

Older People's Partnership

17 October 2012

10.00 am - 12.13 pm

Boardroom, BFVA, Amber House, Market Street,
Bracknell



Present: Rev Michael Bentley
Chris Cowap, BFVA
Madeline Diver, CAB
Martin Gilman, BFVA (Chairman)
Mira Haynes, Bracknell Forest Council
Tracey Hedgecox, Age Concern Bracknell
Julie Rose, Bracknell Forest Homes
Peter Smith, Bracknell Chamber of Commerce
Councillor Clifton Thompson

In attendance: Alex Bayliss, Adult Safeguarding
Andy Kimber, Bracknell Forest Council
Chris Vaal, Bracknell Forest Council

Apologies: Councillor Dale Birch
Bob Pennell, Age Concern Bracknell
Abby Thomas, Bracknell Forest Council
Linda Wells, Bracknell Forest Homes

Action Points

Minute	Item
10	<p>Minutes and Action Points from 20 June 2012</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held 20 June 2012 were agreed as a correct record.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agenda items for future meetings of the Older People's Partnership should be forwarded to Mira Haynes and Martin Gilman.• Information in relation to the Long Term Conditions Strategy being suspended would be posted on the website to inform people who had contributed to the Strategy.
11	<p>Bracknell Forest Over Fifty Forum</p> <p>Councillor Cliff Thompson discussed the Bracknell Forest Over Fifty Forum; an independent, campaigning and non-political group. The Forum was in need of a Chairman and was currently lacking direction, with just three or four people attending meetings. The Forum was short of funds but nationally Forums were</p>

	<p>being encouraged. A non-political Chairman was being sought. If anyone was aware of someone willing to Chair this Forum and of any ideas for rejuvenating it, they should contact Councillor Thompson.</p> <p>A bid would be put in to continue producing the newsletters from the Forum. It was suggested that a questionnaire could be used to consult with Forum Members regarding the future of the Forum and possible changes to it. It was suggested that there should be a link between the Forum and Age Concern. People's concerns could be referred to Bracknell Forest Council.</p> <p>The Forum dealt with national issues impacting on people over fifty locally. There were three meetings a year with speakers and three committee meetings. People aged sixty and over attended the meetings. The Forum previously had an article in Town and Country; Mira Haynes and Councillor Thompson would ask if it was possible for this to happen again.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: Mira Haynes/ Cllr Thompson)</p> <p>It was suggested that the way forward for the Forum be discussed with the organisations attending the Older People's Partnership and feedback given to Councillor Thompson.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: All)</p>
12	<p>Older People's Consultation/ Handbook</p> <p>Andy Kimber, Joint Commissioning Officer, and Mira Haynes, Chief Officer: Older People and Long Term Conditions, gave an update on the Older People's Consultation and Handbook.</p> <p>There was previously an Older People's Handbook but there have since been different mechanisms for informing people locally, such as the Prevent Strategy. The cost of producing the handbook was expensive and funding for this would possibly be difficult to find. It was queried whether a handbook was needed; the 'Be Smart Be Safe' handbook was discussed at the last meeting of the Partnership.</p> <p>It was queried how to keep a hard copy handbook up to date and consistent when there were continual changes to the information. The information in the previous handbook was similar to that in the Prevent Strategy, which was available in hard copy and on the website.</p> <p>The collation of information regarding whether a handbook was needed was almost completed. Information was needed for older people but not necessarily in handbook format. It was queried how people would like to receive information but mentioned that people could telephone the Borough Council if they needed information.</p> <p>Messages for Town and Country needed a three month lead-in so it could be difficult for current issues to be advertised this way. It was suggested that a list or calendar of issues could be established. These issues had been discussed at the Communications Group. Vulnerable, housebound and hard to reach people had limited access to information.</p> <p>The Age Concern pilot project was a good idea. Vulnerable people were likely to</p>

	<p>visit GP’s regularly but GP surgeries did not have time to assist people with information in addition to their other work. Development workers took information packs with them when visiting people; it would be queried what information was taken on visits when undertaking assessments.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: Andy Kimber)</p> <p>Bracknell Forest Council had a list of reputable companies or traders, such as plumbers. It was suggested that the Over Fifty Forum could put an article in their newsletter about this. It was suggested that a proper checking process was needed for companies and traders on the ‘Buy with Confidence’ list and that people should feed back when it was not working so that traders could be removed from the list. Any problems with the ‘Buy with Confidence’ Scheme should be reported to Mira Haynes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: All)</p> <p>Madeline Diver reported that there were statistics in relation to people using the Citizens’ Advice Bureau (CAB) and the majority of older people were in the 50 – 64 age group. Older people had a different skills set and may be unemployed and unable to find work. It was queried whether there could be advice surgeries in liaison with GP surgeries; in other parts of the country receptionists at GP surgeries could make appointments with the CAB.</p> <p>It had been queried whether there was Wi-Fi at The Bridgewell Centre; a centre for people in Bracknell Forest who needed care and support but did not need all the services of a general hospital. Great Hollands Matters was delivered to all 3,600 people in Great Hollands; it was suggested that an article for older people could be put in this and other community newsletters.</p> <p>Access to the internet diminished with age and economic circumstances. The Electoral Register would have information on who was not eligible for jury service any more, for example, due to age. It was suggested that mobile surgeries were needed with services going out to people and places, such as day centres. Inter-generational learning was needed, and authentication of information was a concern.</p> <p>There was a need to take account of the Carers Support Bill and White Paper; the Dilnot Report was of particular relevance as it impacted greatly on the work of the Older People’s Partnership but it was unlikely to be progressed by government.</p> <p>The results of the consultation in relation to information for older people would be circulated to the Older People’s Partnership for comment before being considered by the Borough Council’s Executive.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: Andy Kimber)</p>
13	<p>Adult Safeguarding</p> <p>Alex Bayliss, Head of Adult Safeguarding, gave a presentation on the Adult Safeguarding Annual Report.</p> <p>The Borough Council hosted the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (SAPB) which was chaired by Glyn Jones, Director of Adult Social Care, Health and Housing. The SAPB was responsible for providing strategic leadership for Adult Safeguarding across the Borough and was required to write an annual report on its</p>

work for consideration by the Borough Council's Executive.

The objectives set for 2011/2012 were all met except one which was carried forward. Adult Social Care and Health had reviewed the work of the Care Governance Board (CGB), developed the approach to engaging people in their safeguarding assessments, and the Board had developed a Safeguarding Empowerment Strategy. The CGB was chaired by Zoë Johnstone, Chief Officer: Adults and Joint Commissioning.

There was a mechanism to stop people leaving care homes as care homes had legal responsibilities now and support could be accessed from the Borough Council. Alerts were sometimes malicious allegations. One aim of the Empowerment Strategy was to reduce the number of people being referred twice to Adult Social Care.

Developments during 2011/12 also included:

- Increased support for Care Home Providers,
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) Conference was held,
- Thames Valley Police and Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust reviewed their approach to safeguarding,
- The Borough Council continued to lead for Berkshire on the development of the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures.

Activity during included:

- 338 alerts received (previous year 149 alerts were received),
- 133 safeguarding assessments/investigations,
- 37 assessments/investigations substantiated abuse had occurred,
- 16 repeat referrals relating to 12 people.

Increased awareness training for BHFT and TVP staff and media attention of adult abuse had resulted in an increase in the number of alerts, and there was also an increase in alerts from Housing. Financial abuse was the main problem for older people, but there was also neglect and physical abuse. People were often abused by someone they knew.

Plans for 2012/13 included:

- Adult Social Care and Health would implement its revised practice guidance,
- BHFT would review its system and practice for adult safeguarding,
- Broadmoor Hospital would improve compliance with the Mental Capacity Act,
- There would be focused work by the Domestic Abuse Forum to reduce the number of domestic incidents in the Borough,
- A review of the work of the SAPB and its Terms of Reference,
- To ensure the safe and effective transfer of DoLS function from the Primary Care Trust to the Borough Council from 1 April 2013 and this would be the responsibility of the Head of Adult Safeguarding,
- To increase attendance by statutory partners at the SAPB including the CCG,
- To develop 'refresher' training for all levels of Adult Safeguarding Training,
- The SAPB would implement its Empowerment Strategy.

The draft Care and Support Bill included Adult Safeguarding included:

- Statutory footing for the SAPB,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A duty to co-operate, • A duty to undertake Adult Safeguarding Reviews, • A duty to publish a strategic plan.
14	<p>Healthwatch Update</p> <p>Kieth Naylor was not available for the meeting, so the Healthwatch agenda item would be considered at the next meeting of the Partnership. A written briefing would be requested from Kieth.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: Mira Haynes)</p>
15	<p>Review of Partnerships</p> <p>Martin Gilman, BFVA, gave an update on the review of Partnerships at Bracknell Forest Council (BFC). This was due to be signed off at the Bracknell Forest Partnership Board meeting in November. There were four key strategic Boards: the Community Safety Partnership, the Economic and Skills Development Partnership, the Health and Wellbeing Board, and the Children and Young People's Partnership.</p> <p>Genny Webb, Head of Performance and Partnerships, was reviewing the Partnerships and looking at the ways the Boards connect. The Strategic Housing Partnership was important for older people in relation to benefit changes. The Culture Partnership would be disbanded as this would be part of the Community Cohesion Partnership Board. The Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board would be added to the list of Partnerships. A new diagram of the Partnership structure would be available soon.</p>
16	<p>Members Updates</p> <p>'A strategic approach to service development' by Age Concern Bracknell Forest was considered by the Partnership. The paper included how to reach older people. There were savings to be made for older people who could, for example, use online internet shopping. People could check the Disabled Go website to find out information about access to public buildings.</p> <p>It was queried how this service development would be undertaken and how it would be funded. It was suggested that there could be volunteers in libraries to help people use the computers. Sheltered Schemes in the Borough now had computer areas. Age Concern was applying for funding to start the project and would utilise existing resources. There was a need for continuity, and methods of communication were continually changing.</p> <p>People could gain access to the i-Hub for £60, retail price, and some people had used their personal budgets to buy laptops for home shopping. Two thirds of Bracknell Forest Homes' tenants did not have access to the internet.</p> <p>There was a conference aimed at private sector companies on 16 November.</p>

Companies had huge resources and were looking for big projects to help with. The conference would help to tackle corporate social responsibility, clarity was needed for the private sector and a framework for volunteering. Private sector employees could give four hours a month to volunteering. There would hopefully be a group formed by November 2012 to develop this further.

The Economic and Skills Development Partnership was pushing for faster broadband in Bracknell and this could be requested via a website. Details of the website would be circulated to the Older People's Partnership.

(Action: Martin Gilman)

Julie Rose reported that there was a consultation with sheltered scheme tenants at Bracknell Forest Homes (BFH), due to funding cuts, which was due finish in November and be considered by the BFH Board in December 2012 for a decision. There would be a new look service in 2013 with one scheme manager to cover two schemes rather than one. There were currently ten sheltered schemes with BFH. A new extra care scheme was being planned.

Madeline Diver reported that the CAB in Bracknell would be closed for two weeks from 20 November 2012 in order for them to move location, but this date was flexible as the contract had not been signed yet. 'Money Matters' had been published and an electronic form of this was requested for circulation to the Partnership.

(Action: Madeline Diver/ Amanda Roden)

There would be benefit changes from 1 April 2013. The Benefits Adviser would know more about this from February 2013. It was suggested that Simon Hendey, Chief Officer: Housing, be invited to the next meeting of the Partnership to give an update on this.

(Action: Mira Haynes/ Martin Gilman)

Mira Haynes reported that the Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) was moving location to Market Street. Further details regarding this would be circulated to the Partnership.

(Action: Mira Haynes/ Amanda Roden)

The Sensory Needs Consultation had been completed. Recommendations from the consultation had been considered and agreed by the Borough Council's Executive on 16 October 2012. Mira had been invited to a national End of Life Conference regarding care in people's own homes.

Tracey Hedgecox mentioned that Age Concern was holding a Care Day at The Coppid Beech in Bracknell for people over seventy to attend. Further details regarding this would be circulated to the Partnership.

(Action: Tracey Hedgecox/ Amanda Roden)

Peter Smith mentioned that the Economic and Skills Development Partnership (ESDP) was having a change of focus. The ESDP considered older people in the community in general terms and this focus would be broadened. Some funding had been received.

Councillor Thompson reported that the Access Advisory Panel had low attendance recently. Abby Thomas, Head of Community Engagement and Equalities, was conducting a survey regarding this in relation to possible improvements.

Chris Cowap mentioned that the 'Shaping the Future' consultation was beginning

	<p>soon. Further information regarding this would be circulated to the Partnership. (Action: Chris Cowap/ Amanda Roden)</p>
17	<p>Future Meetings</p> <p>Future meetings of the Older People's Partnership will be held at 10am in the Boardroom at Amber House:</p> <p>Wednesday 12 December 2012 Wednesday 20 March 2013 Wednesday 5 June 2013 Wednesday 11 September 2013 Wednesday 11 December 2013 Wednesday 19 March 2014</p>

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