

Note from Meeting of Section 26/Social Inclusion Group Meeting held on 2 5 06

Present for all or part of Meeting:

Allyson McCollam
Ann Connor
Annabel Sinclair
Robert Davidson
Dennis McLafferty
Dr Sandra Grant
Ian Fisk
Lauren Murdoch
Linda Reid
Pat Little
Peter Bates
Simon Bradstreet
Stuart Lennox

1 Apologies

Received from the other 9 associates

2 Note from last meeting

Agreed There were some concerns re the Delivery Plan paper but this was explained as a discussion paper for the Delivery Plan group and will require much more work and attention to detail before it is adopted, if at all. There continues to be concerns as to whether LAs could be held accountable to Health, although the group agreed the whole agenda was critical and should be not be seen as a possible add on to the “real MH services”

3 Everybody’s Business.

Further discussion about the delay in getting policy statements into the doc although a few had been forwarded.

Lauren was arranging a meeting of policy leads to get them to cross reference and support our work as part of theirs.

Peter was also having difficulty getting good examples from LAs and this might be illustrative of a general lack of progress. Pat Little said he was also having difficulty getting examples for his European Work.

The grids were discussed and people did want references. Allyson thought that the SDC could help. Peter was not sure about the design details and it will need to be discussed with the SE printer ASTRON, Isabella had forwarded a resource pack which made a clearer use of grids.

There was a great deal of concern about trying to ensure that this work stayed at a Corporate, community planning level and did not find its way to SW. It was felt that each department or service could be encouraged to link with their MH/SW colleagues to progress it. It was felt that while there should be actions in all services plans, they should be brought together in a corporate plan that could be monitored by the JLIP/ Delivery Plan process.

The CE would need to understand that there were targets to meet and this was important in the context of the Equalities plan that LA CEs did have to sign off.

Linda had not progressed her meeting with CP or SOLACE, as she felt she needed a more polished copy of the guidance and George Hunter was about to pass on the ADSW CC Standing Committee Chairmanship.

The group felt it was important to produce the guidance in hard copy and after discussion it was agreed it should contain the Executive Summary, the guidance and the grids as one but that the grids should also be (possibly laminated and)detachable as action tools. The group decided 5 000 copies would be needed as it needed to go to Health and the Independent sector as well.

Work can be started with ASTRON.

4 Audit Tool Work

Following a discussion about whether there were any tools available to test out whether services were MH aware and accessible it was decided that actually there were not. The paper Isabella had circulated had been related to MH Services being accessible to those with sensory impairment and Stuart had discovered that the work in Glasgow was around raising MH awareness and addressing stigma and discrimination in Leisure and Recreation services but was not an audit approach as such. There was some discussion of Investors in People and SHAW and H&S approaches to stress but they tended to be rather mechanistic and based on hierarchical instruction rather than dealing with underlying attitudes.

The idea had been to develop suites of resources that would allow “mystery shoppers” to test out services.

The idea then emerged that an audit tool could be developed that could be used as self audit or by service users, incorporating some of the material in the grids. Concern would need to be taken not to have service users expecting to find every-thing present but that this process could also help users and services to prioritise the gaps and areas that required focussed attention.

It was felt that if the audit tool could be incorporated into the guidance and widely distributed the whole process would become more action orientated.

Peter agreed to start work along these lines.

5 Other Work

5.1 The MH Nursing Forum were interested in taking forward work. Linda and Peter will attend their next meeting on 4th July in Stirling. Peter will discuss the full range of potential training and materials available and develop two day training for the Autumn.

5.2 There was considerable feedback from VOX, echoing feedback from Ann and Simon, of service users’ concerns, suspicions and fears about this agenda from across Scotland. This appeared to be linked to the welfare benefit reforms and also fears of losing known services. The group agreed that support to use mainstream services were not in addition to existing ones and there were hard changes ahead.

However, this could not be avoided and we needed to develop a way of creating a dialogue with service users across Scotland. Events needed to focus on validated roles, the chance to contribute, what social inclusion meant, and more tales of hope and recovery. This may tie in with the production of a guide focussing on recovery and mainstream activities. There should be opportunities for service users to gain knowledge and information but be given space to discuss their concerns. These events could also help to launch the LA guidance and the audit role for service users.

Linda and Peter will work with SRN on this programme, linking with VOX. It might be possible to run 5 or 6 day events across Scotland.

5.3 Sandra advised that a recent national Forensic Psychiatrist's meeting hosted by Geoff Huggins had promised another in 6 months with a wider range of Psychiatrists in attendance. Sandra felt it would be helpful to highlight this agenda with them. She undertook to write to Geoff.

5.4 Simon advised that SRN were working with NES on Recovery training for MH Nurses to be ready for 2007 and that they would be ensuring that social inclusion was centrally located. Peter advised about the work in England "inclusion proofing" the 10 shared capabilities.

6 Delivery Plan

Linda reiterated the early stage of the discussion and also advised that there may be interest in vocational services.

There was discussion about the "status" descriptors and it was suggested it would be better if this was comparable with other survey data such as the Labour Workforce. The group did not want to over emphasise work as there would be many retired amongst those receiving MH services. Allyson and Sandra agreed to explore this area.

Peter advised that Peter Huxley has obtained funding to develop asocial inclusion, measure relevant to MH. This could be extremely useful.

Linda will be working with Gregor on this area in relation to the Delivery Plan and will Email the group as relevant

7 Date and Time of Future Meetings

The group are all invited to the recall event on **15th June 06** (some apologies are already noted)

It was agreed that the guidance would progress outwith the group and could be Emailed round for comment

If there is progress with the Delivery Plan a small working group may need to be formed but members of this group would be kept informed.

The next full meeting of the group to review progress and consider next steps would take place on **22nd August 2006 10 00- 16 00 Conference Rooms D and E, St Andrew's House, 2 Regent Road, Edinburgh.** Apologies to LR