

**Gateshead LINK Mental Health Working Group**  
**Monday 7 June 2010, 1.00 pm**  
**John Haswell House**

**Present:**

David Wallace - Resident  
 Bill Llewellyn - "  
 Stuart Dexter - Mind in Gateshead  
 Anya Simpson - Development Worker, Gateshead Mental Health User Forum  
 Olive Jack - CASA  
 Brenda Tierney - Resident  
 Maria Hall - Cedars School & Resident

**In attendance:**

Richard Jenks - LINK Co-ordinator  
 Kim Newton - LINK Communication and Engagement Officer  
 Rowshon Uddin - GVOC aTENSION project  
 Marge Greatbatch - GVOC Administrator

**Apologies:** Angie Maidment, Stephen Scullion, Kay Parker.

**Action**

**1. Welcome:** Anya Simpson **agreed** to take the Chair and asked for a round of introductions.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting:** Page 2, Q2, paragraph 2 – alter to read ‘MB is looking at the delivery of Dual Diagnosis services’ and also alter ‘progress of the plan to date which could impact on the way the Crisis Team delivers their service in the future’. The minutes were **agreed** as a true record with these changes.

**AM –  
alters**

**Matters arising:** KN had sourced information on the ‘Green Light’ Toolkit which was circulated to those present. RJ is to meet with Michael Brown, who is the lead on the commissioning group for Mental Health / Dual Diagnosis. Michael has agreed to attend a future meeting to address any issues raised by the members. His presentation will include the remit of the 24/7 team.

A summary document of the Dual Diagnosis Commissioning Plan was

circulated.

RJ reported that Middlesbrough Mind would be willing to run a Mental Health First Aid training course for Gateshead LINK members, in the autumn. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

AM -  
agenda

**3. Proposed Mental Health Conference:** At the recent planning day it was suggested that a Mental Health Conference would be beneficial to the community and this fits in with the whole ethos of the LINK. Following enquiries, the Gibside Hotel in Whickham has been provisionally booked for Thursday 7 October. One of the subjects for the day would be to look at the Review of the Mental Health Act document and its impact so far.

KN handed round copies of the South of Tyne & Wear Mental Health Model of Care document. Kim briefed members on the content as they scanned through the paper. Members agreed that the terminology in the document was not easy to understand despite the statement of commitment to be jargon free. The discussion continued on the links to various services such as 24/7 and Dual Diagnosis and how they are delivered. It was suggested that some of the content could provide a structure for the conference which should address the above issues but dispense with the jargon making the subjects easier to understand.

RJ asked the members to think about the format of the day. The following suggestions were put forward for consideration:

- Opening speaker
- Workshops (in small groups)
- Q & A session – with an ideas wall to spark questions
- Benefits advice

KN would contact Gail Bayes and invite her to a future meeting to clarify certain things in the Model of Care document such as how/where autism and PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) fit in.

The Chair agreed that the document needs to be explained in basic terms and members went on to discuss individual requirements including those of carers.

1.20 pm Rowshon Uddin (RU) joined the meeting and introduced himself to the members.

RJ then suggested setting up a small working group to plan and progress the conference. He asked for volunteers and Dave Wallace, Maria Hall and Bill Llewellyn agreed to join (Kay Parker was also nominated to join in her absence). A date for their first meeting was set for **Tuesday 22 June at 3.00 pm.**

AM  
send  
reminder

There was a brief discussion on who would be invited to the event.

**4. IAPT** (Improving Access to Psychological Therapies): Members agreed that they would like to see an improvement in the time scale of access to services. KN had attempted to contact Bob Bowman the lead on this but she has had no response so far. RU gave an explanation of the IAPT staffing structure which was put in place in early 2010. Attitudes of hospital staff need to change to avoid the clinical side becoming overpowering in these complex issues.

Gateshead MIND offer a counselling service in all but one of the Gateshead GP's surgeries. Clients can access an initial consultation and 6 further sessions. IAPT picks up where this leaves off and the more complex cases. The discussion continued on the variances in GP services in general and the PCT's view on this. Would it be possible for the LINK to use its collective power to implement IAPT? An urgent letter would be sent to Bob Bowman.

KN/RJ

**5. Any other business:** LINK would offer training on 'Enter & View' as discussed at the Steering Group meeting last week.

The Terms of Reference of the LINK will be changed to be more explicit. RJ went through the suggested changes which had been circulated to the membership. The changes were **approved**.

Following feedback from service users at the LINK event, AS and KN attended a meeting with Janet Gilbert, Manager of the Crisis Team in Gateshead. Janet explained that there had been many management changes in recent months and after further discussion she offered to draft a leaflet explaining the service including examples of 'crisis' and alternative services that can be accessed.

The Crisis Team will be trained on service delivery to offer a consistent response and are working on GP awareness as well. The members discussed this further in detail.

No other business.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 2.30 pm.

**Next meeting:** Monday 19 July 2010, 1.00 pm. Apologies in advance from Bill Llewellyn.

