



**Future Years Forum Committee Minutes
4th March 2013**

Present: Shelagh Marshall (Chair), Mary Laurenson (Vice Chair), , Paul Russell, George Wood, Neil Martin, Mary Robinson, Mashud Haque, Robert Crossland, George Wood, Hilary Thompson, Simon Wallace (Y&H Dementia Action Alliance), Russell Taylor (DWP).

Apologies: Linda Tester, Jean Walker, John Welham, Jane Tanser, Kath McDaid, Gordon Westell, Peter Meer

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

NEA Workshops

JV reported that feedback on the Energy Efficiency Workshops has been very positive. This was confirmed by members who attended the workshops.

Loneliness and Isolation

Shelagh circulated a copy of the Campaign to End Loneliness toolkit for Health and Wellbeing Boards (<http://www.campaigntoendloneliness.org/toolkit/>).

4. Regional Dementia Alliance (Simon Wallace)

Simon Wallace explained that the Regional Dementia Alliance was launched in September in Yorkshire & Humber. He explained there is a national alliance and local alliances but there did seem a gap at a regional level. The alliance has two goals:

- To change the attitudes of the public towards those people with dementia
- To bring about practical changes that will help people with dementia

The aim of the alliance is to encourage membership and to ask organisations to consider what they can do to bring about these goals. Members are required to sign the dementia declaration and complete an action. To date 30 organisations have submitted their action plans and membership reflects membership of the national alliance: bus companies, taxi's local authorities, health trusts, retail outlets etc. Simon added he is in conversation with a further 40 organisations who are committed to producing an action plan to join the regional alliance.

Simon gave the example of Deans Gardens (York & Scarborough) as a retailer that has joined recently. It was questioned how the Regional Dementia Alliance deals with the training needs of members, given Simon is the only member of staff. Simon explained that he has adapted training packages from Innovations in Dementia for customer facing staff and how to adapt the physical environment. He agreed to send them to Joanne to be sent out with the minutes.

Action: Simon W / Joanne

Neil pointed out that some care homes are not dementia friendly and that it would be good to get some good providers on board. He added that what the Regional Dementia Alliance is trying to do is not a 'nicety' but because of the Equality Act it is a requirement that services should be accessible. Russell asked if Neil could put a paragraph together that could be used as leverage around the Equality Act.

Action: Neil

The Chair proposed that the Future Years Committee should join the regional alliance; this was seconded by Paul Russell. JV was asked to join the alliance and complete the action plan, with members feeding back to Joanne if they have done some work around dementia.

Action: Joanne

Shelagh agreed she would draft a letter to be sent to Older People's Champions to encourage them to join the Regional Dementia Alliance.

Simon added that the next RDA meeting is in York, subject to finding a room available.

5. UKAFA Update

It was noted that John Welham has sought views on the UKAFA Review via the Friday Email and would take those collected to the meeting this week.

Shelagh reported that she has responded to the UKAFA Review stating she feels it should be more strategic and proactive; that the agenda should include national issues such as the Green Deal, which would help make them more pro-active. Shelagh added that UKAFA could take on a monitoring role, there is an ageing toolkit for new policies and they could ensure this is used. Joanne to circulate Shelagh's paper on the UKAFA review to members.

Action: Joanne

Russell explained that alongside the UKAFA Review there is a House of Lords select committee to consider how the government is responding to Ageing. It could be an Older People's Minister is suggested or there could be an enhanced role for UKAFA with cross governmental representation. He added that this is all public knowledge and has been reported in the Guardian.

6. Finance Report

Joanne tabled her finance report and explained she had looked into the issue of interest earned by Future Years (queried at a previous meeting). She explained taking into consideration the Future Years fund as a proportion of Age Concern Support Services funding, and the bank charges, Future Years have eared £0.37 by the end of quarter 3.

7. Workplan for 2013/14 – the year ahead

Russell explained that the process for claiming funding for 2013/14 will be the same as last year: an end of year report, a workplan and a finance report. However there is a clawback clause the forthcoming year for inappropriate expenditure.

It was suggested that the Operational Group could draft the workplan based on outcomes in the current workplan where further actions are needed. It was suggested that we need to include work on benefits in the workplan. Paul added that the members need to understand issues around the social care white paper.

It was agreed the Operational Group would include these but an 'extra' meeting of the Future Years Committee would be held to agree the workplan. It was agreed to meet on Tuesday 14th May, 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m at Eastgate. JV to publicise the meeting and send out the draft workplan prior to the meeting.

Action: Joanne

8. Report from the Sub-regional Reps

Due to time the reports from the regional representatives was kept short:

- Kirklees Older People's Forum holding an event on 19th March to recruit people from south of the borough.
 - York: Older people are talking about the outcomes of the Francis Report and senior personnel at the hospital are holding a meeting to discuss what has happened.
 - Age UK are holding an event for forums on 21st March re Dignity in Care.
 - Involve held a Who's Who in Health with a very useful publication from Regional Voices.
- Action: Joanne to circulate to members**
- Bradford Senior Powers are broadcasting "Senior Moments" on the local radio.

9. Task and Finish Group: Communication (outcome 2 & 6)

Neil presented the report he wrote following the meeting of the task and finish group. He pointed out the gaps in representation from around the region and it was agreed that members should pursue people they may know in the gap areas, that might be interested in being on the Future Years Forum Committee. It was agreed that names should be put forward to Joanne so that we don't all pursue one person, or one area.

Action: All / Joanne

It was suggested that it would be useful to compile a letter which draws out the benefits of membership of the Future Years forum for potential members.

Action: Shelagh / Joanne

Once we have increased membership to cover the gap areas it was agreed to hold an event in September to engage with all older people and perhaps this could be on one key issue. It was agreed to write a second letter out to forums before the event in September. The Operational Group to include this in the new workplan.

Action: Operational Group

It was suggested that the Friday newsletter should go out on the website but should also be posted out to older people's forum's with a letter to see if they would be interested in receiving it via email.

Action: Joanne

The task and finish group had suggested quarterly sub-regional meetings, perhaps on a key issue. It was agreed to pilot these and to include them in the workplan.

Action: Operational Group

Russell pointed out that the suggestions the task and finish group fitted in well with the Elbourne Review.

Hilary questioned how Future Years engages with older people in residential homes and added that Age UK Calderdale and Kirklees are looking at sending befrienders into homes. Shelagh agreed to send Hilary a paper on this issue.
Action: Shelagh

10. Any Other Business

Joanne to send new Hilary and expenses claim form.