Wellbeing Plan (December 2009)

4. Regional Programme Board

Our Learning Disability Partnership Board reports to the South East Regional Programme Board. It's job is to:

- Make sure Valuing People Now happens for all people with learning disabilities in the South East.
- Write a plan about the most important things to do in the South East (this is called the Regional Delivery Plan).
- Check how Partnership Boards in the South East are doing.
- Make sure money and resources are used to make things better in the South East.
- Help the Valuing People Team to support local action plans.
- Write reports for the National Learning Disability Programme Board.




Some people from Wokingham are part of the Regional Programme Board. David Chaffe and Phillip Pearce represent the Regional Forum of People with Learning Difficulties, along with 2 other people. Jodie supports them.

5. Guidance for Partnership Boards

Last October, all Partnership Boards were given guidance from the Dept of Health on how they can work effectively (work well). The Core Group has been checking how well we are doing against the guidance – we will report back soon.



Annual Report: Valuing People Now say that all Partnership Boards need to write an Annual Report (by 31st March) to check things are being done and we are getting on with things that we said we would! *(Last year we were one of a few Partnership Boards in the country who wrote an Annual Report - so we are used to doing this!)* We have to use a template this time and a lot more detail is required (things like numbers of people who do things). The information they get from our Partnership Board will



Wokingham
Learning Disability
Partnership Board

Annual Report 2008

What the Partnership Board has
been up to in 2008 and what we
plan to do in 2009

go to the Regional Programme Board, and then they will put all the information together and it'll go to the National Programme Board. **If a family carer or someone with a learning disability would like to help Jodie write the Annual Report, then please speak to her soon!**

6. A Partnership Board That Makes A Difference!

We held a Leads Event in July and all the leads from the different sub groups got together to talk about what they've been doing and their plans for next year. We felt it was really important to have this meeting so that everyone knows what each group has been doing and not to duplicate the work (do the same things)! We also talked about what support the Partnership Board can give to the sub groups.



This is what we agreed the sub groups should do:



- Write **Terms of Reference** (rules and guidelines) for each sub group.
- Make sure they have the **right representation** (making sure someone with a learning disability and a carer sit on each group).
- Write an **Action Plan**.

This is what we agreed the Core Group should do:

- Give **support** to sub groups
- Agree the **roles and responsibilities** for members
- Get **councillor representation** - We wanted a political person (a councillor) to take our voice back to the members in the council. We are now pleased to have **Annette Drake** on our Core Group.



One of our members, Ann Pask, had suggested there should be more information about Core Group Members. So before the meeting, Jodie and Jennie had put up some details about each member, along with some general information. Thank you to Ann for her suggestion!

The Big Campaign - People with Complex Needs!

Last year we focussed on Employment. This will stay an important project for our Partnership Board, but our campaign for 2010 will be **helping people with complex needs**.



What do we mean by people with complex needs?
(Another term is 'profound and multiple learning disability' or PMLD.) These are people who:



- have more than 1 disability.
- have a profound learning disability.
- have a great difficulty communicating.
- need high levels of support with most aspects of daily life.
- may have additional sensory or physical disabilities, complex health needs or mental health difficulties.
- may have behaviours that challenge us.

Our Partnership Board wants to **LISTEN** to more people with complex needs and work to make sure they have the same rights and choices as everyone else. But how will we run this campaign?

Our members gave us lots of suggestions which we will use when writing our plan for next year's Big Campaign - "Helping People with Complex Needs". Some of the ideas are things for the Core Group to think about and some of the ideas individual sub groups can take forward.

End of the Day

Did we get today right?

Jodie asked everyone to give us some feedback before going home – yellow post-it notes to **say what we liked about today's AGM**, and blue post-it notes to write **suggestions for things we should do next year**.



Before everyone left, Mette **congratulated Jodie** on getting the job as Partnership Board Manager – one of the Partnership Board's successes in 2009! And Luke thanked everyone for all their hard work putting the whole day together – Vicky, Leilah and Sarah with the refreshments, and Jodie and Jennie for the planning and preparation.

That was the end of our AGM !

**David thanked everyone for coming today,
and for all their support throughout 2009!**