



**Future Years Forum Committee Minutes
3rd June 2013**

Present: Shelagh Marshall (Chair), Mary Laurenson (Vice Chair), John Welham (Vice Chair), Paul Russell, Neil Martin, Mashud Haque, George Wood, Russell Taylor (DWP), Pat Ackerman, Joanne Volpe.

Apologies: Linda Tester, Jean Walker, Jane Tanser, Kath McDaid, Gordon Westell, Peter Meer, Mary Robinson Robert Crossland

In attendance: Caroline Bernard (NDTi), Angela Catley (Community Catalysts), Trudi Wright, Kirklees Council

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

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

2. Widening Options for Older People with High Support Needs (Caroline Bernard, NDTi, Angela Catley, Community Catalysts)

Caroline explained that NDTi is a social change agency which works with people that are excluded to improve their lives. The Widening Choices research was funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and is part of the Better Life programme. She explained there are not many opportunities for people with high support needs to give as well as receive support, so this research looked for those opportunities which it terms mutual support and reciprocity. Caroline added that the Care Bill requires Local Authorities to look for new models of public service, and this research could answer that.

Caroline presented the difference between mutuality and reciprocity.

Angela introduced Community Catalysts as an organisation which works with local authorities to unlock the potential in their communities.

Angela gave a brief description of each of the models looked at in the research:

- **Mutually supportive relationships:** groups of friends or neighbours who 'look out' for each other.
- **Mutually supportive communities (including KeyRing Networks):** the KeyRing model grew from the needs of people with learning disabilities and an organisation called KeyRing runs the model. They bring together approximately 10 individuals, nine of whom have support needs, one who doesn't. It is the role of the one that doesn't to enable the other nine to support and help each other. The person in this role will pay a lower rent for having that co-ordination role.
- **Cohousing:** this is a popular model in Holland where people deliberately come together to support each other as they get older. An example would be 9 couples who unlock the equity in their houses and live together or close to each other. They may have a mutual faith, interest, sexuality.
- **Homeshare:** there are about 12 schemes across the UK, where someone lives in a large property and doesn't want to live by themselves and needs support. Another person then lives with them free of rent and in return they give 9 – 10 hours of support a week and are there overnight. It's not live in care, but could be classed as pre-care. These schemes require a broker who would cover the legal aspects, advocacy, CRB checks etc.
- **Shared Lives:** this is a regulated model of care and used to be called adult placement. A Shared Lives scheme will recruit people who are then checked, the carer then shares their home and sometimes their family and offers care and support. The stay may be for a week / weekends / maybe day time support. Shared Lives carers are paid and it is a definite alternative to respite and day care. There is a strong business case for Share Lives models.
- **Time banking:** people from the same community join the bank and they give hours of their time which they bank. When they need something they then cash in their time banked. Individuals can't set a price on their time; everyone's time has the same value.
- **Circles of Support:** strong model for people with learning disabilities. If a person is no longer able to care for themselves or make decisions about themselves, people around them and people that care for them, come together and make decisions that enable the person to be cared for. In some circles the person is actively involved, in others they are not. Circles of support do need help to co-ordinate them.

- **Face to Face / Virtual networks:** Angela gave examples of DropBy a virtual network which allows people to interact; it has interest groups such as a Sudoku group, it has chat rooms and video links. The creator of DropBy has been going into care homes to help people log on and therefore interact with people outside the care homes. Angela then mentioned Parivar, which is part of the Sangam Forum in Leeds which enables Sikh elders to come together and support each other.

Caroline explained that they are now trying to communicate the approach considered in the research and have spoken to local authorities and Health and Wellbeing Board professionals. They believe it is best to spread the model, with small scale initiatives rather than trying to scale up the model with bigger national organisations. George asked if we could have details of where they had made their presentation in Yorkshire & Humber.

Action: Caroline / Angela / Joanne

Neil commented that some of the issues covered in the presentation are similar to those being considered by the EHRC in a follow up report to the Homecare inquiry. Neil agreed to share this when he could.

Action: Neil

George questioned how issues of safeguarding were handled when they arose. Angela pointed out that just because some services are commissioned and regulated this does not make them any safer. She added that during their research she found older people had a fear of services and care but felt more comfortable in this world of mutual support and reciprocity.

Shelagh thanked Angela and Caroline for their interesting presentation.

3. Healthwatch Yorkshire & Humber

Trudi Wright introduced herself as commissioner of Healthwatch in Kirklees but also Chair of the Yorkshire & Humber Healthwatch Commissioners network. The network supports local Healthwatch organisations.

Trudi explained that Healthwatch is the consumer champion for health and social care which was created in the Health and Social Care Act. She added that Healthwatch is a progression from Community Health Councils and LINKs. The public experience of health and social care is high on the agenda at the moment with incidents such as those with mid-Staffordshire.

How Healthwatch is designed locally was not prescribed in the legislation. They are social enterprise and independent of the local authorities, but the local

authorities are responsible for the contract. All Healthwatch's have different governance arrangements but should have the following:

- Patient and public engagement and involvement
- Information and signposting
- A link to the Health and Wellbeing Board
- NHS complaints advocacy (they may do this themselves or might sub-contract it out)

Trudi informed the meeting that regionally local Healthwatch organisations are currently recruiting staff and to their boards. They are developing their work plans which will help them show what they achieve.

The Y&H network of commissioners is supporting the Healthwatch organisations with training and facilitating meetings where they can share good practice. She added it is unclear at this stage who will identify any trends / patterns of issues experienced by Healthwatch organisations in a region.

It was commented that in North Yorkshire there are six CCGs and one Healthwatch therefore representation will be difficult. It was also pointed out that in some areas the post of Chair has to be readvertised. Trudi was questioned about how many Healthwatch organisations in Yorkshire and Humber have not got a Chair. Trudi agreed to report back on the number and whereabouts.

Action: Trudi

Trudi was questioned who is responsible for a Healthwatch that is not working or doing a particular element of its work. She confirmed that the local authority is responsible for the contract and that Healthwatch England has no responsibility for a local Healthwatch that is not working. Trudi explained that Healthwatch England draws its members from local area Healthwatches. It has its own small team, based in Leeds, and they are recruiting at the moment.

It was noted that some areas do still have PALs; that GP practices should have a Patient Reference Group and CCGs have to have patient participation groups.

4. Feeding into House of Lords Reports

Russell explained that the 'Ready for Ageing' report is a select committee report which the Government will need to respond to. The report calls for a number of changes, a lot of which focus on health and social care and the integration of these two systems. Russell added therefore that the Department of Health will be the main responder to the report. He explained that whilst the Government will respond the report makes recommendations only, the Government is not required to introduce the recommendations. Russell added that the issue of a Minister for

Older People has been debated, but it was felt that older peoples issues are the responsibility of all Government departments.

Joanne to include a link to 'Ready for Ageing' in the next Friday news.

Action: Joanne

5. Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Yorkshire and Humber Dementia Action Alliance

Joanne confirmed that she had completed and submitted an action plan for Future Years. She tabled a copy of the action plan.

7. Sub Regional Reports

Whilst there was not time for this agenda item, George asked that consideration is given to the agenda to ensure its inclusion.

Action: Shelagh

8. Any Other Business

Russell informed the meeting that NEA has produced an evaluation report on the Energy Efficiency workshops they ran. It lists where the events were held, a good proportion of which were in Yorkshire & Humber, and gives a good set of recommendations.

Russell noted that DEC is bringing a Fuel Poverty Strategy to UKAFA next week, and the Safe Warm Homes action group from the Age Action Alliance will be there. Once the report has been launched we can include it in the Friday News.

Action: Joanne

9. Date and Time of the next meeting

It was agreed to hold the next meeting on 11th September, Neil to see if we can hold the meeting at Lateral. Joanne to email Forum members of the change of date and venue.

Action: Joanne