



Future Years Forum Committee Minutes 11th September 2013

Present: Shelagh Marshall (Chair), Mary Laurenson (Vice Chair), John Welham (Vice Chair), Paul Russell, Neil Martin, Mary Robinson, Mashud Haque, Kath McDaid, George Wood, Hilary Thompson, Wendy Cocks Joanne Volpe.

Apologies: Russell Taylor (DWP), Jean Walker, Gordon Westell, Peter Meer, Robert Crossland

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and accepted apologies for absence from those listed above.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Last Meeting

3.1 Widening Choices, NDTi and Community Catalyst

George asked if we could have details of where they had made their presentation in Yorkshire & Humber. Joanne to chase. **Action: Caroline / Angela / Joanne**

Neil added that the EHRC in a follow up report to the Homecare inquiry is out at the end of the month, along with human rights in your own home. He reported 103 out of 150 local authorities responded to . Neil agreed to share this when he can. **Action: Neil**

3.2 Healthwatch Yorkshire & Humber

Joanne to chase on the number and whereabouts of Healthwatch Chairs.
Action: Joanne / Trudi

3.4. Feeding into House of Lords Reports: Ready for Ageing

John noted that the Government's response to Ready for Ageing is out. Joanne to put a link in the Friday news. **Action: Joanne**

4. More than Bricks and Mortar by Wendy Cocks, Care and Repair

Wendy presented a report to the meeting (slides at http://www.futureyears.org.uk/activities_and_events/future_years_forum_meetings/). She explained where the presentation refers to 'ordinary' housing, this is housing without care, support or specialist housing. She added that 75% of older people are home owners and this figure is higher in rural areas. Older home private home owners are more likely to be living in poor conditions as the longer a person lives on a fixed income, the less likely they are to be able to afford to maintain their home.

Wendy reported that there are few services that enable people to plan ahead for their housing. She added there are few options for 50 – 65 year olds who are affected by the 'bedroom tax'. There are few smaller, general housing properties and definitely not enough bungalows. John commented that he has requested a meeting with the Deputy Chief Executive of Leeds City Council to discuss housing and he believed housing should be part of integrated teams with health and social care. It was commented that perhaps having public health in the local authorities could help.

Wendy informed the meeting there are 15 pilot projects on housing options and advice funded by the Department of Communities and Local Government and knew of two in our region: one in York and another in Middlesborough.

Wendy explained what the lifetime home standard is and commented that house builders do argue against these due to the additional cost, although in her opinion this is short sighted. Kath added that many local authorities have abandoned the sustainability code for new buildings, which means 30% of new homes have been built with no cavity wall insulation, thus adding costs to the eventual purchaser as well as the environment.

Neil pointed out that older people should be part of the decision making and the Equalities Act could be a lever for this.

Wendy explained that Government had hoped equity release would help older people into more suitable accommodation, as this would allow home owners to fund repairs or adaptations to their own homes however research has shown that 42% of all housing equity is in the South East meaning that it is less attractive as an option to those outside this area.

Mashud questioned Wendy how many older people who are home owners live alone and she agreed to come back with this detail. It was also questioned where older people could go for advice on adaptations. John noted that Care and Repair are looking to expand into Bradford, but also local authorities should advise on adaptations. George noted that York have a “Handyperson Service” (operated by Yorkshire Housing) for people over 60 – they help to adapt, improve and repair homes.

Wendy announced the current consultation on house building regulations and encouraged as many groups as possible to respond by 22nd October. If any group would like further information or support then do please contact her.

Shelagh thanked Wendy for an interesting presentation.

5. Sub Regional Reports

York: George reported that

- The York Older People’s Assembly (YOPA) continues to have bi-monthly open meetings and have had items on the Francis Report and benefit changes. Up to 80 people attend regularly.
- The York 50+ Festival programme, with over 100 events, has been published and begins with an information fair with over 30 stall holders.
- York City Council has published an Older Person’s Housing Options booklet, which it produced in consultation with the Assembly.
- Dementia Forward is working in York following on from the JRF work. At the last networking meeting some people told their personal stories.
- York City Council is planning to close all 9 of their older people’s homes to build two new specialist care homes with a focus on dementia and high dependency. There was extensive consultation carried out prior to the closure involving YOPA.
- Members of YOPA attend the HWB, CCG and Scrutiny meetings on a regular basis.
- The older people’s champion from the Council (deputy leader of the council) and the hospital both come to YOPA executive meetings. This is very useful.
- YOPA has financial issues and is looking at how it can run going forward.

Leeds: John reported that

- LOPF held its AGM where they launched their intergenerational report. Over 100 people attended the AGM. Members have visited primary schools as part of the intergenerational work.
- LOPF is lead partner in the second stage of the Fulfilling Lives bid to the Big Lottery.

- Funding for LOPF remains a problem. A working group is looking at the issue and they have a meeting with Esme Fairburn about funding for a project which would look at younger older people, substance misuse and violence.
- LOPF is working with Leeds Community Foundation to find out what older people in Leeds want and need. Shelagh reminded John to ensure they ask older people what they want to contribute to. **Action: John**
- JW is working with Care and Repair on their bids to the Silver Dreams.
- In July Leeds City Council held a challenge event for their staff to meet older people; LGBT people and BME people. They are producing a report as a result of this challenge.
- The NHS Trust is funding the Leeds Dementia Action Alliance to recruit a worker and develop the alliance in the city.
- The Leeds International Older People's Day is being held at St. George's with the theme food, health and heritage.

Bradford: Mashud reported that:

- People are busy organising older people events for October, and there will be a week of events.
- BDSP will be holding an event during the week in a local Bistro.
- A lot of memory clinics are being established: one in Idle Village has been funded by a local councillor and will run once a week.
- Dementia friendly services are being established, supported by the Alzheimer's Society, such as 'walking in the woods'.
- Patient reference groups are in place and feeding into CCGs.
- CCGs are asking doctors to reduce their drug bills which is leading to less efficient prescribing in some cases.

North Yorkshire: Shelagh reported that:

- She has booked Ripon Cathedral for older people's day 2014!
- Harrogate and Thirsk are organising older people day events.
- NYOP Partnership Board has commissioned research into isolation and loneliness. It will identify the 50s Forums in NY whose aim is to foster social inclusion with opportunities for older people in North Yorkshire to join a group. The questionnaire has been sent out to older people's forums by Future Years. The research will identify gaps that need to be filled. Hilary commented that it's how we get older people through the door.
- Shelagh noted that the RVS has been left a sum of money to be spent in Scarborough and coastal area to set up services to relieve isolation and loneliness. The funding could not be spent on work to identify those in the sparsely populated community who are at risk from the effects of L & I Hull University had been invited to put forward a scheme to do this, but the RVS had so far not accepted the work. Joanne suggested it may fit with the Department of Health funded project Age UK Scarborough is working on: 'Together for Health'.

- Alex Bird, Chief Officer of Age UK North Yorkshire, has been voted onto the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- Jon Carling is the new CEO at North Yorkshire Older People's Forum.

Kirklees and Calderdale: Hilary reported that:

- Kirklees Older People's forum is holding their older people's day event next Wednesday, 'Wisdom Wise' in Cleckheaton.
- Kirklees is through to the second stage of the Fulfilling Lives fund. Kirklees Older People's forum is on the panel.
- Calderdale Older People's forum is holding their AGM and older people's day on 13th September and they are struggling to carry on. Paul noted that their organisation in Calderdale had recently had to close.

National Energy Action: Kath reported that:

- NEA has funding for offer a free one day training course to workers who work with carers. She agreed to pass information on to Joanne for the Friday News.

Hull and East Yorkshire: Mary reported that:

- The University has set up a centre for end of life and are going to put on a conference on the subject. Mary is educational lead for the centre.

6. UKAFA Update

John reported that his feedback notes have been sent out via email. He added that the next meeting is on 25th September but there is no agenda to date. Paul commented that Future Years forum members should have the opportunity to comment on the agenda prior to the meeting. John agreed to forward the agenda as soon as he had it. **Action: John**

John reported that the DfT made a presentation to UKAFA on mobility scooters; 146,000 are in use and they are keen to take the views of users. John circulated a copy of the questionnaire. Issues were raised with the questionnaire and John agreed to feed comments back to Ken Cooper, but he was unsure if it had been finalised. **Action: John**

Shelagh noted that at the EFA Chairs meeting it was reported that the Government are expecting older people's forums to do more. They are not going to have an older people's minister, but they will use UKAFA.

7. Age Action Alliance

7.1 Excluded Groups working party

It was noted that Mashud will replace Mary on this group.

7.2 Isolation and Loneliness Working Group

Shelagh noted that the group are working with Boots to pilot a questionnaire for older people at risk of isolation and loneliness. This will pilot in Hampshire (Romsey and Winchester). The forms will be returned to Cabinet Office who will analyse the data. George asked if it's possible to see the questionnaire.

Shelagh agreed to ask. **Action: Shelagh**

Shelagh added that she was asked to comment on the Silverline leaflet, which she did but it came out without her suggested amends. She tabled a 'Book of Little Scams' which the meeting agreed would be useful for the conference.

Shelagh to ask for more. **Action: Shelagh**

8. Annual General Meeting and Conference

It was agreed that Joanne should send out contact lists to members to be amended and any omissions added. **Action: Joanne / Members**

It was agreed that papers, including nomination papers should be sent out at least 21 days in advance of the meeting. It was added that organisations would need to see an election procedure. It was agreed that if there are more than two nominations per sub-group then an election would be needed. Members of the constitution task and finish group to look at this. It was agreed to send the notice out next week subject to the all papers being in place.

Action: Paul / Neil / George / Joanne

9. NEA Workshop and Subscription

Shelagh explained that we have funding for at least 5 energy efficiency workshops. The following were agreed:

- Scarborough – **Shelagh to arrange**
- Bradford – **Mashud to arrange**
- Grimsby / Wakefield – **Kath to arrange**
- Hull – **Mary to arrange / Joanne to pass on the Chief Officers details at Age UK Hull.**
- Rotherham – **Joanne to contact Age UK Rotherham to help**

Joanne pointed out the short timescale i.e. details to be passed to NEA by 27th September.

It was agreed to join and pay the NEA subscription.

Action: Joanne

10. Date and time of the next meeting

The next meeting to be held on 2nd December 11.30 a.m – 3.15 p.m. Neil to book Lateral, subject to the EHRC moving offices..

Action: Neil