



Future Years Forum Committee Minutes

7th December 2015

Present: Shelagh Marshall, Paul Russell, Neil Martin, John Welham, Hilary Thompson, Judith Knight, George Wood, Mashud Haque, Simon Wilkinson, Wendy Cocks, Joanne Volpe

Apologies: Mary Laurenson, Kath Horner; David Jeffels; Danny Brown; Mary Robinson; Richard Palmer, Judith Gregory

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the last Meeting

2.1 Freedom of Information Request

Joanne noted that the FOI request re hospital discharge has been sent out and that she will collate responses when they have all been received.

John noted that people may be discharged within social hours but have to wait for transport or pharmacy.

Judith offered to find out if her officers had found unsocial discharge as an issue. Joanne to send her the original letter sent to the hospital trusts. **Action: JV**

2.2 Issues facing older people

George noted that he did contact Joseph Rowntree about issues facing older people. They sent through a number of references which George agreed to summarise and share. **Action: GW**

It was noted that Ageing the Silver Lining also brings out a number of issues faced by older people.

John added that he is meeting with Sue Mann to discuss facilitating the Future Years away day and he will point her in the direction of some horizon scanning documents.

Action: JW

3. Chairs Report

Shelagh reported that George and herself have run two workshops on how to influence local leaders to prevent loneliness in Harrogate and Bradford.

She added that the AAA Isolation and Loneliness Group was hosted by the Cabinet Office and attended by David Knott who leads the Cabinet Office Social Action Team. The Social Action team aim to increase volunteer and community activity.

Shelagh informed the meeting that she has been asked to train Ambassadors to combat loneliness, an AAA initiative.

4. Sub-regional : reports

North Yorkshire

Shelagh noted that meetings about community transport have been organised and local community organisers are putting in a bid to NYCC for community transport.

Kirklees

Hilary informed the meeting that Richard has been very unwell. Judith Churley, the Vice Chair is keeping meetings going.

York

George spoke to his report and added that local bus companies have signed up to allowing people to use their bus passes for early hospital appointments.

He added that there is now no acute psychiatric in patient care in York following the closure of Bootham Park Hospital – patients are being admitted to a hospital in Middlesbrough. The financial position is very difficult across the CCG and Acute Hospital. There is hope the unit will reopen but it has not been used for a month. In addition Price Waterhouse Coopers are doing work in the CCG.

Bradford

Mashud reported that Bradford MBC is making large cuts to services and placing an emphasis on self-management.

Members discussed local authorities' ability to add 2% on council tax for social care. However poorer councils will not make enough money from this (where there are large numbers of low band properties).

It was added that there will be no revenue support grant by 2020 and local authorities will have to rely on business rates.

Leeds

John spoke to the attached report and added that he will be attending the Transport Working Group next week, which is looking at concessionary fares.

5. Funding

Members were made aware that the DWP will no longer be funding regional forums or the UKAFA from April 2016. The meeting stated they do want Future Years to continue, and it was suggested we have 6 – 12 months worth of reserves.

The following questions were raised:

- How will government engage with older people across the policy areas?
- Who are the groups with whom the government will engage

It was suggested that Shelagh should ask the other Chairs to pose those questions in a letter.

5.1 Future Funding

Joanne reported that Age UK Support Services (Yorkshire and Humber) are applying to the Ministry of Defence to support older veterans. She questioned if Future Years would be interested in running a number of workshops for veterans to help them understand how to influence initiatives in their locality. This was agreed. **Action: JV**

6. Finance Report

Joanne tabled a finance report which predicts a reserve of £15,462 at the end of the financial year.

7. Any Other Business

Search Engine Failure

Wendy presented a report by Future North West on housing, care and advice in the Northwest (A Regional Survey of Digital Resources from Local Authorities In the North West).

Age UK Policy Sounding Board

Joanne reported that the Age UK Policy Sounding Board is looking for new members. She agreed to send out details via email. **Action: JV**

8. Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 7th March, which will be an 'Away Day' to discuss the future of Future Years.