



**Future Years Forum Committee Minutes
2nd June 2014**

DRAFT

Present: Shelagh Marshall, John Welham (Vice Chair), Paul Russell, Neil Martin, David Jeffells, George Wood, Mary Robinson, Mashud Haque, Richard Palmer, Hilary Thompson, Sandra Lester, Joanne Volpe.

Apologies: Mary Laurenson (Vice Chair), Russell Taylor (DWP), Danny Brown, Liz Gregory, Katie Smith, Irene Mace, Mary Robinson,

1. Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone present and accepted apologies from those listed above. She added that we had not been able to secure a presenter from Public Health England to talk at the meeting and instead we would look at loneliness and the workplan.

A discussion was held around the Dementia Friend initiative and Richard raised his concern that the initiative has moved away from its concept when initially launched. It was suggested that all Future Years Exec members should become Dementia Friends and have the training. Richard reiterated it is about everyone having an understanding of what it means to have dementia. He volunteered to train all the members of the Future Years Executive Committee. It was agreed that Joanne should double check that the Big Lottery are attending the meeting in September, and if not Richard could take their slot.

Action: Joanne

It was also agreed that at the September meeting we should revisit our Dementia Action plan that we wrote when joining the Dementia Action Alliance.

Action: Joanne to add to the agenda

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 Membership of the Future Years Executive Committee

Paul noted that Peter Meer has retired as Chair of Y&H National Pensioners Convention and that he will be asking for a replacement.

Action: Paul

3.2 Future Years Bank Account

Joanne reported that she had not opened a bank account yet because she had worried about the cost that Future Years would then incur for an independent examination of their accounts. It was felt that being able to bring in additional funding would cover this cost. Joanne was therefore tasked to open an account which has herself, the Age UK Support Services Finance Officer, John Welham and Shelagh Marshal as signatories.

Action: Joanne

4. Isolation and Loneliness

Shelagh noted that the Campaign to End Loneliness are trying to capture what is happening in Yorkshire and Humber to reduce loneliness. It was agreed Joanne should send the correspondence to the Older People's Champions.

Action: Joanne

Shelagh explained that she wanted to present the isolation and loneliness workshop, she has presented elsewhere, to the Future Years Executive Committee. She went through the attached presentation, opening out many of the questions.

One issue discussed was that of bereavement, and how people struggle to understand it or are embarrassed by it. Shelagh agreed to feed this back to the Campaign to End Loneliness to see if this is an area they could provide training, or facilitate workshops on.

Action: Shelagh

David suggested Future Years should be influencing all political parties and how they plan to respond to loneliness, giving the forthcoming election in 2015. George noted YOPA is compiling a manifesto for 2015 and Paul noted the NPC have one.

Actions:

- **Future Years to consider a manifesto to influence all political parties. Ideas to be sent to Shelagh**

- **George to send Joanne the York manifesto**
- **Paul to send Joanne a link to the NPC manifesto**

Another issue linked to loneliness was technology. Shelagh noted she is attending a meeting on 16th July with DCLG to discuss technology, isolation and loneliness. She asked for any case studies which might be pertinent to this.

Action: Send case studies re digitisation and loneliness to Shelagh.

Shelagh added that she would also welcome information on initiatives to alleviate loneliness. George noted that in York, Healthwatch have an employee compiling what is happening in York. Hilary suggested engagement with your people to get them to be friendlier in neighbourhoods would help.

Action: send Shelagh examples of schemes to alleviate loneliness.

5. Workplan 2014_15

Joanne explained that there are some outcomes in the workplan that require the input of all the Future Years Executive Committee members:

Outcome 1: Encourage and influence so older peoples' organisations across the region understand the welfare changes and the impact this could have for older people

Activity: Executive members are asked to map activity within the region to find out what is happening to raise awareness of pension changes and other benefit changes

Paul reported that the Regional TUC Retired Members Forum is planning a seminar on pensions in early autumn and there will be a similar session for Yorkshire and Humber Pensioners Convention. There will be a case study on how people are affected by the changes. It was agreed that we could share the learning from this event.

Action: Joanne / Paul

Shelagh agreed to write to the North Yorkshire advice services to see if they have any plans to raise awareness of pension and welfare reform.

Action: Shelagh

Sandra added that SYCIL has talked to their group about pension reform.

Mashud noted that the Age Action Alliance Money Matters Group is producing a leaflet on older people and money which we could cascade. Hilary added that Age UK produce a leaflet called 'More Money in your Pocket' and again we could cascade that.

Action: Mashud / Joanne

Outcome 2: Develop and communicate an understanding of Material Deprivation as an indicator of wellbeing

Activity: Populate part 2 with solutions which are national, regional and local

Executive members were asked to populate part 2 of the Material Deprivation toolkit (attached) with solutions to the issues from their local areas and send back to Joanne by September. Joanne to ask members who are not at the meeting.

Action: Joanne / Future Years Exec members

Outcome 4: To encourage older people's organisations to influence the work of local authorities and CCGs through encouraging attendance at Health and Wellbeing Boards, Healthwatch, Scrutiny Panels, CCG events, dementia forums and transport and housing forums

It was agreed that a peer education workshop should be targeted at North Lincolnshire and to ask forums in that area where we could offer a workshop. It was agreed to hold a pre-meeting to set up the structure of the workshop.

Action: Joanne / Shelagh / George

Outcome 5: The voices of older people in Yorkshire & Humber are heard at a regional, national and Government level and influences policy development

Activity: Look at the depth of engagement. Executive members are asked to find out how many people are in each of the forums we engage with.

Shelagh noted that there are 120 people in the Scarborough Older People's Forum

Members to send numbers in the forums they link to Joanne by September.

Outcome 7: Forum business

Activity: Arrange an AGM

It was agreed the AGM should be held in Hull. George requested it does not clash with the YOPA AGM. It was agreed to aim for a date between 7th and 10th October. Joanne to liaise with Danny to book a venue.

Action: Joanne / Danny

It was suggested that Shelagh should invite Lord Filkin to talk at the event.

Action: Shelagh

6. Sub-regional Activity Reports

Members gave their sub-regional activity reports as attached.

7. UKAFA Update

John reported that the UKAFA meeting is next week and Norman Lamb and Steve Webb are expected. He noted the agenda includes:

- Commissioner for older people for Northern Ireland
- Positive Ageing in London are presenting their findings on the impact of welfare changes on older people in London
- Care and Repair are speaking on 'Living Safely and Well at Home'; and also presenting a toolkit for carers.

8. EFA Chairs Meetings

Shelagh reported that at the EFA Chairs' meeting the Chairs had been asked their views on the future of UKAFA.

DWP needs to be able to evidence the value for retaining UKAFA for an incoming Government.

At the meeting there was broad agreement that UKAFA should return to its roots and revisit the Elbourne enquiry recommendations.

It was agreed to ask the Task Group looking at the objectives of UKAFA to invite Shelagh to that next Task Group meeting to put forward the Chairs views.

(John W. is a member of the Task Group and he agreed to ask for the next meeting of the group to be set up and invite Shelagh)

John reported that he has a meeting with Rachel Reeves MP and he could ask her what Labour's plans are to engage with older people.

Action: John

David added that he is going to an all parliamentary group meeting next week and will speak about the issue of engagement with older people. He added that it would be helpful to influence the minister on concessionary fares.

Action: David

9. Finance Report

Joanne presented the finance report and George questioned whether the overspend on events was a mistake. Joanne confirmed the figures were correct, that we did spend more on the conference in York than we had budgeted for, however there was an underspend on the NEA events, as funding for these was secured centrally and we did not need to spend our allocated budget.

10. Any Other Business

Neil informed the meeting that he has a new role as the Inquiry Manager for adult deaths in custody. He would therefore be continuing his involvement in Future Years in his own time. He added that he should still be able to book the room.

The meeting were informed that Kath McDaid has retired. The meeting asked their thanks are sent to Kath.

Action: Shelagh / Joanne

11. Date and Time of the Next Meetings

8th September 2014 – Big Lottery

1st December 2014 – Parliamentary Outreach