

Notes from Learning Disability Partnership Board Housing Task Group  
Meeting 28/07/08 @ North Yorkshire House

**Who Came,**

Ruth Major - WWFT,  
Terry Norland – UBU,  
Jean Riley – Parent/carer,  
Bronia Hawkins – Mencap,  
Rebecca Buckle – Tenant in S/Living,  
Sue Mann – STC A&CS,  
Gillian Hill - ?  
Maggie Boyes – parent/carer,  
Barry McNallay – Avalon,  
Anna Nockles – Area Manager Learning Disabilities A&CS  
Ruth Collin -Registered Operations Manager A&CS

**Who Couldn't Come,**

Carol Armstrong,

**Agenda,**

- 1) The Service Specifications,
  - Full Version,
  - Easier read version,
  - County wide consultation and adoption,
- 2) The Task Group,
  - Core Membership,
  - The Tasks,
  - Future meetings,

Anna welcomed everyone to the meeting it was noted that not as many people as had been anticipated had turned up, however it was felt that the people present represented a wide representative involved. Anna gave a brief history of the group and how it linked to the Partnership Board for the area, two versions of the Service Specifications have now been completed a Full version and an Easier read version, both have been seen by Adult and Community Services strategy group who would like to put them forward in other areas. A consultation involving all areas will be necessary before it is agreed to adopt the specifications. Sue Mann explained that work has started to add symbols to the Easy read version Anna asked if this could be completed for next meeting.

The group then took time and the opportunity to read through the two versions and the following feedback noted in bullet points was given

#### a) Full version –

- Health action plans? – funding agreed for 1 year facilitator post through the P/B some months ago questions asked about when available and what priority would be given to those already living in Supported Living, Facilitator will be in post next month and priority will be given to those already open to health team and care management, individuals can be supported through the LD team to complete the booklet/passport which goes some way towards the final plan, The waiting list seems to be ever growing! Practice nurses, GPs do offer screening process which should be utilised, **Clarity required**
- Medication and Training? – Accredited training by whom? Safe procedures and protocols are in place within S/L facilities offered by providers but who quality checks and by who's standards? **Clarity required**
- Direct payments and S/L? How will this impact on individuals and group living facilities? And when will this be addressed, CRB checks and individuals choice/service safety and expectations? Grey area Safeguarding adults needs to be the priority **clarity required**
- The service specs as seen show a full detailed record of the groups work so far
- Tenants involvement – Choice within reason, Who's reason? Proposal to alter wording to realistic choice! Is recommended from group **alteration required**
- Holistic approach required for a “full informed view” within a PCP, and the outcomes to be clear factual and correct
- Mental Capacity issues apparent at times within PCP meetings and in relation to understanding of the Service Specs and opportunities on offer, Best interest groups could be used to facilitate and work through issues so gaining agreed outcomes!
- Need to ensure we are not setting ourselves up to fail/can we deliver the outcomes?

#### b) Easy Read Version -

- Service spec should include “shared home ownership” within the easy read version (under support planning) **addition required**
- Easy read version should say “A PCP will be available if requested rather than “You will have” (under Diversity and inclusion) You will have a say needs to replace You Will where mentioned in all areas apart from You will have an annual review (this is ensuring the individuals right to expect a review annually, discussion held re all the different review/assessments/meetings that happen over and above the annual commissioners review that is the base requirement **(alterations required)**
- Is the matching process doable? And adhered to? By all providers
- The spec should fit all providers giving a consistency across provision,
- Nothing new here – however this will give an agreed signed up agreement that can be monitored and checked, and is something for tenants to have as a guide to expectations giving a clear signed up agreement that can challenge where and if needed,

- Genuine “real involvement” recognised with this version.
- Direct payments? Explanation needs including within spec on how it will work? Amelia Cook could give advice here! Anna to approach and discuss (action required)
- Complaints, does this need to be more specific and identify who to and what response can be expected, and who checks and reviews the outcomes? (clarity required)

### Two versions, are they both needed?

After some discussion the group felt strongly that we do need the two versions for the following reasons!

- + Recognition of different levels of understanding
- + Full version shows required standards to be met which are not always needed in the Easy read version but could be added as a reference at the end
- + Clarity essential which two versions recognise
- + The addition of symbols will aid communication further and recognises this is not necessary on the full version at present

### c) The Consultation and County wide adoption of the specification

The group agreed that the two versions needed to be adopted and put forward for the consultation process for the wider adoption for other areas, Anna to take this forward on behalf of the task group,

### 2) The Task Group

- a) Core Membership of this task group – Discussion held re the expectation of the P/B for task groups to engage all stakeholders within on-going planning and development across all areas of service and interest, The three LD forums in place who are to be approached to ensure representation happens are as follows,

The Provider Forum (RC rep and present) The carers Forum (JR & MB reps and present) and the speak up Forum (RB rep and present) Anna to speak to H Beavers re future representation due to RB commitments at work, representation from each of these is required to be present at all the task groups and reps present were asked to take this point back to Forums and gain representation throughout.

Anna to write to the following people and organisations to gain representation also,

Ryedale district Council & Ryedale Housing association,  
Scarborough Borough Council,

Yorkshire Coast Homes,  
Supporting People,(Carol Armstrong is named Co-chair)  
Care Management,  
Health rep (practice managers or health facilitator from LD services)  
Financial services (shared ownership issues) TSB and HSBC were voiced  
as preferred options although the group discussed having an event where  
reps from several could all be involved with to raise awareness and  
concerns  
PCP team

b) **The Task** – the group spent time looking at what the actual “tasks” or  
“aims and objectives” of the Housing Task group are/should be, and  
how this can be achieved,

The following points noted

Choice and control,

Achievable improvements,

Quality checking and monitoring of delivered support and service,

Holistic knowledge base of needs and requirements so assisting with  
Housing expectations and the matching requirements,

Involvement within building planning so raising awareness of needs and  
requirements of local area.

Promotion of Assisted technology,

Clear need for clarity of individual assessments so giving full/holistic  
picture in order to place people appropriately,

The group put forward the following statement as the meaning of what  
supported living should be,

“A supported Living Service enables tenants to fulfil their potential by  
developing independence and managing risk, ensuring individuals rights to  
choice and responsibilities to others are respected whilst promoting  
tenants to have a healthy life style and opportunity to develop everyday  
skills”

### **3) Future meetings**

Meetings are to be held every other month, so the next meeting to be  
booked at the end of September, Anna will get dates out ASAP to all  
concerned,

MB and RB were Thanked for their participation and commitment to the  
group which both had been involved in since the beginning, and the work  
completed so far is recognised as benefiting from their involvement,

SM to consider future involvement and appropriateness of task group to  
role held currently with A&CS, other groups such as D&E task group may  
be more relevant,

All present were Thanked for their contributions to the meeting, next  
meeting to be confirmed