

Housing and Support Strategy Group for People with a Physical Disability, Sensory Disability, Acquired Brain Injury and Long Term Conditions

Tuesday 31st March 2009

Minutes

PRESENT

LW (Chair) – Torbay Care Trust	CT – Supporting People Communication & Information Officer
JD – Housing Links Coordinator	LS - Client
PF – Community Care Worker - Brixham	PM (Minutes) - Supporting People Administration Assistant
SG – Disability Information Service	

APOLOGIES

KH – Sensory Team Manager	JH – Affordable Housing Co-ordinator
LSm – Children’s Occupational Therapist	CC – Westcountry Housing Association
CJ – Service User Representative	AH – Community OT ABI Team
CJC – Community Occupational Therapist Acquired Brain Injury Team	RC – Business Support Manager Torbay Care Trust
RCu – Riviera Housing	

ITEM 1	Welcome and Introductions	
	LW welcomed every to the meeting brief Introductions from everyone.	
ITEM 2	Minutes & Matters Arising	ACTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP 1 – Cleared Induction Meetings had taken place. • AP 2 – Main Agenda Item. • AP 3 – Cleared Deaf Blind Awareness Training details had been sent out. • AP 4 – LW advised that there was no update on the Handyperson Scheme. • AP 5 & 6 – Devon Home Choice - cleared. • AP 7 – Benefits of Registering Disabled details were sent out with the last Minutes.KH is looking into Disability Registration Cards rather than letters. <p>The Minutes of the 5th February 2009 were agreed as correct.</p>	

<p>ITEM 3</p>	<p align="center">Housing Link Co-ordinator – Jo-Ann Drury</p> <p>JD gave an update on her role explaining that she was trying to meet all the different Teams and Providers. The Link Workers are asking people what there Key Issues/Barriers are to Housing. They are writing an article for the Staff Newsletter. Also drafting Frequently Asked Questions sheet which will be sent out to Care Trust Staff. They are identifying areas of weakness and intend to produce a Housing Information Pack for Staff. She is working with Devon Home Choice on Consultation for Choice Based Lettings (CBL). She will be attending Devon CBL Meetings. JD will also be a Standing Item on the Agenda for these Physical Disability Meetings.</p>	<p align="center">AP 1 LW</p>
<p>ITEM 4</p>	<p align="center">SPLASH Commissioning Decision Update</p> <p>This had been covered in Part B of this Meeting on 05/02/09. SB (Service Development Officer) had completed a review of the SPLASH Service and recommended to the Commissioning Body that the Service continued .The Commissioning Body had endorsed this so the SPLASH Contract has been extended. LW also gave an update on SB’s replacement. Interviews had taken place but FM (Supporting People Manager) had been unable to fill the vacancy as it is only a 12 month Contract. She has managed to recruit DF for two days a week to cover the Learning Disability part of the post.</p>	
<p>ITEM 5</p>	<p align="center">Supporting People Performance Report – Claire Truscott</p> <p>CT had produced a Summary of the Report which was handed out at the Meeting which she then went on to explain that it showed a significant increase in the numbers of new clients entering Services with a Physical/Sensory Disability. LW asked how many under 65 year olds are living in Sheltered Accommodation. CT advised that unfortunately Sheltered Accommodation Services do not fill in the same Reports as other Services so she does not receive this information from them. The Group discussed the high number of refusals for services but there is no particular trend for this but often the most common reason quoted is “Unwilling to Engage”. LW suggested that maybe this is something which can be looked at when we do service reviews. In the future the group needs to keep an eye on refusals and what “Unwilling to engage” means.</p>	
<p>ITEM 6</p>	<p align="center">Devon Home Choice</p> <p>The proposed paperwork had been sent out ahead of this Meeting. Any comments on this should be fed back to JD. LW went through the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Form and advised that the appeals for rebanding would still be done by local Panels. LW also said that part of the problems have been that the people sending information to the panel do not always say how their condition impacts on their housing problem. LS</p>	<p align="center">AP 2 ALL Before 21.04.09</p>

	<p>asked if the panel look at progressive illnesses and the needs of that person in the future. It may be that in the future there will be a need to look at the Panel and its structure. The Group also asked that a copy of the Local Connections Policy be sent out with the Minutes of this Meeting. It was felt that the draft special needs assessment form needs a simple flowchart to show the process through. There is a need to show how medical needs affect individuals housing requirements. Also need to get comments from KH regarding accessibility- how are they going to advertise it in an accessible way? From the minutes of the Devon Home Choice Meeting section 5 it was agreed that on behalf of the Group JD will draft some examples.</p>	<p>AP 3 PM</p> <p>AP 4 JD</p>
ITEM 9	<p style="text-align: center;">Bespoke Housing Group Update</p> <p>LW advised that Devon Home Choice is having a Bespoke Housing Group so there is no need for this Group to develop one as well. Houses are being developed in Redwell Lane and through Riviera Housing Trust they have identified someone who would need Bespoke Housing.</p>	
ITEM 7	<p style="text-align: center;">Blue Shield Award</p> <p>LW thanked everyone for their hard work on this and congratulations to everyone who has been involved in this Group in getting this award.</p>	
ITEM 8	<p style="text-align: center;">SB's Replacement Update</p> <p>This has already been covered earlier in the Minutes.</p>	
ITEM 10	<p style="text-align: center;">Draft Special Needs Assessment</p> <p>Already covered in Item 6.</p>	
ITEM 11	<p style="text-align: center;">Any Other Business</p> <p>None</p>	
ITEM 12	<p style="text-align: center;">Dates for Future Meetings</p> <p>Tuesday 2nd June 2009 – 14.00 to 17.00 – Ballroom</p> <p>Tuesday 21st July 2009 – 14.00 to 17.00 – Cecil Room</p> <p>Tuesday 15th September 2009 – 14.00 to 17.00 – Cecil Room</p> <p>Tuesday 10th November 2009 – 14.00 to 17.00 – Cecil Room</p> <p>Tuesday 12th January 2009 – 14.00 to 17.00 – Cecil Room</p>	