

Minutes of Bromley Supporting People Core Strategy Group

15th December 2006

<p>Present: David Gibson, Linda Loft, Wendy Norman, David Hammant, John Slaven, Margaret Whittington, Jane Arkhurst, Lee Spring, Anne Dungan</p> <p>Apologies: Suzzette Polson & Amina Rahman</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of last CSG meeting (29-09-2006)</p> <p>SP to speak at the next SP provider forum(19/01/07), Look Ahead to also do a presentation at the same forum.</p> <p>Contract - Jon Chanon has apologised to LL for the delay in getting the work done, he will review where he is with the contract and put to the top of his workload.</p> <p>SP Webpage - LS informed the group that work on the SP Webpage had started and the new front page was in place. LS to meet with Bromley knowledge Team in the coming weeks to add further articles and links. Relevant documents are currently being PDF formatted ready for uploading.</p> <p>Communication Strategy -the draft will be circulated to the group for agreement and comments. AD also asked for an update to be given at the next provider forum, WN agreed to this.</p> <p>4. Housing Related Support Needs Assessment (Verbal Report - WN) Tribal Consultants have been appointed to carry out a needs assessment. The client groups to be covered are: LD (transition and users with older carers) ,MH (Dual diagnosis) , Homeless (to look at needs of users following change in Hostels configuration) and Young people (needs of users and how the proposed foyer scheme might affect the shape of existing services). Work is to be completed by end of March 2007.</p> <p>There will be a steering group meeting on the W/C 8th January 2007. Sara Bowry has agreed to be the rep from housing. DG suggested that C&YP are asked to commit one person to sit on the board, to represent YOT/Leaving care team.</p> <p>5. Commissioning priorities 2007/8 - WN attached a commissioning paper to give an update</p> <p>Inflation of 3.1% has been budgeted for 2007/8. £15,700 will be available to spend in 2007/08, however this will be insufficient to achieve the commissioning plans arising from the needs assessments. SP team have undertaken a strategic review of portfolio services</p>	<p>SP</p> <p>WN to follow up</p> <p>LS</p> <p>WN</p>

currently funded and possible savings were identified.	
Sheltered Housing - Savings of up to £200k are anticipated during a 2-3 year period, LL asked why achieving the savings would take so long, Dg advised changes to existing services for long term tenants require careful implementation. Nicky Gregory is working closely with a group of providers to ensure that the reshaped service meets user expectations and that good quality services are maintained. WN explained that 3 years was a worst case scenario and that we are already in year one. A detailed action plan will be reported to next CSG.	NG/WN
Keyring scheme - Funds have been put aside to create a third Keyring scheme, however nominations for this have been very slow. LL to brief WN.	LL
LD - No changes proposed except the resettlement support to users at Thicket Road, currently under consultation. WN to advise Jerry Ratcliff	WN
Gordon House - service for addicted Gamblers. The Group decided that this is not a high priority group compared with OP/MH vulnerable. A consultant is reviewing the service on behalf of Responsibility in Gambling Trust, which is the other significant funder of Gordon House. WN will bring this report to CSG.	WN
Refugees - This group is not covered by the Needs Assessment, however we need to revisit the assumptions in the Five Year Strategy and compare with local and sub regional trends.	WN
Domestic Violence - Expenditure on this group accounts for a large % of budget. VFM study has still to be completed. SP team to gather figures from HPU and DV Unit to update needs assessment.	WN
Travellers -DG advised that Novas want to hand sites back to Bromley, LBB looking for alternative providers. SP team to revisit Novas shortly as they were assessed to be a high risk. Needs assessment also needs to be revisited.	WN/LS
Floating Support - WN advised that a number of SP authorities have decided to merge all their floating support schemes into large contracts and retender them. Through the review process a number of small poorly functioning services were de-commissioned and Broomleigh were asked to expand their reduced service across all RSLs in Bromley. However a number of "specialist" services have been retained for pregnant teenagers, refugees, people with mental health problems and young people have been retained. This situation should be reviewed following the completion of the needs assessment work.	
Mental Health - JA gave feedback. There are a number of	JA

<p>accommodation based schemes where users receive low level of support which could alternatively be provided by floating support and the tenancy converted to Assured status. JA's conclusions supported those coming out of the MH accommodation strategy being completed by Claire Lynn and will be shared with Claire & Paul Atkins. VFM to be revisited at a high cost provider.</p>	JA
<p>Young people - JA gave feedback. VFM to be revisited at one provider.</p>	
<p>Probation - JS asked CSG whether they saw Floating Support as a catch all that would meet the needs of the majority. WN said that the needs assessment should determine the balance of supported accommodation v. floating support. JS stated that Probation see a need for both services.</p>	
<p>The Probation service wish to secure long term funding for .5 Support worker based in Probation Offices. The worker assists ex-offenders including high risk of harm offenders to sustain tenancies. Data will be circulated to CSG for comment in order that a recommendation to fund, or not can be made to the CB in January.</p>	WN
<p>6. Value for money - Bromley's VFM policy had been circulated to the CSG for comment. DG provided some comments. Provider reps to circulate and send comments to WN</p>	AD/AR
<p>7. Provider forum Rep's update -AD report that Providers are still awaiting a steady state contract.</p>	
<p>Look Ahead had asked Anne to report that the organisation was delaying scheme enhancements (unspecified) in Bromley because of the short term funding commitment the Council proposed making.</p>	
<p>8. Progress report - A progress report was attached to the papers handed out by WN. The report covers sub-regional and national developments. CSG agreed that WN should not bid for LBB to become a regional SP champion due to pressures of work.</p>	
<p>9. Action plan 2006/7 - the latest updated version had been circulated with the papers. Any comments to be forwarded to WN.</p>	All
<p>10. SP inspection action plan. - this had been circulated with the papers. This plan will be reported to the departmental Performance Improvement Meeting in January 2007. Any comments to be forwarded to WN. WN stressed the importance of involvement in CSG.</p>	All
<p>11. Date of meetings in 2007 -to remain on Friday afternoons - start time of the meetings would be moved forward to 2.00pm. Venue Committee Rooms at Bromley Civic Centre. The meeting dates for 2007 are below, however, these may be subject to change if the Audit</p>	

Commission wish to attend. February 16 th April 20 th June 8 th August 17 th October 19 th December 7 th .	
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