

Carers in Hertfordshire LD Carers Forum

Notes of meeting held Tuesday 1st August 2017

1	<p>Carers Present: Chair. Marie Scales, Christine Cole, Margaret Garman, Daniel Haliburn, Frances Turner, Jenny Young, Pam Cornish, Yasmin Stark, Brenda Dalton, Eileen Mansell, James Gamble, Joan Willett, Nell Turfkruyer , Margaret Hopkins, Patricia Leibert,</p> <p>Apologies: Sue Haynes, Ann Vincent</p>
2	<p>Others Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Speaker: Molly Rayment HCC • Carers in Hertfordshire: Sue Maskell, Marilyn Schofield. • Other Professionals: Adult Disability Service (formerly CDLT) Fiona Brook. Dawn Norfolk & Avril Reynolds (Bedfordshire care facility)
3	<p>Welcome by Chair</p> <p>Updates on meetings of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purple Star Strategy – • Learning Disability Planning and Performance Group (LDPPG) – no update • Learning Disability Partnership Board (LDPB) – • <p>Sub-groups of the Partnership Board;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Life Long Learning Working Group – July meeting we discussed the need for a bespoke safeguarding course for adults with a learning disability. We will be asking Herts People First to work with their advocates to find out what people wanted includes in a course about this. Also we wanted to look more closely as to how courses are advertised and try to find out if there is a current mapping of what is available. We also looked at the usability of HertsHelp website and decided to invite a guest from HCC to talk to us about that and give them our feedback. Carers seem to be suggesting that we need more support to access: ongoing learning e.g. cooking and budgeting, travelling, keeping safe, learning for fun, volunteering opportunities, work tasters and p/t or f/t employment 2. Keeping Safe Group – James Gamble who is currently one of our Family Carer Representatives, attends these quarterly meetings. James attended the LDPB Feeling and Keeping Safe working group

on 14th July. The main topics discussed were a draft Easy Read Health Information Leaflet, and feedback on the draft Be Safe and Well Charter. At the main LDPB meeting in June there were interesting presentations about the HertsHelp telephone support and advice service, and the Disabled Go website. LDPB members discussed these in small groups, and were able to feedback suggestions about how they might be developed to become more useful to people with learning disabilities and their carers.

3. **Transport Group** - Since April, 690 Hertfordshire Travel Wallet flyers have been sent out with the Concessionary Bus pass renewal letters. 40 have been returned asking for a Hertfordshire Travel Wallet.

- **Self- Assessment Framework (SAF)** – no update
- **Healthwatch LD Service user group** – They have moved their offices and also the meeting venue. One of our carers went to Douglas Tribe House for the LD service watch meeting to find it closed; so please be aware if you see any ads for Healthwatch meetings that if the ads were produced **prior to the move**, please check the venue with Healthwatch. I.e. as in our Carewaves magazine. Also at the meeting it was agreed that Healthwatch Herts would organise some work to researching people’s feedback regarding Annual Health Checks. That feedback would come from service users, Family Carers and paid carers. Carers in Herts are very interested to hear from any of our carers regarding their experiences at health checks and as to whether they have been assessed as carers, and if they receive carers support. Carers in Herts have looked at their data and have twelve people with LD that are also registered as carers of which half have had a carers assessment, only 1 of these is in the last 3 years since the Care Act. Healthwatch are looking at different ways, other than their meetings, of obtaining views of carers etc. One suggestion is that a Healthwatch representative would visit local groups and forums to listen to carers about health issues. Those who were present at our LD Forum today said they would be happy for Healthwatch to attend to do this.
- **Learning Disability Planning and Performance Group (LDPPG)** Marie Scales asked the group about the cost per session for HCC day service. No answer as yet but it is on the action log. Dr Kirsten Lamb (chair of the meeting) asked whether a quiet area could be

	<p>found for vulnerable patients in the emergency department of our two Herts General Hospitals. Both have said if they have space they do already try to provide a quiet area if they felt it was needed.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Presentation /Guest Speaker</p> <p>Molly Rayment Strategy Nurse for Adult Disability Service at Hertfordshire County Council held a training session with carers looking at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identifying the barriers carers face and finding ways to overcome them; ○ How to use and promote the use of the purple folder; ○ Use of the top-to-toe manual; ○ The Purple Star Strategy; ○ Ways to help with issues such as flu jabs, Annual Health Checks and breast or ○ Testicle checks etc. ○ Carers support with capacity assessments and best interest decisions. <p>Molly was very pleased to hear that most carers knew about the Purple folder and their cared for had them. Molly left leaflets on Top Tips for supporting people with LD to a health appointment and explained how carers could get additional sheets for the purple folder.</p> <p>Molly suggested carers look at the http://www.easyhealth.org.uk/ website which has a variety of easy read health information sheets and video clips i.e. going to the doctor, dentist etc.</p> <p>We talked about screening;</p> <p>Men to have AAA (abdominal aortic aneurism) at the age of 65</p> <p>Males and females to have bowel screening from aged 60</p> <p>Women to start have breast screening at 50 (possibly aged 47 depending on the part of the country you live in).</p> <p>Carers said they found the morning very useful and informative.</p>

5	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Recruitment onto Partnership Board – Sue Maskell spoke to carers regarding the changes being made in recruiting carers like you to become a Family Carer Representative. There is an article in the September LD Newsletter and we are hoping to hear from interested carers soon.</p> <p>One carer was upset re having gone to attend the last Healthwatch meeting he found the venue locked up. Healthwatch have moved premises since the advert he saw in our Carewaves magazine was printed and have had to relocate their meetings. Suggestions were made as to perhaps how Healthwatch could have avoided this disappointment to the carer by putting up a sign outside Douglas Tribe House explaining the changes and where the meeting was being held that day.</p>
6	<p>Date of next LD Forum</p> <p>10.00am Tuesday October 2017 when Money Advice Unit MAU Welfare Benefits Adviser, Emma Brodie-Gold, will be our guest speaker.</p>