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| Name of Subgroup:  Day Opportunities; Employment, Education & Training |
| Date & Time:  3rd November 2014 9.30 am till 12.30 pm |
| Venue:  Farley Hill Community Centre |
| Who came:  Tracey Brennan (LBC), Val Sheridan (LBC), Alan Fletcher (Healthwatch), Marilyn Orridge (DWP), Kerry Rees (LBC), Simon Fraser (Mencap), Chris Brandom (LBC), Linda Ambrose (LBC), Debbie Poole-Hunt (Luton Adult Learning)    Who let us know they couldn’t make it:  Diane Walsh (LBC), Craig McSorley (Service User – Co Chair), Wendy Cook (Central Bedfordshire), Julie Woodhouse (Yawn Life), Anna Clough (LBC), Carla Mutter (Mencap), Yvonne McKinlay (POhWER), Janine Macey (LBC), Laura Chalmers (LBC) |

MC900442022[1] Everyone introduced themselves to the group.

MC900299547[1] Previous minutes:

The minutes of the last meeting, held on the 17th July 2014, were agreed by all present and signed off as an accurate record of the meeting. Feedback out of these minutes is as follows;

* Direct Payments: Feedback from Harminder Patel was that if direct payments were used as respite then there could be some flexibility of use.

**ACTION:** TB said she would look into setting up another daytime information session around direct payments; as people do seem to have some questions now that it is in use more.

KR asked that transitions be involved in this session as childrens services often have greater flexibility around the use of direct payments so parents need to know the differences when individuals move to adult services. KR will distribute the information on the session when the details are known.

Agenda Items for today:

Update on Transformation of Day Services:

* TB told the group that the detailed plans for the Stopsley new build were with the planning department; they hope to be removing the trees from the site in January.
* The 1st group to use community based buildings have moved out to Hightown Community Centre and this is going very well.
* Spring 2016 should be when all areas have moved out of Bramingham.
* LBC may look for a different provider for the respite service but who this may be is still under discussion.
* AF commented on the loss of access to open space when people are no longer at Bramingham: The Stopsley site is near an underpass to open park land so access to open spaces is still possible. The group were also reminded that part of the transformation of day care is community access and not just accessing areas within a buildings own boundaries.
* Day Care customers at New Horizons will come under Bramingham Centre in the future, so will be supported by Bramingham staff while at Farley Community Centre. There will be meetings for information on this. Dates are to be confirmed
* TB has asked for a timetable to be put together for the Public Health Funded activities that are taking place within Bramingham along with other activities that are already available across Luton, this can then be brought to the group.
* Woodlands School are looking into whether it would be possible to make their hydrotherapy pool available for use by groups at evenings and weekends.
* TB reminded everyone that activities that are being set up are open to all to attend and that attendance is essential for these activities to continue. If anyone wants information on an activity that they know is taking place to be distributed to a wider group then the details can be emailed to VS and she will distribute it for them through an email contact list. [val.sheridan@luton.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:val.sheridan@luton.gcsx.gov.uk)

 Update from New Horizons and Mencap Supported Employment:

* TB reminded the group that there is an on-going piece of work around a new provider for New Horizons; this is something it is hoped will be in place in 2015.
* CB talked through how New Horizons works. They are currently looking at what projects are in place and who is going through support to work and who is a day care customer, new referrals are still coming through.

They are aiming for a figure of supporting 92 people in work and currently they have 87. The complexity of the service users that are referred can often make the numbers slow down.

* SF said that in July Mencap were supporting approximately 6 people with work opportunities and now they are supporting nearer to 21. It does take time to work with people as they come through and the service now has extra staff based in the Hat Factory.

**ACTION:** CB to work with SF to make sure that if they are working with anyone known to adult social care then they are included in the access to work figures that the council submits.

TB suggested that a network meeting for those providers offering supported employment. It was agreed that this would be a good idea and CB agreed to set this up.

**ACTION;** CB to set up a Supported Employment network meeting.

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* CB told the group about Apprentice Steps and how it works. Placements at the Luton & Dunstable Hospital have been very successful and CB gave an overview of who is doing what and where within the hospital.

AF said that he has concerns about the catering facilities at the hospital changing, and hopes that when these changes take place they still feel they are able to support places for apprentices from this scheme.

* Apprentice steps now have 12 people on the programme
* Bedfordshire Police will be hosting some of the work placements.
* This project is for people with a learning disability aged 18yrs to 24yrs.

C:\Users\sheridav\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\QWNZZ9K8\MC900056794[1].wmfBarnfield College: Not in attendance

Luton Adult Community Learning:

Outcome of a restructure at Adult Learning:

* As a result of this restructure Kathy Bocutt has now left adult learning and the new contact for community learning is Debbie Poole-Hunt. [Debbie.Poole-Hunt@Lutonacl.ac.uk](mailto:Debbie.Poole-Hunt@Lutonacl.ac.uk)
* Debbie has only been in post for 4 weeks so is still settling in and is currently looking at things that are due to start in January.
* The posts may have changed but the core funding remains the same.

C:\Users\sheridav\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\ODVWDRO6\MC900293188[1].wmfJobcentre Plus:

MO spoke about a recent restructure within Jobcentre Plus.

* They now have 3 Employment Support Advisors, who will see people on Employment Support Allowance.
* MO sees’ people who are on Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) (many of whom have often lost their Employment Support Allowance following a Work Capacity Assessment).Whilst individuals are appealing they still need to follow all the JSA processes.
* MO would refer to another service if the person has a learning disability; such as New Horizons, Mencap or Kennedy-Scott. If someone has a Physical Disability then they would refer to the Disability Resource Centre.
* CB asked if there was any updated training available around benefits. Mo was unable to give any details about this and suggested that the benefits enquiry team based in Watford may be able to do this or say who is best placed locally to be able to do this.

Feedback from YawnLife on Carer groups and their need for direct payments information sessions:

* Unfortunately no-one was available to attend this meeting so no feedback given.
* KR said that she is going to meet with YawnLife around the 16+ needs and the differences that happen for people when going from children’s services, through transitions and into adult services.

****Any Other Business:

* Voice groups: Unfortunately no-one was available to attend this meeting so no feedback given.
* TB informed the group that Luton now has a new Vulnerable Persons Social Worker.
* TB reminded the group that the new Care Act Regulations will impact on many aspects of this group.
* Transport: AF asked for feedback on transport review to be given at the next meeting.

**ACTION:** TB to update at next meeting.

* Valuing Employment Now Delivery Plan: TB to look at this as it needs updating and some of the information will feed into the Self Assessment Framework.

**ACTION:** TB to update the Valuing EmplymentNow Delivery Plan



The date of the next meeting has been agreed as:

Date: Thursday 12th February 2015

Time: 9.30 am till 12.30 pm

Venue: Farley Community Centre