

MINUTES OF THE TRANSITION FORUM
Held on the 10th December 2009 at Downs View Link College

Present: Jenny Brickell, Head of Child Development & Disability Services, Seaside View (Chair)
Maureen Pasmore, Employment Support Manager, Supported Employment
Jennifer Chapman, Consultant Paediatrician, Seaside View
Naomi Cox, Manager Integrated Learning Disability Services, Adult Learning Disability Services & Housing, BHCC
Karen Kingsland, Project Development Officer, Integrated Learning Disability Services & Partnership Board, BHCC
Sue Winter, Transition Development Worker, aMaze
Rosie Chapple, Manager, Connexions
Claire Peligry, Parent Representative
David Cooper, Resource & Admin Manager, BHCC
Suzy John, Special Advocate, YAP
Peter Wheatly-Crowe, Mainstream Schools & SENCO/INCO Group
Natalie Trentham, National Transition Support Programme
Chantal Homan, National Transition Support Programme
Kathy Taylor, Valuing People Now initiative
Melanie Carroll, Manager, Manager Advocacy Team (Observing)
Lynne Berry, Secretary to Jenny Brickell (Minutes)

Apologies: Philip An, Lynn Ley, Adrian Carver, Jacqueline Coe

I. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

National Transition Development Plan – Workshops and Seminars

Jenny Brickell was not aware if Patrick Field attended the Joint Assessment Workshop but she mentioned that Patrick is no longer acting as Transition Manager and this post has now been filled by Lynn Ley.

Funds to be spent by March 2010

Jenny Brickell said she had not had any bids for this money. Naomi Cox reminded everyone that some of the £5,000 would be spent on printing the Protocol.

Work Plan

To be discussed under separate agenda item but with regard to the Travel Sub-Group, Sue Winter said she has made initial contact the Journey On Team and will pursue this in the New Year.

Membership

Naomi Cox has contacted John Rosser, Head of Mental Health Services who has nominated someone.

ACTION: Naomi will get back to the Forum with the name of the nominee.

Patrick Whealy-Crowe will be the SENCO/INCO representative.

Health Transitions

Natalie Winterton will be attending the January Forum to give an update.

Transition Protocol

Comments have been received and Karen Kingsland is working on this.

Valuing Employment Now

Maureen Passmore said if you Google “Valuing Employment Now” this will take you to the www.dh.gov.uk website where the publications can be downloaded.

Naomi Cox mentioned that this would also be put on the Learning Disability Partnership Board website.

IT Infrastructure

Jenny Brickell said there is currently a project to try to sort out integration of the various IT systems.

2. NATIONAL TRANSITION SUPPORT PROGRAMME (TSP)

Natalie Trentham gave an update on the TSP, their support to us to date and a quick review of the development plan. Copies of the TSP document and Transition Plan (dated 17.6.09) were handed out at the Forum.

The SEN hub was discussed. There is money to bring together local authority officers into a forum to work together to meet statutory requirements, with sub-groups looking at particular issues. Jackie Wright, Assistant Director at Slough is the South East Transition Lead.

ACTION: Naomi Cox will liaise with Jackie Wright regarding our SEN hub representative, following which Jenny Brickell will contact Jackie Wright.

Natalie mentioned that two events are being organised early next year on LSC arrangements and self-directed support. Providing details are submitted prior to the deadline, we can send as many delegates as we like. Details of these events will be sent to Jenny Brickell for distribution to the Forum.

Discussion took place on the review and updating of the Work Plan as set out in the Priorities for Action of the Transition Development Plan. It was felt we should have something in the Work Plan to reflect work of Transition Team, which developed from issues raised in this Forum. It was confirmed that this Forum is the strategic planning group for transitions.

ACTION: Rosie Chapple said she can start a group to identify development goals for the Transition Forum to review in March 2010.

Jenny Chapman mentioned there is a new health project relating the difficulties experienced with ensuring patients are linked in with the various processes. Katherine Anderson, Anne Livesey and Jenny Chapman are taking college leavers and starting to organise a 'team around the child approach' for each patient. Jenny has started with one child this term. There will be a review in the Summer term to make sure this is on track.

Queries were raised regarding whether this was linked in with Natalie Winterton's project and whether or not Lynn Ley was aware.

ACTION: Jenny Brickell and Jenny Chapman to talk outside of the meeting and make sure Natalie Winterton and Lynn Ley know and are involved with the project.

It was agreed that Natalie Trentham and Chantal Homan would attend the March meeting to identify help following on from Transition Team Steering Group suggestions.

Discussion on information gathering and where information gathered is sent. Rosie Chapple mentioned that year 11 information is collected but she was unaware of where this went. Ideally any process should mirror what happens in Adult Services and reviews should be sent to Information Commissioners. When David Cooper feeds back at the January Forum on the Audit, we can look at information gathering.

Natalie Trentham will make sure David Cooper gets information on LSC events to look at new placements, etc. She also said that commissioning should be one of our priority areas for next year.

Sue Winter said it was also important that we ascertained and clearly identified the long term aspirations of Young People at both special and mainstream schools.

3. VALUING PEOPLE NOW

Kathy Taylor spoke to the Forum about this initiative which is a new three-year transition strategy for people with learning disabilities. There are specific statutory issues which come out of this new strategy and there is also a requirement to produce an annual report each March. This report will be prepared by the Learning Disability Partnership Board and Karen Kingsland will be responsible for writing the report.

Kathy mentioned that person centred reviews now apply to all young people who have disabilities even those without a statement (these would be included by way of the Disability Discrimination Act). She said that Surrey County Council have done a lot of work in this area and would be a good source of information. They have produced a Transition Review Document which she brought with her for us to see.

Sue Winter asked whether we should be following the Valuing People guidelines or what Surrey had produced. Kathy explained that the document produced by Surrey was just for ideas and that each local authority needed to develop their own model on the basis that one

size does not fit all. The Valuing People approach was very prescriptive but the new initiative opens up the approach to person centred planning and allows each area to customise, with the obvious proviso that there are key essentials that have to be included. How we present them is down to us but it was important to remember that we must evidence that all the key items are included. Another important thing to remember is that the person centred plan belongs to the Young Person.

David Cooper said it was important to ensure we get as many young people as possible with severe physical disabilities/learning difficulties involved in person centred planning, including those accessing mainstream facilities.

Naomi Cox report that GP's are now carrying out annual plans and health reviews for Adults but this does not filter down to Young People yet. Natalie Winterton will be attending and reporting to this Forum in January and we will raise with her the question of what is happening to health information.

Natalie Trentham mentioned that they will be holding workshops to look at health action plans. Naomi Cox has details for the Valuing People S. E. Region Person Centred Forum in March.

Maureen Passmore raised a point about how effective our distribution of information was to other areas concerned with transition.

ACTION: A list should be made of all the relevant representatives at all the various fora who should receive information.

Natalie Trentham suggested that the S.E. Transition Newsletter could be distributed to all representatives as this was an excellent source of information.

Jenny Brickell said we need to identify what is important to us as a Forum and then keep track. Jenny should be on every appropriate list as the nomination person for transition.

Jenny thanked Natalie and Kathy for their most interesting and informative presentations and said how much we appreciated their time with us today.

4. WORK PLAN AND MEMBERSHIP

Karen Kingsland distributed another version of the work plan which she had drafted from various sources, including the work plan drafted with the help of the National Transition Team, the Aiming High priorities, and outstanding actions from the 2007/08 work plan. Karen said that transport, leisure and employment would also be included in the final version.

Karen will send out an electronic version of the work plan and invited all attendees to consider this and let her have any comments, amendments or additions they might have.

Naomi Cox mentioned that the SAQ2 can go on the website.

ACTION: Karen Kingsland to bring the work plan to every meeting to track and put in dates.

Natalie Trentham suggested that when people are identified, we should ensure they are members of this group or involved regularly to report on progress.

ACTION: Between now and when we meet on 7th January all members to let Karen Kingsland have their suggestions for key leads and dates.

The agreed membership list has been done but we still need names of the representatives for the Adult and Adolescent Mental Health Teams. Naomi Cox will let us know the name of the Adult representative.

ACTION: Naomi Cox to let us know the name of the Adult representative.

Jenny Brickell will contact Peter Joyce at CAMHS about the adolescent representative.

Another consideration would be how we link what happens here with AHA group and Naomi Cox said this needs to be addressed.

Suzy John mentioned that Rachel's job has now been filled by Jay Breslaw who will be running the AHA group which only meets during term time.

ACTION: Karen Kingsland to add how we link with the AHA group to the work plan.

Karen will also look at SAQ2 and make sure we pick up any outstanding items from this for the work plan.

5. LSC UPDATE

David Cooper said that the Learning Skills Council (LSC) take over at 16 and go through a transition process, starting in Year 8. Proposals are made to the LSC but the needs are tied in with what they can fund. Post 19 local colleges cannot meet needs of Young People – the commissioning impetus is there but no funding. The colleges physically cannot take Young People and the LSC do not have funding to adapt.

Natalie Trentham said there will be LSC events in the New Year to look at new placements, etc. which might be useful to us. David would like information so he can attend and Natalie Trentham said she will make sure David gets this.

Natalie Trentham said that commissioning should be one of our priority areas for next year. Jacqueline Coe is the lead on LSC.

Current situation regarding move from LSC to local authorities is that a mapping exercise has been carried out by Rosie Chapple and David - joint SEN and communication pathway towards moving on plans. David has spoken to Transitions Team at Downsvew.

David will be speaking to Michael Dalton at the LSC next week. Once local authority takes over we will be in a good position to negotiate external provision for young people. During the period April 2010 – March 2011 the local authority will be working with LSC to ensure

everything in place for the following financial year as from April 2011 the local authority will be taking control of finance.

It was noted that there are no reciprocal agreements in place with Health to recoup money. Local authorities have agreements.

ACTION: Chantal Homan will email LSC information received from Michael Dalton to David Cooper.

6. UPDATES

Sue Winter – Transition Development Worker, Amaze

A meeting of the Parents with Teenagers Transition Reference Group was held for 10 parents in October on becoming more resilient. In November Simon Smith, a young man on the autistic spectrum, gave a talk to 26 parents about 'Being Autistic' and offered ideas on how parents can best support their teenagers.

Another 5 week Insiders' Guide to bringing up teens with special needs course will start on 26th February 2010 and Sue handed out leaflets for us to distribute to parents.

Other items of interest:

- 2 parents attended the LDPB in November with Sue
- Sue met with Lynn Ley, the new Transitions Manager to discuss their respective roles
- Meeting with Keith Beadle and Rachel Travers about how Amaze might develop their transition support to parents and professionals
- Sue attended the Person Centred Approached working group in October and Transition Team Steering Group in November
- Further information sessions for staff at DVLC on the "Words Are Not Enough" project, 5 art sessions for 6 Young People during November and December at the Phoenix Art Studios, an exhibition of work on 3rd December and a presentation to staff and first year M.A. students.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The next LDPB will take place on the 18th January and there will be followed by an afternoon session on self directed support.

Next Meeting is on the 7th January 2010 at 12.30 pm at the DVLC.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL MEETINGS WILL NOW BEGIN AT 12.30 AND WILL INCLUDE A SANDWICH LUNCH. Please let Adrian Carver know if you have any special dietary requirements. Thanks.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR JANUARY:

- **Work Plan and Membership of Forum (Natalie Trentham & Chantal Homan to attend, also David Cooper)**

- **Transition Protocol**
- **Quality Audit (David Cooper)**
- **Health Update (Natalie Winterton)**

Future agenda item - March

- **Self Directed Support – personalisation gender. Nichola St George on maternity leave but Kathy Biggle taking over her role.**