



Jill Broomhall introduced herself as Chair of the meeting and welcomed everyone.



Introductions were made by each attendee, we said who we are and what our roles are.

Jill Broomhall shared that this is her first time chairing the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board for Cheshire East and she is very happy to be doing so. Jill feels the Partnership Board is a great way to raise profiles and get our voices heard.

Jill would like the voices of self-advocates and carers to be heard, working together for better services and working with our commissioning friends to deliver solutions.

Tom explained that the last Partnership Board was some time ago, before the pandemic, and that it was great to see everyone again and there had been a lot of effort and hard work in putting this meeting together.

### Draft Terms of Reference

- Mark shared the revised Terms of Reference document on screen and made sure everyone was able to see it.
- The document was produced in March 2020 and Mark explained that the reason we need it is to lay out why we have the Partnership Board, what we want to achieve and who is involved.
- In a change from the old Partnership Board, which was adults focussed, we now have an all-age approach within Cheshire East Council that has been incorporated into the new Terms of Reference.
- Mark talked through the document and each of the points in it.
- Once Mark had gone through the Terms of Reference, he asked everyone whether there were any suggestions or feedback.
- Jem shared that she is from Health Watch Cheshire which is a statutory body and that is the basis on which she is attending the Partnership Board.
- Jill asked everyone whether they were happy for Health Watch to be added as a statutory body and agree to the new Terms of Reference and everyone agreed with the changes and for these to be signed off.

**Action: Mark to update Terms of Reference and send out with minutes.**

These are the minutes of the Cheshire East Partnership Board meeting for individuals with Learning Disabilities held on 22 October 2020

## Local Partnership Boards - The future

- The question being asked is whether people still want the Local Partnership Boards in the North and South to take place in their current format and we intend to give people who attend them some input on how they should work for the future.
- Jill Broomhall suggested having several subgroups where we can pick up on the wants and needs identified by people, for example a carers group and a self-advocate group. These could then feed into the main Partnership Board.
- Jill Broomhall said that she feels there's an important role for Health too, making sure that people are getting their health checks and that Health take note of the needs of our carers.
- Other suggestions for areas that need to be focussed on were those related to the Police, Employment matters and care provider issues. As we are an all-ages group, we also need to make sure that educational needs are also being addressed.
- Mandy shared that she has done some work with the Police around young people with special needs but hasn't been getting much feedback from them. Jill Broomhall agreed and added that Mark, Louise and Keith have regular contact with Police representatives.
- Tom raised the importance of issues around racism and Black Lives Matter that he feels need to be included. Jill Broomhall agreed and suggested we put this into updates with the Police and Hate Crimes team and to also link in with the wider North West group.
- Claire shared her views and experiences of having a hidden disability and that when she talks to the Police, she finds that some officers don't know how to speak to her. She shared that she finds it upsetting sometimes as often, officers will talk to her Mum rather than her and that she feels the Police should be trained on how to speak to people with disabilities including those that are hidden.
- Jill Broomhall thanked Claire for raising this issue and agreed it is very important and needs to be shared with the Police. We also need to liaise with our adults safeguarding board to ask them to put on some training for our Police colleagues.
- Laura thanked Claire for sharing her experiences. Cllr Jeuda has had some previous experience some time ago and she found that Carers felt they were not being listened to. She visited groups and found that carers knew exactly what they wanted and needed so it's very important that carers feel they are heard, and actions are taken based on this.
- Glyn shared that he has been involved in these meetings for quite a long time and there has always been a focus on housing and employment. He feels a big issue is inclusivity though; adults and children with Learning Disabilities' going out into the community and being accepted. Glyn suggested we could encourage local youth groups to become involved.
- Glyn said he is encouraged by the people in the group and feels that this is a real opportunity having people involved who are accountable to report back and take things forward.



- Jill Broomhall is aware there have been years of talking with little action and she's aware she has to prove herself. She shared that when we ask for information or action to be taken, she will push for this to happen and can demonstrate in 4 months, when we meet again, that this is the case.
- Tom raised a possible problem with the meetings and trying to make sure everyone is involved as some people may not have Teams, or a smartphone. Mark suggested there are alternatives to Teams we could consider if that's better for people and they can always ring into the meetings, but we will make sure everyone can be involved.
- Jill Broomhall summarised the points we had discussed; the need to arrange a number of sub-groups to focus on specific issues and put forward some proposals. Also, making sure that everyone who wants to be involved can be and to avoid this becoming a 'talking shop' so that actions are decided on and taken.

**Action: Mark Hughes and Jill Stenton to arrange virtual meetings with the North and South partnership boards to discuss proposals and plans and report back at the next meeting. Also look at any accessibility issues that self-advocates and carers may face in accessing the meetings virtually.**

### Feedback from the Lockdown Survey



- Louise and Tom presented the results of a questionnaire that was sent out at the beginning of lockdown and fed back the results.
- Mandy's son wanted to tell us about some of his views. He told us that he felt he couldn't do things during the lockdown and still can't do things now that the lockdown has been eased. He wants to be able to go outside to do things but here aren't any activity related things to do.
- Jill Broomhall said that this gives us food for thought and that we need to pass this on to our providers, that our self-advocates are feeling apprehensive.
- Tom asked whether there are some easy-read versions of the new lockdown rules and Mark said he would send some out when the minutes are shared.
- Claire shared her experiences of going out for the first time after lockdown was eased and how she walked with her mum and dad as she was worried. Now she's getting used to it and wearing a mask, but she can understand how people can get nervous and find some of the information on the television, etc. confusing.
- Laura agreed, adding that we can all struggle to work out what we can and can't do. Laura asked how age fits in and whether, for example, older people are more worried? Louise suggested we can look at that in the next survey.
- Keith told everyone that he has shared the questionnaire with the Northwest ADAC as it is such a good piece of work and they wanted to know the effects of the lockdown, etc. on LD clients. Keith also feels this is likely a reflection of the wider population.

- Tom suggested carrying out another survey in Jan/Feb 2021 and Mark agreed it would be a good idea.
- One disappointing result from the questionnaire is that only 8% of respondents missed the day services which prompts the question; why aren't they missed by more people?
- Jill Broomhall thanked everyone for their feedback and wants to make sure we use all the information. We can take back that people are feeling isolated and Mark will feed this up into commissioning plans. She also thanked Tom for putting the presentation together.

**Action: Tom, Louise and Mark to develop another survey in January/February 2021 for people with Learning Disabilities to complete and Jill Stenton to explore the possibility of a similar survey for carers.**

### Monitoring the Learning Disability Strategy

- Mark presented the report to everyone.
- We need to make sure the key priorities in the strategy are taken forward. The report is quite dry, and it would be helpful for an easy-read version to be made available to make sure everyone has access to the update.
- The number of NEET (not in education, employment or training) cases in June 2020 saw a sharp increase due to the lockdown with many workplaces closing, etc. Similarly, with EHCP's; work has been done on getting the timing down, but things were held up by risk assessments needing to be done for each one due to the pandemic.
- Keith suggested using each section of the report as a focus for each Partnership Board and agreed it was a very impressive and detailed piece of work.
- Jill Broomhall proposed creating an action plan with RAG ratings and she would like this to be produced within the next month or so. Mark will take this forward for discussion.

**Action: Mark to start to develop action plans for each of the priority areas and present at next meeting.**

### Any other business

- Cllr Flavell – enjoyed the mtg, feels we can do good things focussing on all-age and is looking forward to the future.
- Chris shared that housing are working on the Vulnerable and Older Peoples Housing Strategy. Ideally, this would have been adopted by the end of this year. Chris will share the draft with Jill Broomhall and Mark for forwarding on to the Partnership Board as a whole.
- Jem will ask a colleague to pull together some thematic comments from some service users that can feed into the conversation.
- Tom asked whether we need to talk about the LD website. Jill advised that Gerard and Tom could discuss this, and Mark is arranging a meeting to talk about the agenda and points to be discussed.

## Summary

Jill Broomhall thanked everyone who is involved and summarised some key points –

- 1) The Partnership Board needs to be more than a talking shop with positive action taken.
- 2) The Terms of Reference will be updated to include Health Watch as discussed.
- 3) Sub-groups will be looked at further; contact will be made, and these will be pulled together.
- 4) We had a great presentation of very useful information from the Questionnaire that we now need to use and feed into other areas and decisions. For example, that day care isn't really being missed.
- 5) Make sure the information is reflected in our Contracts.
- 6) Monitoring will need to be addressed with an action plan to prioritise.



Jill thanked everyone for attending. The next meeting will be in January 2021 but there will be further communication before then with updates on points raised and actions to be addressed.

## Members and visitors who came to the meeting

<b>Jill Broomhall</b>	Chair and Director of Adult Social Care Operations
<b>Tom</b>	Co-chair and self-advocate
<b>Claire</b>	Self-advocate
<b>Councillor Laura Jeuda</b>	Adult Social Care and Health cabinet member
<b>Councillor Kathryn Flavell</b>	Children's and Families cabinet member
<b>Nicola</b>	Parent carer and independent advocate
<b>Madeleine Lowry</b>	Cheshire and Wirral Partnership
<b>Glyn</b>	Parent carer
<b>Jill Stenton</b>	Senior Commissioning Manager
<b>Mark Hughes</b>	Senior Commissioning Manager
<b>Gerard Buckley</b>	Commissioning Manager
<b>Christopher Hutton</b>	Senior Policy Officer in Strategic Housing
<b>Jem Davies</b>	Health Watch Cheshire and parent carer
<b>Dawn Brown</b>	Cheshire East Carers Hub manager

<b>Keith Evans</b>	Head of Service for Learning Disabilities, Mental Health and Continuing Healthcare
<b>Mandy Dickson</b>	Co-chair of the Parent Carer forum working with the Council and Health
<b>Louise Hill</b>	Locality Manager for Learning Disabilities and Continuing Healthcare
<b>Gareth Perrins</b>	Business Support and Finance Support Officer (minutes)

### **People who said they could not come to the meeting**

**Louise Barry**  
**Keith Martin**

### **The next meeting**

14 January 2021 via Teams