



**Future Years Forum Committee Minutes  
2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013**

Present: Shelagh Marshall, Mary Laurenson (Vice Chair), John Welham (Vice Chair), Paul Russell, Neil Martin, Russell Taylor (DWP), Richard Palmer, Sandra Lester, Katie Smith, Irene Mace, Danny Brown, David Jeffells, George Wood, Hilary Thompson, Joanne Volpe.

Apologies: Mary Robinson, Kath McDaid, Mashud Haque

**1. Welcome by the current Chair**

Shelagh welcomed members to the meeting. New members introduced themselves: Sandra from Doncaster 50+ and DONMAG; Danny Brown who sits on the Overview and Scrutiny Panel for Hull City Council; Richard Palmer, Chair of Kirklees Older People Network (KOP); David Jeffells who is a Councillor for Scarborough Council and Chair of the Well Being Board. Katie Smith and Irene Mace attended from York Carers Forum to observe the meeting and ascertain if it was relevant for them to become members.

**2. Ageing Safely**

Chris Kirby, Group Commander at Kirklees for West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) was welcomed to the meeting and gave the attached presentation on the Ageing Safely Strategy. He commented that twice as many older people die in fires than younger people. He pointed out that fire affects confidence to go out and often can result in the involvement of social services.

Each fire can have a cost of £27,000 and the cost to society of a death as a result of fire is calculated at £1.4m.

Chris explained that against this agenda of prevention the Fire Rescue Services in West and South Yorkshire will have to find 25% cuts in their budget: 10% in the first year and then 15% in the next years.

The meeting held a fluid discussion around the strategy and its operation which resulted in the following points being made:

- The Fire Service is not routinely part of the hospital discharge process, only if someone has been in hospital as a result of fire.
- Identifying vulnerable older people needs to be done through people / professionals in the area e.g. ward councillors
- Whilst the Fire Service inspect residential care homes under the Fire Service Act they have no regulatory powers.
- Hoarding is an increasing risk to fires in the homes of older people
- There is a correlation between smoking, drinking, living alone and fire
- The Fire Service are automatically called out when a smoke alarm goes off in the home of someone with a Carelink pendant
- The highest risks to fire are lifestyle (substance misuse; smoking); poor mobility; economic downturn and alternatives found to heating; highly medicated individuals.
- The Fire Service are a statutory consultee when new homes are planned; however when buildings are expanded through building notice there is no requirement to involve the Fire Service.

Members of the Future Years committee were keen to help identify vulnerable older people and to distribute information on behalf of the Fire Service. Chris agreed to send through the contact names in each sub-region.

**Action: Chris**

Chris was questioned about integration which is being spoken about constantly in health and social care. Chris confirmed that there is a Joint Emergency Services Integrated Project (JESIP) to look at how emergency services could work together more efficiently and effectively.

### **3. Election of the Chair**

Joanne asked for nominations to the post of Chair following the AGM in September. Mary nominated Shelagh, who was seconded by John and Danny. Shelagh was therefore confirmed as Chair.

### **4. Election of the Chair's Substitute on the EFA Chairs Meeting**

Paul proposed that John is substitute, this was seconded by Neil and agreed by the meeting. Russell suggested that a quick overview of the structures would be useful for new members:

**UKAFA** – is the UK Advisory Forum on Ageing which is jointly chaired by Steve Webb (Pensions Minister) and Norman Lamb (Care Minister). It has 30 members and meets quarterly to discuss cross government issues such as the Health and Care Bill, changes to pension provision. At the September meeting CLG presented on housing and ageing; DfT on mobility scooters and DEC on fuel poverty. They share policy ideas then forums come back with their response from their areas. At the November meeting Members received a presentation from Years Ahead on some work the North East Forum have done, “ Report on PMDI Comfortable Life Toolkit”. The meeting looked at measures of material deprivation, which Future East has been looking at. Russell explained that originally questions were drawn up which Future East, the forum on ageing in the North East, were not happy with. They looked at the questions and added to them: (with questions on lifelong learning; access to internet; home contents insurance; social care needs). They also amended the questions into a toolkit, e.g. if someone answers no to a question such as: have you got home contents insurance, then it will offer solutions. Russell added that doing the questionnaire as a forum could help identify those areas which the local forum should be focusing on.

Russell offered to facilitate a workshop on the material deprivation toolkit at the next forum meeting. It was agreed to dedicate an hour and a half to such a workshop at the meeting in March.

**Action: Russell / Joanne**

Following a discussion on the Toolkit, members agreed to hold a workshop at the March meeting on the questions and toolkit, Russell offered to facilitate the workshop. Presentations on website.

**English Forum on Ageing (EFA) Chairs Meeting:** the nine Chairs of the EFAs meet quarterly and own that agenda. At the last meeting DEC were there to discuss fuel poverty and a Parliamentary Outreach worker was there. It was noted the outreach worker in this region is Daniel Wood. It was suggested that it would be useful to invite Daniel to a future meeting.

**Action: Joanne**

It was noted that a presentation to the last Future Years away day included information on structures.

**Action: Joanne to circulate with the minutes.**

## **5. Apologies for Absence and attendance at meetings**

Shelagh accepted apologies for those mentioned above. She explained that Gordon Westell has not attended meetings for the last year and has not sent

apologies so Shelagh wrote to him. It was agreed that if a member has not been for two meetings and not sent apologies we should write to ask their intentions. Paul Russell agreed to follow up Peter Meer..

## **6. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a correct record.

## **7. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Last Meeting**

### **3.1 Widening Choices, NDTi and Community Catalyst**

No response from Caroline or Angela where they had made their presentation in Yorkshire & Humber. Joanne to chase. **Action: Caroline / Angela / Joanne**

Neil noted that the EHRC follow up report to the Homecare inquiry is out and he would send out the weblink. **Action: Neil**

Neil added that there is an amendment to the new Health Bill to correct the anomaly about the human rights of people in care homes being dependant on their funder.

### **3.2 Healthwatch Yorkshire & Humber**

Joanne to chase on the number and whereabouts of Healthwatch Chairs.

**Action: Joanne / Trudi**

### **3.4 More than Bricks and Mortar by Wendy Cocks, Care and Repair**

John noted that LOPF have responded to the consultation on housing standards.

### **3.7.2 AAA Isolation and Loneliness Working Group**

Shelagh noted that sending their questionnaire out via Boots is proving difficult but there is a contingency plan to work with the Chairman of the Pharmaceutical Group of LPC (local Pharmaceutical Committee) in the region to gain their support. Or, they may work with Lloyds. Paul questioned if the questionnaire will include the logo of Boots which may put people off responding. Shelagh confirmed it would, along with the logos of AAA, Age UK, Hampshire CC. . Russell pointed out it is a pilot and if no questionnaires are returned they may change this.

## **5. Sub Regional Reports**

**York:** George reported that:

- York Older People's Festival took place with over 4,000 involved.
- As part of the Integration Transformation Fund £12million has to be top sliced from the CCG budget in 2015/6 – which has implications for 2014/15. It is important for us locally to have an understanding of what this means.

- Healthwatch York, after consultation have three top priorities for their workplan:
  - Helping to explain who's who and who does what
  - Loneliness
  - Discrimination against disabled people – this includes a report they have done on Access to Health and Social Care Services for deaf people.
- Open meetings are continuing and in the new year the Police Commissioner will be attending.
- YOPA AGM is fixed for 20 October 2014 – our calendar at Future Years has our meeting dates for 2014 – can we fix the AGM.
- In 2011 YOPA produced a 16 point charter “Building an Age Friendly York” – some progress has been made and we are now refreshing it.
- As part of National Carer's Day - 29<sup>th</sup> November 2013 events were arranged in the City hosted by the York Carers Centre and York Carers Forum.

York Carers Forum reported that they are giving a talk on end of life at the Leeds General Infirmary.

**Hull and East Yorkshire:** Danny reported that

- Older people's Day was helped at the Paragon Central Hotel with statutory and VCS organisations providing information.
- The seven areas of Hull each have their own area committee with various older people's organisations, each of which is getting financial support from Hull City Council to provide activities.
- There is pressure on budgets and Adult Social Care has to cut £5million. It has therefore been suggested outsourcing the department to an arm's length management organisation (ALMO), KWL, who have been an ALMO for health in the past.
- GPs are now registering the carers of their patients so there is increasing recognition of carers.

It was noted that it would be good to have a separate agenda item to log issues that are raised at the meeting.

**Action: Joanne**

**Leeds:** John reported that:

- In Leeds Older People's Day had a theme of food and its importance to health. Activities came from Jamie's Food Ministry and the Clandestine Cake Club.
- CAB talked at a conference on the potential impact of welfare reform. The winners may see an increase of 50p – 65p a week, whereas the losers may

see a decrease in benefits of £50-65. The losers are likely to be single parents with disabled children. Universal Credit is supposed to roll out in Leeds in April.

- The Chair of LOPF is seeking a meeting with Rachel Reeves, Shadow Works and Pensions MP to discuss welfare benefits.
- LOPF are taking an interest in housing because 73% of older people live in their own homes or the private rented sector. The LA is looking at their own stock, so John and Bill (Chair of LOPF) met with two City Councillors: the leads for Housing and Communities and Adult Social Services. They raised the issue of Disabled Facilities Grant no longer being ring-fenced. The Councillors did not know about the new integrated Transformation Fund despite arrangements supposed to be in place by 2014/5.
- Leeds was one of the 32 local authorities that got through the first round of the Big Lottery Fulfilling Lives funding.
- LOPF is working with LMU to recruit 100 volunteers to work with older people in care homes.
- Sporting memories: LOPF are promoting this to stimulate discussion with older people with dementia. LOPF is working in partnership with the Alzheimer's Society to recruit a Development Officer to support the aim of Dementia Friendly Leeds.

**Bradford:** Paul reported that:

- Cuts to funding in Bradford mean it is almost certain that Adult Social Care is going to lose their provision of moderate needs.
- Older people's day was a week of events in Bradford.
- Bradford and District Senior Power has been trying to establish an older people's centre in Bradford. They won capital funding which was never enough on its own. However, they are about to formalise an agreement with Culture Fusion (a young person's centre) which is not being used during the day.
- NPC locally have been approached by the local authority partnership board to do something for Dignity Day on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2014. NPC nationally are trying to get everywhere to be involved.

**North Yorkshire:** Shelagh reported that:

- Research (in three phases) is being conducted. The second phase to find out the services that the voluntary sector provides to reduce isolation and loneliness has now been completed and the report published. The third phase is to identify the gaps in provision.
- A pilot is being conducted on reward funding. Innovation funding has funded a project to create community hubs and we now need to look at how that can be sustainable and develop into Village Agents.

- Shelagh gave a talk to a Community Hub Event and people still don't know what the JSNA is or what Health and wellbeing boards or strategies are.

**Scarborough:** David reported that:

- Cuts in the bus subsidies are going to mean that more older people are isolated. It was suggested a whole system approach is needed as some services are being subsidised almost £20 per person.
- The local authority has contracts with a lot of organisations and there needs to be a more collaborative approach.

**Kirklees:** Richard reported the following:

### **Wisdomwise**

Since the last meeting in September Kirklees Older Peoples Network [KOP] held their autumn event **Wisdomwise** at Cleckheaton Town Hall on 17<sup>th</sup> September. Although very well received we were a little disappointed at the number of people who attended. There were six information stalls which included representatives from the local U3A and Kirklees Active Leisure. There was also presentation by Carer's Count, the new support service for Carer's in Kirklees. People had a choice to attend 3 or the 4 workshops: West Yorkshire Trading Standards, Kirklees Citizens Advice, Wilshire Farm Foods and a make and take Flower Arranging session. There was a Quiz Table which included 4 different types quiz sheets including famous Kirklees people; a guess the weight of the cake and guess the number of sweets in a jar all of which resulted in winning prizes [including the cake and the jar of sweets] Prior to the buffet lunch there was a session of Seated Zumba which has proved to be a favourite at all of our events and after lunch the Alzheimer's Society conducted a lively session of Singing for the Brain.

### **Big Lottery – Fulfilling Lives Ageing Better**

Kirklees has been selected to go into the second stage of the bidding process for the Big Lottery Fulfilling Lives and Ageing Better and KOP is now the lead voice organisation for older people and have contributed to the Phase Two bid. The results of this round will be announced in January 2014.

### **KOP – HDPO Merger**

Huddersfield & District Pensioners Organisation [HDPO] have been having some organisation problems for a little while and have approached KOP for their support. Following meetings with members of the KOP Executive, HDPO members, Age UK Calderdale & Kirklees and Voluntary Action Kirklees it has been agreed that HDPO will become part of the KOP. HDPO will retain their name but with an additional tag of "part of the KOP Family" but will be managed by the KOP Executive. The merger will take place officially on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 but in the meantime KOP will be supporting HDPO in the day to day running.

**Doncaster:** Sandra reported that

- Funding for Doncaster 50+ but fortunately the local Authority do let 50plus use the Mansion House for meetings and information.
- Doncaster 50+ have organised a carol service in December
- DONMAG meet in the library. The speaker in January will be from Doncaster 50+ to inform them about the forum.

It was suggested that each sub-regional rep gives a report to Joanne before the meeting.

**Action: Sub-regional reps.**

## 6. UKAFA Update

It was reported that the Care Bill was on the agenda and considered the issues we need to ask of integrated health and adult social care:

- Independence of older people
- Integration agenda
- Isolation and loneliness is priority one for 61 local authorities.

The meeting looked at measures of material deprivation, which Future East has been looking at. Russell explained that originally questions were drawn up which Future East, the forum on ageing in the North East, were not happy with. They looked at the questions and added to them: (with questions on lifelong learning; access to internet; home contents insurance; social care needs). They also amended the questions into a toolkit, e.g. if someone answers no to a question such as: have you got home contents insurance, then it will offer solutions. Russell added that doing the questionnaire as a forum could help identify those areas which the local forum should be focusing on.

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**Action: Russell / Joanne**

## 7. Age Action Alliance: Isolation and Loneliness Working Group

Shelagh reported that the CAB in North Yorkshire has been trying to find out how many people in receipt of benefits are on-line. In North Craven, Carefree could only find 4. Concern was raised about the Digital by Default stance of the government, although it was explained that there is always another solution available.

Shelagh added that the Big Lottery is launching a £15million fund to support the improvement of digital skills. A consortium of 18 organisations has formed a



collaborative (probably with Age UK as the lead organisation) to bid for the fund. Shelagh informed the meeting she has stated Future Years would be interested.

## **8. Annual General Meeting and Conference**

Mary tabled an analysis of the conference evaluation forms. She felt that the majority of respondents were positive about the conference. There were some acoustic issues on the day and someone who had asked for a gluten free meal had not been provided with one.

## **9. Workplan Update**

Joanne had updated the workplan. She pointed out that the areas of work to be addressed relate to material deprivation, which will be addressed at the next meeting and the impact of welfare reform. It was agreed to review the plan at the next operational group meeting.

**Action: Operational Group**

## **10. Finance Report**

Joanne tabled a finance report and pointed out that it does not include the costings of the conference, which she estimated to be around £5,000. She pointed out that we will overspend on the conference but this will be off-set by an underspend on the NEA workshops, which again have been funded externally.

## **11.. Date and time of the next meeting**

The next meetings will be held on:

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014: Hilary noted her apologies for this meeting.

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014

8<sup>th</sup> September 2014

1<sup>st</sup> December 2014

Neil to book Lateral for the March meeting.

**Action: Neil**