

Wandsworth Older People's Network

Notes of Steering Committee of 10 March 2011 at Anchor Centre, 273 Garratt Lane, SW18

Present:-

Wandsworth Older People's Forum	Tony Tuck(in the chair)
Battersea Ret. People's Assn/Peabody	Doreen Brading
Wandsworth Hard of Hearing Group	Jim South
Wandsworth Older People's Forum	Lionel Davis. Mac Downes
Nat Pens Convention BME group	Glenda Forde
LINK	Jeremy Ambache
U3A	Fred Roberts
Wands Vol Service Dev Agency	Jo Lofgren
Age Concern Wandsworth	Rachel Corrie
Regenerate-RISE	Mo Smith
Balham Pensioners Centre	Judith Crompton
Asian Women's Association	Latif Khan, Saarwat Butt
WOPF Administrator	Su Elliott
Facilitator, WPF	Lilias Gillies

Apologies Andrew Craig, Nathalie Gibson-Wilson

1. **Minutes of Steering Group of 20 January 2011** were agreed.

2. Matters Arising

(1) **Day Services Review** All voluntary older people's services have received same funding as last year, including the Network, but for the following year the funds have been allocated to the four sectors, Battersea, Putney & Roehampton, Central and Tooting & Balham. It is expected the services within these sectors will work together agreeing what each will provide and dividing the available funds between them. There has been one joint meeting of all groups and at present a meetings are being held with each in turn. WBC would like to develop services in the underdeveloped areas using funds previously used in Tooting & Balham which WBC sees as having more than a fair share. The Council seems to be aiming to provide a service for over-75s. The wide representation of the groups present shared experiences but at present most are unsure of how it is going to work out. All has to be worked out by June. Tony said we must all keep together and share information. The WVSDA Voluntary Forum was important for that.

(2) **LINK** Jeremy said he thought the minute re the LINK being only 12 needed clarification. The LINK has 12 of an Executive Committee but 250 members. It has a staff of four people at present and a full programme with the help of teams drawn from the members. It expects to have a budget of £115,000 in this year although it is thought the Government provided more in its allocation to Wandsworth.

3. **Quarterly Meeting with Director of Adult Social Services** No meeting since November but one planned for 15 April.

4. Local Strategic Partnership

(1) **Last meeting 20 January** A report had been circulated.

5. Health Services

(1) **Health & Well-being Partnership** This grouping is to supply the community input to the Health & Well-being Board which the Council is setting up with senior officers and relevant councillors from children and adult services plus Director of Public Health and a GP Commissioner. LINK or HealthWatch will be invited. Ian Reynold, chair of the PCT soon to disappear, chaired and outlined

the changes. Everything is being set up now as described in the NHS Bill, yet to be approved by Parliament, with the GP Commissioners in shadow form. There was concern expressed at the Partnership, from the Mental Health Trust, the pharmacists and the GPs. However Graham Mackenzie has been appointed commissioning manager and Alison Rigby in charge of older people's service at the new SW sector headed by Ann Radmore, all people we know to be good and who have worked in Wandsworth. The GP Commissioners and the GPs in general have been involved in the Professional Executive Committee which advised the PCT on commissioning. There was concern that the GP Commissioners would be meeting in private and would not necessarily have any community input. That is supposed to come through the Health & Well-being Partnership and Board which will prepare a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) each year which will inform, but not direct, the GPs' decisions. It was agreed the Network would write to any members of the House of Lords known to them as the Bill was about to go to the Lords, The Director of Public Health, Ms Al Sharifi, described the JSNA for this year.

(2) LINK Jeremy reported that the Discharge report recently produced had drawn a lot of comment and was being discussed in groups outside as well as in Wandsworth. The Link would be deciding of the next priorities at its next meeting. He said the LINK would have a representative at the SW Sector Board meetings. There was concern about the lack of patient/public involvement in the reorganized NHS. Not all practices had patient participation groups although that is where the Government thinks the involvement should take place, There is some money for a conference on patient involvement. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to any members of the House of Lords known to the Forum about the lack of public/patient involvement in the GP Commissioners deliberation. The Bill was to be going to the Lords shortly.

7. Forum Plans for Outreach It was reported that the Forum had received a grant of £43k for outreach work over the next three years carrying on the work done by Mac Downes during the last year. Mac reported on the priorities which would be working with sheltered housing officers to promote and support the formation of residents' associations in each complex. There were some groups being supported from the previous work which would go on, eg Putney Vale older people's groups and Heathside Resource Centre users who had lost their centre and were attempting to form an independent club, hiring premises. It was noted that the users had a small "virtual" personal budget allocated without individual assessment. Doddington West tenants and Residents Association is not working well and Mac is giving them some support in reestablishing. LARA has closed and the older people's group has moved to Peabody. Lennox Estate with 88 sheltered homes needs some development. The grant starts in May.

8. Network Conference Thursday 14 April 11 – 4 at the Civic Suite Wandsworth High St. The subject will be a review of progress on the Older People's Strategy, now 2 ½ years after it was drawn up and agreed. Liliias is arranging the conference with Wendy Moreton and the plan is to have 8 tables with about 8 participants, a table host/facilitator who will remain at that table and there will be 8 speakers on the various areas of the Strategy who will talk for 10 mins and there will be 10 mins discussion and then the speakers will move on. There will be 5 mins between each session and there will be a break for lunch and then for tea. Invitations will be sent out to all groups who will be invited to send two people. There will be a need for the 8 table hosts and a number of people at the meeting volunteered. They would be asked to do some notes of what was said. There will be a keynote speaker at the beginning and that may be someone from the NHS because of all the changes. There will be the possibility of transport and there will be mention of that on the invitation.

9. Date of Next Network Steering Group Thursday 26 May at 2pm in Anchor Centre.

10. Any Other Business In a round-up of information it was reported that the Leisure department of the Council was being closed and its responsibilities scattered to various other departments..

WVSDA will not have a person doing outreach and fundraising help but all the information is on their website. Jo's post as Policy officer was safe for two years. Balham Pensioners Centre will soon have completely level access and it will be ready for the Holiday at Home summer plans, for older people, which they are doing along with the other churches in Balham. Jeremy urged everyone to join the LINK and to come to the next meeting in Balham. Age Concern has had to cut its home care advice. There was a new development pending, of work with Southwark Circl, which may be put out to tender. Tony warned that WBC assesses tenders 80% on cost and 20% on quality which is not what we would like to see. Liliias raised a table of assessment of the performance of PCTs in stroke services, hospital and aftercare. Most of the Wandsworth results were lowish. Jeremy asked for a copy for the LINK.

Liliias Gillies

13 March 2011