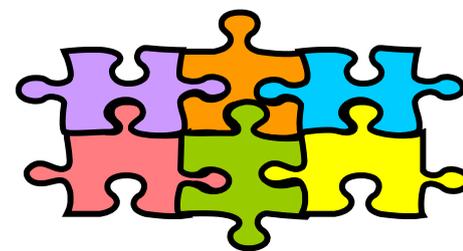


# MINUTES



Learning Disability Forum

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018

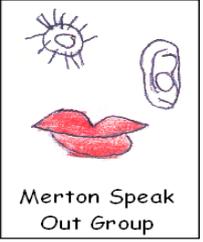
Time: 10.30 - 12.30

Venue: South Thames College Conference Room

## Attendance:

George McAdam (Carers Partnership)	Gemma Blunt (Service Manager, Merton)
Ruth Abbott (Project Manager, Merton Mencap)	Andy Whittington (CEO, Merton Mencap)
David Cafferty (LD Team Manager, Merton)	Clare Flint (Speak Out Group)
Andy Ottaway-Searle (Head of Direct Provision, Merton)	Jane Doweck (parent)
Liz Marlow (Psychologist LD Team)	Vanessa Ashman (Senior Nurse LD Team)
Heather Begg (Business and Process Manager)	Julia Russell, (Advanced Nurse Practitioner CLCH)
Sally Burns (Carers Partnership)	Kate Forrest (OT, LD Team)
Sue Hubbert (Carers Partnership)	Ben Wright (Speak Out Group)
Sarah Henley (Merton CIL)	Brian Capocchia (Speak Out Group)
(Fayre and Square)	Dilys Martin (Merton Adult Learning)
Josephine Alipour (Carer)	Ruth Brown (Co-Chair and Speak Out Group)

	<p><b>1. Introductions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ruth Brown read the meeting rules</li> <li>- Everyone said who they were</li> </ul> <p>Apologies from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tobin Byers-Chair and Cabinet member for Health and Social Care</li> <li>• Wagner Law-Commissioner CCG</li> <li>• John Morgan-Assistant Director Adult Social Care</li> </ul>
	<p><b>2. Meeting minutes</b></p> <p>2 amendments to minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amend 'There is a slight delay as the building in <i>Kingston Road</i> (not <i>Leyton Road</i>) may be listed'.</li> <li>• Joe Apea (Commissioning Lead) discussed at last meeting consulting people regarding new Supported Living Framework for People with a Learning Disability. Sally has</li> </ul>

	<p>requested an update on this from Joe.</p>
 <p>Merton Speak Out Group</p>	<p><b><u>3. Speak Out Group</u></b></p> <p>Clare asked how the learning disability team have helped us.</p> <p>These are some of the things the group said:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noelle is my nurse, she is friendly and kind</li> <li>• Kate helped me to learn how to make my bed and do gardening</li> <li>• Peter used to take me to the dentist. My home do it now.</li> </ul>
	<p><b><u>4. Stories About Good Health</u></b></p> <p>Merrill spoke about her experiences of health and working with the LD Team.</p> <p>The team have helped me a lot with exercise and healthy eating. Once a week I go to see the physio for exercises with my friend. When we do the exercises we also talk about healthy eating. It's better going with a friend and doing exercise together.</p> <p>If I have dentist appointments or need to go to the hospital, I go with a community nurse. I can feel worried or nervous and they help me to feel better.</p> <p>I was struggling to get in the shower in my old flat. The OT helped me to make the shower room safer, but I was still finding it hard. This is when the team recommended I move to Trellis House. When I moved here, I get more support and the flat layout is better for me. I haven't looked back!</p>
	<p><b><u>6. Central London Community Health Services</u></b></p> <p>Julia Russell, an advanced nurse practitioner came to talk about the services that CLCH provide, especially in her team Rapid Response.</p> <p>CLCH provide lots of different services to support people with their health needs, whether they live at home, or in a residential home. Julia has sent a poster out to all homes on the services they provide and who to contact if someone has a health issue. (Poster attached with minutes).</p>



CLCH provide lots of nursing support and therapies. They support people to get better after an illness, physical health problem or operation. They also have some beds available to support people aged over 65 who may take a bit longer to recover after being in hospital.



Julia works in the rapid response team. She is an advanced nurse practitioner which means she can prescribe medication. They have OTs, Physios, nurses and a paramedic in their team. They can get support to a person within 2 hours. This is to help where they can to stop someone going into hospital. They work 365 days a year, 10-6 at weekend, and 8-7 during the week. They receive referrals from GPs, other health staff and social workers.



CLCH are all now based at Civic Centre in Morden with the social workers and reablement team. This has helped people work more closely together to support customers. There is also lots of joint working with the hospital social work team and the Star and In Reach Team who work at St Georges.

## 5. LD Health Team Update



Vanessa Ashman, Senior Nurse, went through a presentation (attached with minutes) about what the team supports people with.

Vanessa had lots of leaflets about the different services. If anyone wants a copy of these leaflets, please contact [Jacqueline.Organ@merton.gov.uk](mailto:Jacqueline.Organ@merton.gov.uk)



**Question:** Is LD Awareness Training Available to attend?  
**Answer:** Yes it is, but we make part of the training team specific so it is relevant to the team we are training. We also do other training such as Autism, Communication and pain.



**Question:** You have said you train GPs and nurses. Do you also train receptionists?

**Answer:** Yes, we have in the past, but they don't come much anymore. It may be difficult for them to attend training. ©Receptionists need training in good communication for all, as they speak to so many people with different types of communication and support needs.



**Question:** Have a suggestion regarding discharge. Would it be better to tell people that are going home, when the hospital can be sure that everything will be ready.

**Answer:** This would help people with a learning disability. It can be very frustrating.



**Question:** Health staff don't know enough about Autism and are not trained.

**Answer:** Lots of staff are trained, but because of the high turnover, this can be difficult to make sure everyone is trained.



**Question-**What's available to support people with a learning disability at St Helier?

**Answer-**As there are no health liaison nurses at St Helier, the LD Team work closely with staff in the Sutton Team to make sure people are well supported.



**Question-**Is there a way of raising the profile of the LD Health Team in the Community?

**Answer-**Will give this some thought.



**Question-**The CCG tends to see LD health needs purely in terms of the very small number of people in (or in danger of being admitted to) specialist hospitals. Do you think some training on the health needs of the vast majority living in the community would be useful?

**Answer-**Would be happy to present further training. Most of the work the LD does is to prevent health needs increasing.

## 7. Physio Services

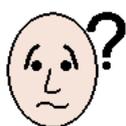


George McAdam read out a letter that he had sent to Connect, the service commissioned by the CCG for Physio services.

No examination of his daughter (who is a wheelchair user) took place, and they declined to offer any physiotherapy - instead the family were directed to the wheelchair service at Roehampton, which provides aids but not physiotherapy and has a minimum 6 month waiting list.



Other carers stated that they had also had bad experiences with Connect. **ACTION-**The Carers Partnership to collate some of the issues faced and this to be escalated by the LD Forum



for clear answers.

It was stated that it can be very confusing knowing what pathway to choose, depending on what you need help with. It is very concerning that the only physio support for all people with learning disabilities in Merton is one Physio in the LD Team.



## **8. Adult Social Care Updates**

### **David Cafferty (LD Team Manager)**

Behaviour Support Service (BSS) is part of the Learning Disability team and supports people with challenging needs. A clinical psychologist Jo Dunn joined this team in mid - November.



Jenni Green joined the team as an assessment and support planning officer 2 weeks ago. She is very experienced and has joined from the Long Term PD/OP Team.



There has been some work started with Commissioning:

- Looking at local Transition supported living services for young people based on outcomes.
- Local challenging behaviour services.
- Expanding the personal assistant provision for LD in Merton.
- Working with the CCG Transforming Care to prevent people from having to go into specialist hospitals.



### **Gemma Blunt (interim Long Term Services Manager)**



Gemma introduced herself as the new interim service manager in Adult Social Care, replacing Jenny Rees who has joined Islington Council as their principle social worker.



Gemma is very happy to be back working with people with learning disabilities, as she used to be a social worker on the team and has come full circle!

Gemma told the Forum about the new Outcomes Forum that happens twice a week. This Forum looks at all customers at care and support planning stage, to understand what their outcomes are and how they can best be supported. This also helps us to understand where the gaps and issues are.



### Andy Ottaway-Searle Update

#### **The Gables**

5 people have moved in and there are 4 people being assessed ( 2 to move in very shortly). The supported living service is going well.

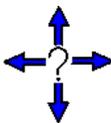
In day services, people are getting used to the reduced activities on offer and do have a good feeling when you go to the centres.

Mascot is working well, and is a very good option for people with a learning disability to live more independently.

#### **Highpath project**

There have been some delays. We are waiting for a secretary of state decision. Will still be moving to Leyton Road some time in the next year.

### 9. Future Meeting Topic Ideas:



- Council Spending and savings plan
- Learning Disabilities Forward Plan
- Commissioning plan for LD
- Adult Learning
- Transport
- Sports and Leisure-what's out there?
- Involvement in Care Plans (Julie Hall from CCG)
- Carers Issues and Support for Carers
- Volunteering
- How to manage weight and maintain a healthy lifestyle in a wheelchair. (Sarah mentioned how difficult it is to get weighed as GPs don't have accessible weighing machines and hoists in surgeries).
- How to navigate services and what's available



### 10. Carers Update

A large group of carers met with two CCG commissioners to hear about their plans for the future. Afterwards a note outlining all their concerns and areas they would like the CCG to concentrate on was sent in to the consultation. For adults these included:

     	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the lack of any mention of health inequalities suffered by people with a learning disability;</li> <li>• the lack of any maintenance physiotherapy for this group;</li> <li>• the urgent need for a learning disability specialist in the borough;</li> <li>• the importance of consulting with family carers;</li> <li>• concerns about the impact of cuts in hospital beds before replacement community facilities are in place</li> <li>• worries about reduced time and number of topics that can be discussed within GP appointments.</li> </ul> <p>Carers are also looking at the council's spending plans for 2018/9 and beyond, and assessing what the changes in where the cuts will fall may mean for learning disability services.</p> <p>Future meetings have been arranged on Mental Capacity/Power of Attorney, specialist holiday providers, Merton Adult Learning's courses for people with LD, a visit to the Gables, and a session on how to complain!</p>
	<p><b><u>11. Any Other Business</u></b></p> <p>Fayre and Square is a shop in Centre Court that provides retail training for 8 weeks for people with a learning disability. They provide a creative learning environment that works to make reasonable adjustments to support people in the workplace. They have partnerships with Debenhams and Lush. They are open Tuesdays to Saturday. For more information, please contact: ?</p>
 	<p><b><u>12. Date of Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>17<sup>th</sup> June 2018  10.30 to 12.30  South Thames College Conference Room</p>