

DERWENT VALLEY PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING

A meeting of the **DERWENT VALLEY PARTNERSHIP BOARD** was held in the Derwentside Business Centre, Consett on Wednesday, 14 March 2018 at 6.00pm.

- PRESENT:**
- Councillors**
Joanne Carr, Derek Hicks, Ivan Jewell, Alan Shield, Owen Temple and Alex Watson
- Partner Organisations**
Catherine Findlay – Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Anne-Marie Parkin - Durham Community Action (DCA), Gary Scott - Derwentside Business Network (DBN), Joanne Waller - DCC and Insp Keith Wardle - Durham Constabulary
- Public Representatives**
Marlene Boyles, Jeannette Harold, Helen Marley, Rosemary Morris, and Donna Summerson
- APOLOGIES:** Cllr Watts Stelling - Elected Representative; Phillip Curran, Karbon Homes - Partner Representative and Shelley O'Brien - Public Representative
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Derek Snaith - AAP Co-ordinator, Helen Pinkney - Community Development / Project Officer and Lynn Dougal - Support Officer
- PRESENTERS:** Catherine Findlay – North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group and Steven McCreedy – Karbon Homes
- Members of the Public – 6

1. Introductions

Derek Snaith welcomed everyone to the meeting and to those who were giving a presentation. Apologies were received as above.

There was one declaration of interest from Cllr Shield regarding the Welfare Reform proposal from Durham Christian Partnership.

Derek asked the Board to note the draft Code of Conduct that Jeanette Harold has reviewed and made some amendments. The Board were asked to review the draft Code of Conduct and feedback any comments to Jeanette by the end of Easter. Derek advised this would be looked at again at the May Board meeting.

2. Minutes of Previous Board Meeting (24 January 2018)

Matters arising

Pages 3 & 4. Regarding questions/comments raised about Shotley Bridge Hospital (SBH), Kate Harrington from the North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group (NDCCG) has kindly come along to answer these.

Regarding the appointment system where patients were not given the option of SBH. When patients visit any GP Practice, the practice would always book the first available appointment on the system. The exception would be if the patient specifically requests a particular hospital ie SBH. However if the GP felt it was crucial for the patient to be seen at the earliest opportunity, they would then have a discussion with the patient. Kate said if this is not happening the CCG would like to hear from anyone as this goes against policy.

Regarding the Endoscopy Clinic, information received from the CDFT states that there are no changes to the Endoscopy Clinic at SBH and if anyone hears contrary to that, the CCG would like to hear about it.

Cllr Temple said there has been another meeting with the SBH group and the Foundation Trust did acknowledge that appointments offered elsewhere should be made available. The Trust are currently looking at NHS Medical Plan software to see what facilities may be needed for this area and awaiting the outcome of this.

Cllr Shield raised his concern about patients being offered transportation to hospitals out of the area, eg Darlington, when they live within the SBH vicinity. Kate said there may be an explanation why this is happening and reiterated that they would like to know about this so they can address it.

Donna Summerson said people might not be aware that they can request an appointment elsewhere and may fear losing their appointment if they do not take the one they are given.

Gary thanked Kate for attending the meeting.

Page 5. Cllr Shield said Durham Christian Partnership is the applicant for the Welfare Reform proposal and not the County Durham Money Advice Service. An amendment has been made to the January Board meeting minutes.

Page 6. John Shaw (Forum) referred to Derek's comments about DCC preferring to fund projects with more capital. Derek said there is more value in capital projects for the council but can get further clarification and respond to John directly.

There were no further comments raised and the minutes were AGREED.

3. Partner Updates and Presentations

Catherine Findlay gave a presentation on Care Navigation

Board and Forum members were shown a short video on Care Navigation.

Care Navigation is a person-centred approach and uses signposting and information to help primary care patients and their carers move through the health and social care system to get you to the right service first, which may not be a GP (a copy of the presentation is available upon request).

Gary asked if it will be harder to reach a receptionist when you ring your GP's practice. Catherine said it will take time initially but once they get used to following the template it will speed up the process.

As this is not replacing the 111 telephone service, Rosemary asked what the difference is between the services. Catherine said this only applies when you contact your GP practice - it is an extension of what you already get. The receptionist will ask for further information and they can direct you elsewhere first rather than see the GP where appropriate to do so. However if patients prefer to see their GP first they can still get an appointment.

Cllr Shield would welcome this as long as those involved are well trained and able to assist the system rather than it be seen as an obstacle. Catherine said a recorded message at the GP

practice will advise the caller that they will be put through to a care navigator but they can decline that option.

Helen Marley asked what kind of training they will be given. Catherine said she is unsure of what training is involved but could include understanding the different services available in the community.

Cllr Jewell said when you see your GP it is logged on their system and wondered whether your enquiry is still recorded if the receptionist directs you elsewhere. Kate Harrington said the key is making best use of NHS resources and giving patients a choice to either see their GP or be referred to a particular service. If patients are directed to another service that will be recorded on the practice system.

Jeanette Harold mentioned that loneliness and bullying for example may impact on someone's mental health and overall health and asked how they would pick that up. Kate said if patients share information, eg mental health issues, social isolation, there are options already available at GP practices to signpost people. If they indicate that part of the problem is through a lack of social contact for example, GPs can signpost people to another service before accessing a formal appointment.

Brenda Bell (Forum) asked how will they ensure the receptionists know what local services are available, ie community groups, church halls etc. Catherine said there are a number of organisations involved in developing the work around this and on the template. We need to maintain the information we have and ensure we have specific local information.

Gary thanked Catherine for the presentation and to Catherine and Kate for their input at the meeting.

Derek asked Forum or Board members to forward any questions they may have relating to this to the DVP and they will be forwarded to the CCG.

Steven McCreedy gave a presentation on the impact of Universal Credit

Universal Credit (UC) was introduced in 2013 and replaces 6 working age benefits. Karbon Homes has done a lot of work with its residents to raise awareness. Issues for residents have included access to IT, waiting time for first payment and tenants falling into arrears. There has been increased pressure on Karbon Homes' resources such as helping more people with UC claims, dealing with increased rent arrears and evictions arising from those that are not engaging (a copy of the presentation is available upon request).

Cllr Watson asked about temporary tenancies and evictions. Steven said starter and introductory tenants (under 12 months) tend to have fewer rights and in the past starter tenants could be evicted for rent arrears. However, there is pressure on the judicial system to stop these evictions.

Gary thanked Steven for his presentation and attending the meeting.

Police update by Inspector Keith Wardle

Keith briefly covered the report and highlighted a telephone scam that is predominately targeting elderly residents by claiming they are from HMRC and that they owe tax. As well as taking money from people they have also been advised to buy I-Tunes vouchers, the caller then asks for the code numbers which allows them to cash-in the vouchers. Keith asked everyone to be extra vigilant, especially store owners and asked that perhaps they question why someone is

purchasing large amounts, ie £1k on vouchers. He also said the banks are made aware of this and have been asked to contact the police if any elderly persons draw out very large amounts.

There has been a spike in quad bike thefts, mainly from farms during January and February which is unusual for this time of year. They have been stealing to order. If anyone/farmers have such equipment/machinery, the local police are offering to etch the equipment with their laser marking 'DOTPEEN'. If anyone is interested please contact Consett Police Station.

Following the knife point robbery in Front Street, Consett two males and one female have been arrested and released under investigation.

In February a male was struck by a vehicle on the A692 in Consett, the driver of the vehicle was arrested and released under investigation.

Keith also said the heavy snowfall meant they were inundated with road traffic collisions and were dealing with around 10-15 accidents per day. The number of incidents more than doubled over the snowy period so it was an extremely difficult time for the police and they had to prioritise the calls.

Keith said he is available after the meeting should anyone wishes to speak to him.

4. Welfare Reform project proposal

One proposal has been received from the Durham Christian Partnership which aims to utilise the 2017/18 Welfare Reform funding to support the most financially vulnerable in our community through a money management and debt advice service in Glenroyd House, Consett.

Funding request of £10,000.

Cllr Temple said Glenroyd House is a hub in the community but wondered if this kind of project could be explored as an outreach in the wider community.

The Board AGREED to fund this project.

5. Project call out process

Derek said a review has been carried out on a project call out process and feedback has been received from the 3 task groups on the proposed process. Should the Board agree to the proposed call out process, it could also be applied to other types of funding such as Welfare Reform and the Youth Grant but it is primarily for the Area Budget (AB).

Derek asked the Board to note the report which outlines the call out process and the attached appendices – the flowchart and the scoring mechanism. Key points to note are:

- £25k to be allocated to each of the 3 task groups (£75k from the AB).
- The DVP team will filter project proposals initially to ensure they are eligible for funding.
- Applications received should include approximately 25% capital element.
- A level of match funding will be required.
- Each member of the task group can score/mark the project against set criteria and those with the highest score will be recommended to the Board for approval.
- It is hoped that this process is adopted and ready to use in the 2018/19 financial year.
- The remaining amount of £25k in the AB allows for some flexibility in the budget for other DVP activities that may arise through the task groups or separately.

Cllr Jewell supports a more consistent and fair process but would also like to see some flexibility in the process. If a worthwhile project is put forward but cannot get match funding, it could still be considered.

Cllr Shield asked if a project exceeds the maximum amount, could it be phased over a number of years. Derek said that it should not exceed the £25k available but projects can be delivered over a span of up to 3 years.

Cllr Jewell suggested large projects which are over a number of years would be reviewed after year 1 before agreeing year 2.

Derek said all AAPs look at how they can support groups and communities to access alternative funding and there are internal systems in place to help obtain grants into County Durham.

The Board AGREED to adopt the project call out process.

6. Co-ordinators Report

Derek outlined the coordinators report and asked the Board to note its content.

The Board received copies of the Area Budget project monitoring returns prior to the Board meeting and were shown an 'at a glance' table that highlighted the 2017/18 projects currently being monitored.

Under item 4.4 of the report, Derek advised the Board that this year's budget allocation is now confirmed:

- £100k Area Budget
- £25K Social Isolation Fund – more information and guidance to follow
- £10k Welfare Reform
- £9,902 Young People's Fund and
- £907.33 (underspend)

Total funding allocation for 2018/19 is £145,809.33, however £45,809.33 is ring-fenced for specific projects.

The DVP hosted Party in the Park in 2014 and 2016 and the Board were asked to consider hosting another one in 2018. The event could be used for the DVP's summer forum where we would engage with the public and promote the work of the DVP as well as partner organisations utilising the event for similar purposes. Blackhill and Consett Park has been provisionally booked for Sunday 15 July.

Derek has spoken with Simon Owens, Chair of the Royal British Legion (RBL) who are keen to work with the DVP on Party in the Park should the Board choose to hold the event. It is a unique year with the centenaries of the end of WW1 and the Women's suffrage and the event could include elements of these.

The budget for the event, depending on partner contributions, would be up to £9k.

A discussion took place around Party in the Park about how good it is for the area, what other events are taking place outside of the Derwent Valley area as well as what else is going on in the Derwent Valley area and funding should be made available for community groups who wish to host centenary events linked to the celebration of the end of WW1.

Joanne said her team coordinates activities with the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) and suggested we liaise with Jackie Toase.

The Board AGREED to:

1. Fund Party in the Park with a budget of up to £9k
2. Money is to be made available to support local communities who wish to hold themed events around the end of WW1.

Based on the budget for the last Party in the Park being around £9k a further £5k is to be made available from the AB for local community groups for events linked to the end of WW1. Further information regarding planning and costs for Party in the Park will be available in due course.

At the AGM Board meeting in May, a new Chair and Vice Chairs will be appointed with the Chair rotating to the elected members' category. Derek asked the Board to decide, within each category ie partner, councillor and public representatives, a vice chair in advance of the AGM. The deadline for nominations/decisions to be made by 16 April.

7. Any Other Business

Cllr Shield suggested the Derwent Valley area has specific locations for Automated Emergency Defibrillators (AED). He has been speaking to Mike Brierley – lead NHS support on SBH and Cllr Shield outlined the vision for the area and Mike did not dismiss the idea of the DVP obtaining match funding from them.

Cllr Temple said he and Cllr Watson have discussed doing this in Consett. He also said the ambulance service have a map of where the defibrillators are located. Once we have that map we can identify where the gaps are and perhaps do something about it.

Cllr Jewell said schools are an obvious choice to locate AEDs but they are not accessible all of the time.

Jeanette has concerns about the people who use them and if they are properly trained. Cllr Temple said the new ones are 'talk you through defibrillators'. A code is obtained, you put this in and it guides you on how to use it.

Joanne Waller said they are trying to engage with local businesses as many have AEDs on site and looking to do a mapping exercise to find out where they are and how accessible they are. There are wall mounted AEDs in public places but still need a code to access them. Also if you ring 999 and it is mapped to a certain location, they can give you the code.

Anne-Marie Parkin said in Weardale funds were raised to put at least one AED in each village and are located outside of schools, businesses, community centres. They also linked in with the ambulance service to get basic training.

Brenda (Forum) said Durham Voice has money available for health related projects.

Derek suggested Kath Clements does an initial scoping exercise on AEDs and bring information back to the next meeting.

Ann English (Forum) said the ambulance service will look at your area and suggest where the best place is to locate an AED.

Derek gave an update on the staffing situation of the DVP and advised Helen Pinkney will be covering Fiona Kelly's position until the end of April. The Board passes on their good wishes to Fiona.

8. Meeting Close and Date of Next Meeting

Gary thanked everyone for their attendance.

The AGM Board meeting will be held on Wednesday 16 May 2018 in the Salvation Army Hall, Consett at 6pm.

Signed as a correct record:

Date: