

ADULT LEARNING DISABILITY LOCAL INVOLVEMENT GROUP
Fermanagh minutes 1st June 2021

Attendees:

Chair

Ammie Storey

WHSC

Christine McLaughlin Assistant Director of Learning Disability, Margaret Mulligan Head of Service, Julie McGinty Involvement Project Manager, Jonathan McGuigan Involvement Facilitator and Karen Melvin Speech and Language Head of Service

Service User/Carer

Caroline Dixon, Kay Armstrong, Bernie Teague, Caroline Bogue, Slyvia Irwin, Caroline Kelly, Eileen McDonough, Peter McBrearty, Gemma Leonard

No.		Lead Person	Action
	<p><u>Apologies and Introduction</u></p> <p>No apologies were noted.</p>		
1.	<p><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The meeting started at 7.05pm. Ammie welcomed and thanked everyone for attending. The group agreed the minutes of Aprils Fermanagh LIG as a true and accurate reflection of the meeting</p>		

<p>2.</p>	<p><u>Karen Melvin Speech and Language Therapy Presentation</u></p> <p>Karen talked through an easy read Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) presentation noting updated staffing structure and services the team provides throughout the Western Trust area. The presentation and contact details for Speech and Language will be made available to the group.</p> <p>Karen noted the lack of Trust wide SALT services in the past and the difficulties to recruit staff in the southern sector but noted recent increased financial resource allows a therapist aswell as a number of technicians now in each sector. The team meet regularly with other Trust staff to train and build skill levels to help communicate with individual service users. Training can involve day long sessions with key workers and facilities to walkthrough appropriate communications systems and service user families can be involved aswell. A dedicated transitions officer within the team liaises directly with social workers to cover SALT with transitions from childrens to adult teams and waiting times for eating and swallowing concerns are no longer than 13 weeks.</p>	<p>JMCG</p>	<p>SALT presentation to be forwarded to group as part of next LIGs papers</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>Strategic Group Involvement Update</u></p> <p>The SIG met on 4th May and Ammie talked the group through its outcomes and actions.</p> <p>Slyvia Irwin noted some complexities of the Direct Payments scheme during Covid particularly with employment of personal assistants which Christine agreed as a pressure. It was noted that Self Directed Support and Direct Payments in particular were a specific priority for the group and would be focused on in the coming LIG meetings.</p>	<p>Comms Dept</p>	<p>SIG minutes will be made available on the Adult LD Hub for reference.</p>



<p>4.</p>	<p><u>Engaging the wider community</u></p> <p>Julie McGinty opened the engaging the wider community agenda point with an update on the ‘Reconnecting’ series of events organised for the summer in collaboration with the local district councils and Public Health Authority. Dates and times have been confirmed and will be advertised in the coming weeks. These events will be attended by the Involvement Team to help raise the profile of the LIG and Personal Involvement in general and promote the Have Your Say leaflet.</p> <p>Julie opened the floor for the groups ideas noting some other LIGs ideas such as a local coffee morning.</p> <p>Caroline Bogue noted that before people would become involved they would need to understand what Involvement is. What is Engagement and what does it mean to be part of the LIGs? Caroline believes examples of previous Involvement successes would be an excellent way to promote what can be achieved. Julie agreed and noted Karen Melvins increased team was one such example of feedback from the community having a real impact on a service. Julie asked the group what they have seen as change?</p> <p>Caroline Kelly was in agreement with raising Involvement awareness but felt real Involvement hasn’t happened yet, as an example there is no carer involvement in the regional SDS group. A relationship still has to be built with the Western Trust based on communication and members of the group do engage with the wider community to make Involvement a priority. Caroline does believe the LIG is critical.</p> <p>Christine thanked Caroline for her valid points and noted that increased Involvement membership was a priority and while collaboration can be difficult the Western Trust is determined to try by not losing sight of the bigger picture and working together.</p> <p>Caroline Bogue noted people would need to know what Involvement can change for them and while Julie noted that due to the nature of Involvement people can have differing expectations it may help to put the</p>	<p>Involvement team</p>	<p>Reconnecting events will be advertised through all Trust and district council communication channels aswell as directly to day services and local media.</p>
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<p>5.</p> <p>6.</p>	<p>groups Terms of Reference out to the wider community possibly in a condensed form through the LD Hub. Make the meetings as relevant to people in the community with appropriate agenda items and Caroline Dixon asked should the group be open to transitional service users to bring in new members?</p> <p><u>Involving service users</u></p> <p>Discussion continued to the appropriateness of the group for service users. Julie noted that service user Involvement was not well handled currently and should the users be involved directly with existing key workers supported by the Involvement team as opposed to the team themselves. Sylvia noted the communication difficulties some service users would feel in a group and Caroline Kelly noted the importance of independent advocacy in any user involvement allowing the person a voice free of Trust or carer input. Caroline has worked on user involvement and advocacy regionally and is happy to provide a presentation on the subject at the next SIG on 4th August.</p> <p><u>Any other business</u></p> <p>A proposal from the Trust to streamline the Short break process raised at the April LIG was given to the group but they felt it raised more questions than it answered and the full group did not have the time to study it properly. Margaret Mulligan is willing to meet a sub group from the LIG of those interested in working together to shape the proposal. Margaret reiterated the proposal was only in draft form and adhered to regional guidelines. A copy of these guidelines and whether they were publically</p>	<p>Caroline Kelly</p>	<p>Caroline to present at the next SIG on 4th August.</p>
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