

Rossendale Health and Wellbeing Partnership

**Friday 11 December 2015 9.30 am
Council Chamber, Futures Park, Bacup**

Present: Barbara Ashworth (Chair); Ian Whittaker, Newground Together; Geoff Hudson, Lancashire Fire & Rescue; Trish Giernaert, Lancashire Fire and Rescue; Paul Bayes, Green Vale Homes; Pauline Taylor, Together Housing; Ronnie Barker, VIC & PPG Rep; Chris Langhorn, Lancashire Wellbeing Service/Richmond Fellowship; , Andrew Walmsley, Haslingden Community Link & Children's Centre; Stephanie Thornton, RBC; Ian Turnbull, RAFT Foundation; Beverley Garrity, DWP National Partnership Team; Rob Aindow, Jobcentre Plus Rossendale; Helen Holmes, University of Manchester; Melusi Ndebele, LCC; Jane Hall, Support Nurse for Long Term conditions, Rossendale Hospice; Sharon Rowland, Rossendale Hospice Befriending service, Dennis Thomas, STIR and DFR; Amanda Robertson, First Choice Credit Union and The White Horse Project

	Action
<p>1. Introduction</p> <p>Barbara Ashworth welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that she chaired the meeting in her role as the Portfolio Holder for Health. There would be slight changes to the order of the agenda as some attendees had to leave early.</p>	
<p>2. Apologies</p> <p>Rachel Whippy, Rossendale CAB; Carole Kay, Health Improvement Service LCFT; Andy Laverty, East Lancs CCG; Beth Walker, East Lancs CCG; Paul Walker, RBC; Revd Rod Bevan, Edgeside Community Partnership; Steve Rides, Police; Petrus</p>	
<p>3. Presentation – DWP Pensions Service Changes</p> <p>Beverley Garrity explained that her role was part of the National Partnerships Team which worked with support organisations across the spectrum. She covers the whole of Lancashire and gives presentations around Universal Credit, PIP, Pensions Reforms, etc. The full Pensions Reform presentation takes around 1 ½ to 2 hours so she was only giving a summary. The full presentation was offered to any organisations who felt it would be useful.</p> <p>The New State Pension will be introduced in April 2016. The original system was introduced over 100 years ago when life expectancy after retirement was seven years and families were bigger paying National Insurance. People are now living longer, fewer people are contributing and few people have made additional pension provision.</p> <p>Automatic enrolment will be introduced from 2016 where all employers will have to offer a pension scheme and employees will need to opt out.</p>	

<p>Currently pensioners have to have made 30 years entitlement contributions to qualify for a basic state pension with additions for age, SERPS, etc.</p> <p>The new system has been simplified and all additions removed. There will be a single tier pension with 35 years NI credits qualifying for the basic state pension. Claimants will need a minimum of 10 years NI credits to get entitlement to any state pension.</p> <p>This will affect anyone not reaching state pension age before April 2016.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people not yet in work will be part of the new scheme once they start earning. • Current pensioners will not be affected. • Other workers will have contributions under both schemes and entitlement carried forward into the new scheme. SERPS will be taken into account and treated as protected income. <p>Anyone aged 55 and over can request a Pension Statement (forecast) at the gov.uk website or over the phone.</p> <p>Rules around inherited allowances are changing and the new pension will be based solely on a person's NI record.</p> <p>Pensions deferred for 12 months or more can be claimed partly as a lump sum and will also increase payments (minimum of nine weeks deferred and 1% per week increase for each nine week period).</p> <p>Existing pensioners can pay a state pension top-up (lump sum) to increase their State Pension. This will only be available until 2017. Calculation available at the gov.uk website.</p> <p>Pension Credit – from 6 April 2016 the savings element will be removed. Anyone already claiming will continue to receive this until a change of circumstances or break in claim. The assessed income period will also change.</p> <p>Other changes will be introduced in view of the roll out of Universal Credit.</p>	
<p>4. Information Share</p> <p>Chris Langhorn is the Manager of the East Lancs part of the Lancashire Wellbeing Service which had taken the place of Help Direct and other projects. It is run by a consortium of three organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richmond Fellowship (Mental health provider) • Age Concern Central Lancashire • N-compass NW <p>There are 24 field based staff working in East Lancashire with a view to improve health and resilience and tackle social isolation and loneliness. They have currently made links with Veterans in Communities and the Recovery College with a view to basing the Rossendale team there.</p> <p>Their Wellbeing Workers are health trainers and can offer clients up to six</p>	

sessions.

Eligibility is aged 18+ and one or more of the following:

Mild mental health problems, social isolation, loneliness, experiencing difficult circumstances, struggling to cope, support in relation to healthy living and developing a healthier lifestyle

Contact is via email at info@lancswellbeing.co.uk which is a central triage. E-referral forms available for agencies. They are not an emergency service and they aim to contact clients within ten working days.

Referrals so far are mainly aged over 40, more females than males. Some have come from G.P.s but more from other agencies, fire and rescue, Integrated Neighbourhood teams.

Ronnie Barker, PPG – the group is building a network with other PPGs in the area. They have two members on the Patient Participant Board and are trying to get another two, possibly including the portfolio holder.

Trish Giernaert, Lancs Fire & Rescue Community Safety Team – they have a team of four people who cover Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale.

They do Home Safety Checks and will look at a person holistically for issues such as social isolation, benefits, etc. Not everyone will get a home visit. Contact is via an 0800 number or the website.

Also involved in:

Transforming Lives panel in Burnley where people with multiple issues are discussed.

Schools education incorporating a road safety programme.

Fires intervention/response programme

Fire cadets at Whitworth High School

Arson threat – home safety check

Student Social Worker on placement

Princes Trust Team – twelve week course building confidence and preparing for college which has been very successful.

Paul Bayes, Green Vale Homes – they have new digital services. An app is available for users to report repairs, get a rent statement, etc. They also offer live webchats.

Letters are going out to tenants that the group structure is changing. There will be less Green Vale and more Together Housing. New Local Area Panels to be arranged. Still the same local office and telephone number which is a virtual call centre.

Pauline Taylor, Together Housing; They are targeting social isolation. The events they organised had got a poor response, but the Tea Dance with STIR was successful.

Issues around engagement were discussed.

Sharon Rowland, Rossendale Hospice – there is a Befriending service which recruits volunteers willing to visit people in their homes, maybe go for a walk or attend an event. This could also be at weekends. If volunteers are expecting a long absence, ie extended holiday, childcare, etc they will be paired with someone who could deal with that.

Clients are mainly over 75s, usually Hospice patients. If the client is not suitable for the Hospice service, they can be referred to other services that they have contact with.

Rob Aindow, Jobcentre Plus Rossendale – They have a Work Coach Delivery model and Phase 2 will be rolled out in the New Year (Income Support and Sickness benefits) and by April, all claimants will be seen by one adviser.

They have links with East Lancs Mentoring and Inspire. Issues around the future of the Inspire service were discussed.

From January JCP will be working with Universal Credit claimants around job progression (more work, different job, etc).

They ran a pilot with ACROSS with a Get That Job course to upskill employability delivered in from the Youth Zone in Rawtenstall, which had been successful. In January they will be looking at running a food hygiene certificate course and Mental Health awareness.

JCP nationally had a Care and Social awareness month. An event held at JCP in Rawtenstall looked at awareness of roles outside care workers role with other organisations. 80 people had attended and to date 4 had found work.

Bacup Jobs Fair ran with Calico/Help Direct had been a success and was planned to run again in March (1st week) at Central Methodist Church, Bacup.

Beverley Garrity, DWP National Partnership Team – Centre for Health and Disability (Maximus) would help people complete ESA50 forms over the phone. 0800 288 777, Option 1 for English, etc and then option 2 for ESA50 helpline.

The Government response to the review of PIP – on gov.uk website.

Universal Credit – work related activity can include up to half of the time in voluntary work. Work coaches will be advising claimants about this. Time Banking discussed.

Also Universal Credit claimants won't automatically qualify for passported benefits. People eligible for free prescriptions should tick the JSA box as prescriptions haven't yet been updated. There are going to be more checks on this.

Other passported benefits are under review.

The Winter Fuel Helpline is now open.

Andrew Walmsley, Haslingden Community Link & Children's Centre – LCC Childrens Centres now sit under Public Health to cover a service for 0 – 19 year olds. A major review is being undertaken looking to a county wide reduction of county premises.

A consultation is live on the LCC website to end 18 Jan 2016. LCC would probably be looking at two service planning areas.

CAB – have some funding for a Money Advice Service to end March 16. Referrals can be made to the service through the usual channels.

They are also working with Barbara Ashworth and Ian Walker RBC Service Assurance to pull together a vulnerable person's policy.

Ian Turnbull, RAFT Foundation – notes handed out (attached). They have distributed to more families in the last 4 – 6 weeks. They operate three days a week and usually they get referrals to Bacup and Haslingden each day, Rawtenstall 2 days and Whitworth weekly.

Issues re support over Christmas were discussed.

Stephanie Thornton, RBC – has been employed (12 – 18 month post) under the Transformation Challenge Award with DCLG money. It is a pilot in Rossendale/Chorley to compliment the Wellbeing Service.

There will be a pot of money for supported interventions once gaps and priorities have been identified working in partnership with health partners and communities.

RBC envisage she will support partnership working and strengthen links between the council and health services.

Barbara Ashworth – Stephanie will be working with Paul Walker who is working with the council's Chief Executive to support various projects (short term post). He has said that he agreed with the Terms of Reference of the group and thinks the next step should be to identify priorities.

Aiden Kirkpatrick, LCC, has offered to work with the partnership on how to relate to East Lancs and County wide partnership boards and identify priorities.

Helen Holmes, University of Manchester – is working on a research project looking at thrift and austerity in the Valley. In the New year she will be recruiting participant households. She will also be looking to apply to the university for funding to deliver a workshop re financial literacy, cooking skills.

Melusi Ndebele, LCC – LCC has produced profiles for the 34 Service Planning areas – to be circulated.

<p>Sexual Health needs assessment has been completed.</p> <p><u>Amanda Robertson</u> – White Horse Project had received a Children in Need grant to cover a three-year post for mentoring and working with young volunteers. They also run a Thursday craft and sport club at Whitewell Bottom Community Centre.</p> <p>First Choice Credit Union covers the whole of Rossendale with offices in Rawtenstall and Haslingden. Leaflets were distributed.</p> <p><u>Ian Whittaker, Newground Together</u> – was new to the post and the area. He was currently undertaking a community audit to identify gaps for young people between 8 and 24 years old. The can also work with families around drug, alcohol, asb, etc, if they have a child between these ages.</p>	
<p>5. Next meeting</p> <p>Friday 12 February 2016 9.30 – 12 noon</p>	

The meeting closed at 12.15 pm.