



North East Partnership Board Meeting

Monday 21st November in
Sunderland



Welcome and Introductions

Sharon Bell welcomed everyone to the meeting. We went around the room and everyone said who they were and where they were from.

There is a list of people who came at the end of these notes.

Lesley Jeavons the ADASS representative was co chairing this meeting with Sharon because Ewen Weir could not be here.



Minutes from the last meeting

Lesley went through the notes from the last meeting.

Everyone agreed these were right.

Actions update

Sam went through the actions from the last 2 Programme Boards. The table below shows what has happened with these actions.

Actions from the Partnership Meeting July - September

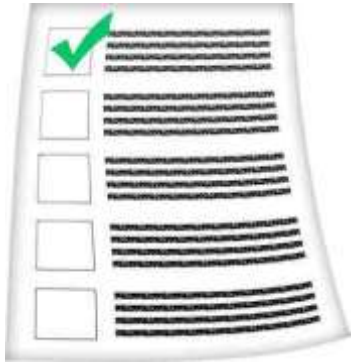
Red Boxes means it is not finished

Yellow boxes means it has started or nearly finished

Green boxes means it is finished



| What? | Who? | What happened |
|---|-----------------|--|
| Each team to go back to their Partnership Board and tell them about the Learning Disability Partnership | The Partnership | We sent you the action sheet you did. We will ask you how you are doing with your work at the January meeting |
| Make a list of all the Self Advocate & Families group in the North East | Inclusion North | We have done this |
| Make a private Facebook Page | Inclusion North | This has started. You can see it at http://www.facebook.com/pages/North-East-Learning-Disability-Partnership/209478049109666 At this meeting we asked for volunteers to update the Facebook page. Sharon Bell from Sunderland People first and Emma from the Peer Mentoring Housing Support Project in Gateshead volunteered. |
| Tell the Partnership about the work on the issues raised by the abuse at Winterbourne View that has happened across the Country and in the North East since the July meeting. | Judith Thompson | Judith gave an update at this meeting. You can find details of this at the end of these notes |



The Big Things we learned from the Housing and Jobs Project

Sharon handed over to Jill Smith who is the Homes & Jobs Programme Manager in the North East who talked about what we have learned from the Housing & Jobs project.

The good things that have happened are:

- ✓ **Projects have helped people get more life skills**
- ✓ **229 people have been involved in the projects -**
 - **74 had started studying,**
 - **75 were doing work-based training,**
 - **27 were doing paid work**
 - **24 were doing voluntary work**
 - **24 people have been supported in or moved into their own homes**

Things that have helped the projects to succeed are

- ✓ **People having more confidence,**
- ✓ **new opportunities,**
- ✓ **helpful project staff,**
- ✓ **job coaches and supportive employers**

The things that have been difficult are:





- **The economy – there is less money and jobs in general**
- **Lack of employers understanding of difference,**
- **How services are bought by commissioners,**
- **Poor transport**
- **Limited houses close to family/carers**

Jill said that an evaluation had been carried out that shows findings from the project. She said that she was waiting to find out if it had been made public as yet, but that it was not in easy read.

Lesley Jeavons asked if the evaluation can be ready for the next meeting and if an easy read summary could be sent to the partnership.

ACTION: Inclusion North will make sure the Partnership get an easy read summary of the evaluation of the Homes and Jobs project.

Project Choice in Sunderland – helping young people get jobs

Sharon then handed over to Stephanie Smith, Scott McNay & Angela Dunn who talked to the partnership about project choice in Sunderland. Stephanie explained that project choice works in 3 stages:

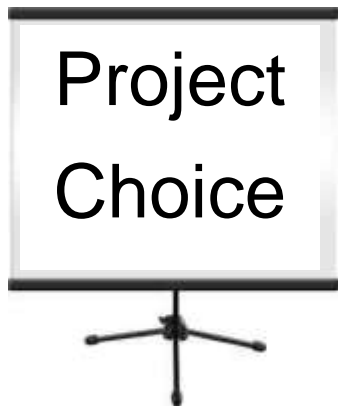
- ✓ **Stage 1: Work Experience (16 – 19)**
- ✓ **Stage 2: Internship (16 – 24)**
- ✓ **Stage 3: Work Apprenticeship Further learning**

Angela then talked about the work placement that she had been doing on a Ward at City Hospital in Sunderland. She said that her work involved catering, making tea for the patients, checking trolleys for doctors and nurses and making beds for the patients. Angela said that she really enjoyed her job and working hard. She said that the team didn't want her to leave and neither did she.

Scott then talked about his work placement. Scott had been working with Medical records. His job included scanning, filing, finding notes and taking them to clinics.

Scott said that this experience has given him a better idea of what is out there in the world of work. He said everyone should have the chance he has had to experience work and learn all the skills you need.

A copy of this presentation has been sent with the notes.






Group work – What this means to our area









Sharon then handed over to Sam who asked everyone to work in their area teams and think about the following:




- **What is working well to help people get jobs in their area?**
- **What can we learn from other area's work?**




Everyone wrote down on cards what they had discussed you can see what area's said on the tables on the next page.

| <p>Area</p>  | <p>What is working Well to help people get jobs in your area</p>  | <p>What can we learn from other area's work?</p>  |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Hartlepool</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18.4 % people in Employment • 4 people secured permanent work (roots 2 employment) • Joined up learning disabilities and mental health employment teams • Set up social enterprises • Use of potential budgets to access employment / training | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage People to look at different opportunities to day services • People employed by the council don't have contracts |
| <p>Sunderland</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Quality Checkers – Looking at community Interest companies • The Futures Team • Project choice • “Works for all” page on the Our Voice website (www.ourvoicoursay.com) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement to private sector • Benefits • Lack of paid jobs out there • Apprenticeship framework can be a barrier |

| <p>Area</p>  | <p>What is working Well to help people get jobs in your area</p>  | <p>What can we learn from other area's work?</p>  |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Middlesbrough</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure people are better off in work - do benefit checks • Working well with some big retail companies • Customised employment – the right job for the right person – create jobs for people • We have Job coached FORWARD's Team work well with others etc agencies, Job Centre, Employers • PSA 16 project Autism Pilot project • Work retention – we can help people work (2 years +) – proper paid jobs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need to work better with Day services / housing support and providers so everyone is involved • Make a DVD of how to get people good paid jobs (PRO-CIS) |
| <p>Darlington</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated Job Coach • Project choice is coming to talk at the December partnership board | |

| <p>Area</p>  | <p>What is working Well to help people get jobs in your area</p>  | <p>What can we learn from other area's work?</p>  |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Northumberland</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We use the big plan and PCP to help people think about the kind of jobs they might like to do • More choice of work experience for young people than their used to be • Our learning employment group is developing an employment pathway • We have talked to Stephanie about Project Choice and are thinking about how it could work in our area | |
| <p>Durham</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peoples parliament employ 3 people 16 hours per week, 20 doing 2.5 hours per week • A small number of employees in county hall (from a previous scheme) but no new intake • Increasing opportunities in colleges | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs to get public services on board in senior management & HR – who? • We will share information and success from project choice with Durham Council and the Learning disability partnership board • Setting up employment projects |

| <p>Area</p>  | <p>What is working Well to help people get jobs in your area</p>  | <p>What can we learn from other area's work?</p>  |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Stockton</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brighter futures – Young people preparing for community life • STEPS – workplace skills i.e. STEP into Employment • Shaw Trust – Helps with job skills – gardening, joinery, admin, cookin • Community bridge building project | |
| <p>Newcastle</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have capabilities which help people to train so they can get a job. They do food / catering and printing • We have project choice work experience • My way to work website • Workfirst now do a “hard sell” to employers • Took part in aspirations for life with younger people and employability • The workforce team help people find a job, check benefits, give them support & keep checking how people are doing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newcastle & North Tyneside – More information on how to steer through benefits – Newcastle has made a welfare rights DVD • Newcastle & North Tyneside – How to better support people with learning disabilities and mental health – Project choice came out of a champion, how are they using champions? |

| <p>Area</p>  | <p>What is working Well to help people get jobs in your area</p>  | <p>What can we learn from other area's work?</p>  |
|---|--|--|
| <p>North Tyneside</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20:20 scheme – council work placements • GAL pilot site – transitions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With Newcastle – More information on how to steer through benefits – Newcastle has a welfare rights DVD • With Newcastle – How to better support people with learning disabilities and mental health – Project choice came out of a champion, how are they using champions? |
| <p>Gateshead</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New vision for Disability services which has employment of enterprise as key themes • The supported volunteer project (based at GVOC) is a great stepping stone for people towards employment • Your Voice Counts has a peer mentor project and paid work for people with learning disabilities • The sub regional lettings service will to people about jobs • Day services to focus on employment as an outcome for people | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do those areas without a supported employment service promote and support employment opportunities • Does anyone have an employment partnership |



The Peer Housing Mentoring Project in Gateshead

Sharon handed over to Helen and Claire and Emma who talked about the Peer Housing Mentoring Project in Gateshead.

Gateshead Council asked Your Voice Counts in Gateshead to appoint a Co-ordinator and to manage the project. The project has been running for a year and takes referrals from people with a learning disability and from family members of people with a learning disability who want a mentor. We paid mentors to do this work.

They said that they started by finding everybody who wanted to live somewhere else. They found that lots of people are living with older carers and not talking about their future. They wanted to help people overcome their fears and start to plan. They applied for PSA 16 funding. The idea was to get people to become mentors who have been through the scheme and guide others.

A copy of the presentation explaining the project has been sent with these notes

They then showed a short clip from a DVD they had produced. It told the story of Victoria who was able to get her own house.

Victoria said that she too is now a mentor and has been going round talking to people.





To get a copy of this DVD you can contact John Soulsby on:

Tel: 0191 478 6472

E-mail: john.soulsby@yvc.org.uk

What the Housing Self Assessment Told us



Lesley introduced Steve Harris who talked about what we had learned from the Housing Self Assessment.

He said that in 2010 8 areas did a self assessment to check how they are doing on helping people with learning disabilities get good housing choices.

They were asked lots of questions under the 4 big targets which are:



- ✓ **The Big Plan**
- ✓ **What people want now and need in the future**
- ✓ **Making good use of what's available**
- ✓ **Good support and information**



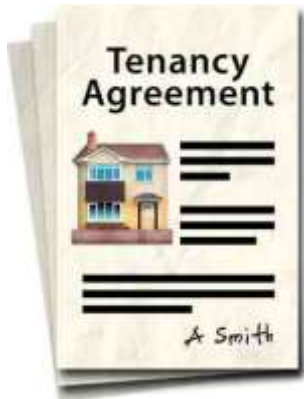
Each area was asked to rate themselves red, amber or green on each target based on their answer.

Steve said that the findings were most areas had scored Amber or Green under the targets.

The only areas where people had scored red and more work is needed was:

- Mental capacity rules and tenancies.
- Ordinary Residence protocols. This means having a set of rules for when someone moves to a new town or area and they need support.

Some areas say that there is a regional set of rules on this and that they have signed up to it, but other areas say that there aren't any regional rules that everyone agrees to.



Since areas did the self assessment guidance on mental capacity and tenancies has been written by the Court of Protection. It says that people who don't have capacity to understand a tenancy should go to the Court to get someone else to look after legal things like tenancies on their behalf.

Housing Options don't think this is right and that people should be supported to plan and should go through the best interest process. They talked to the court of protection about this who said they will think about if new guidance is needed.



It was suggested it would be good to have a Best Practice guide like the one done as part of the Health Self Assessment process .However there had not been the funding to do this. Housing options has developed a commissioners tool kit which can be downloaded from the Housing Options website at:

www.housingoptions.org.uk

There was a meeting in November about ordinary residence in the North East where commissioners talked about how they could work together to solve the problems.



Sam then asked everyone to think about:

- What did they do with the Housing Self Assessment?
- What should the Partnership do?

Everyone worked in their area teams about what they had learned. We went round the room and found out peoples thoughts on the Housing Self Assessment.



After listening to each area people said that:

- **For most Partnership Boards there are other important targets**
- **They don't want to do anything with the self assessment at the moment but each area may want some local work from Inclusion North**
- **They thought that there had been a missed opportunity from the Housing Self Assessment**

What we will do next in our area to make jobs & homes better



After lunch Sharon handed over the Sam who asked everyone to work on 3 different questions

They were given 3 topics to think about:

- **What are we doing to help people get jobs – This group was facilitated by Jill Smith**
- **How can people get good housing choices – This group was facilitated by Steve Harris**
- **How are we working together on people choosing where they live – This group was facilitated by Judith Thompson**

The Action Sheet from this meeting has been sent with these notes.



An update on Winterbourne View

Sharon then handed over to Judith who gave an update on what has happened in the North East to make sure nothing like Winterbourne View happens again.

A copy of Judith's presentation is with these notes and you can find out what has happened from this

Any Other Business



Durham Peoples Parliament

Members of the Durham Learning Disability service users Parliament joined up with the Improving Health and Lives Learning Disabilities Public Health Observatory in a visit to London to talk about scoring how well the NHS looks after people with Learning Disabilities.

In the summer, secretary of State Andrew Lansley, invited suggestions for measures of how well the Health services are doing in a number of important areas. This includes asking for annual health checks to have a wellbeing/mental health dimension. They hope some will be included in changes ahead.



Disability History Month

Sam reminded everyone that Disability History Month starts on 22nd November – 22nd December. She said that it's really important to share with people what is happening for Disability History Month. She said that Inclusion North would send our some information about Disability history Month.

A copy of this has been sent with these notes

Who was at the meeting?

| Name | Area |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Lesley Jeavons | Co Chair |
| Sharon Bell | Co Chair |
| George Cree | Darlington |
| Mike Cleasby | Darlington |
| Ann Workman | Darlington |
| Andy Collin | Durham |
| Brian Devine | Durham |
| Brian Smith | Durham |
| Dave Shipman | Durham |
| Ray Venus | Gateshead |
| Christine Atkinson | Gateshead |
| Dave Woolley | Gateshead |
| Helen | Gateshead |
| Clare | Gateshead |
| Emma | Gateshead |
| Lisa | Gateshead |
| Lisa Philliskirk | Gateshead |
| Chris Horn | Hartlepool |
| Steve Harris | Housing Options |

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Angela Johnson | Middlesbrough |
| Cheryl Morley | Middlesbrough |
| Linda Lord | Middlesbrough |
| Donna Owens | Middlesbrough |
| Bill Norman | Newcastle |
| Angela Jamson | Newcastle |
| Vicky Clegg | Newcastle |
| Judith Thompson | SHA |
| Graham Newton | Newcastle |
| Jane Mackay | Northumberland |
| Paul Mackay | Northumberland |
| Sam Smeaton | Northumberland |
| Ann Brown | Northumberland |
| Jill Smith | SHA |
| Keith Cookson | Stockton |
| Louise Featherstone | Stockton |
| Paul Willows | Stockton |
| Ian Ramshaw | Stockton |
| Sharon Bell | Sunderland |
| Andy Fox | Sunderland |
| Claire Lowthian | Sunderland |
| Stephanie Smith | Sunderland |
| Angela Dunn | Sunderland |

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Scott McNay | Sunderland |
| Matt Prothero | Sunderland |
| Lawrence | Sunderland |
| Eibhlin Inglesby | Sunderland |