



**Cumbria LINK Governing Body
Minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2010
Moot Hall, Keswick**

Present

Alan Alexander
Liz Clegg
Neil Hughes
Janet Pitman
Jane Thompson

In Attendance

Jane Macfarlane
Louise Dixon
Greg Everett – NHS Cumbria

1. Apologies

Jim Bradley

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Agreed after changes.

3. Matters Arising

4. Greg Everett – Project Manager Children & Families NHS Cumbria

Greg Everett gave a presentation to members to update members on Children's Services in Cumbria, after which members asked questions.

Q – Would you agree that the future of Cumbria is now in the hands of the GP consortia and that GP's may decide against localities? What is meant by service pathways?

A – The service pathway documents set out the roles and responsibilities between services in the best interests of children.

Q – At what age does a child become an adult in the eyes of the NHS?

A – Up until the day before their 19th birthday they are classed as a child. However that does not mean that paediatric services immediately stop if they are still needed, a transition period will be put in place if appropriate.

Q – What is being done regarding mental health from an early age, school age transitions are very important, how much emphasis is being placed on these transitions and what is being taught in schools?

A – The pathways are very specific/clear that schools, children’s services, etc, that reach out to children know how to recognise the early signs and how to deal with them. This will be covered in more detail in the best practice frameworks.

Jane T asked Greg who the governing body should write to, to express their concerns. Greg said that there will be a meeting of the care stream board on 25th November to discuss the final stage of the drafting process and as the chair Irvin Cobden would be the best person to write to.

**Action: Jane T to draft a letter to Irvin Cobden.
Host to send a copy of Ian Kennedy’s report out to governing body members.**

Q – Where do children with learning disabilities sit in this?

A – They are in there but they are not singled out, they will receive the same services as any other child. In terms of particular needs to do with a specific condition they will also receive specialist services.

Q – What is the relationship between the Children and Families Care Stream board and Health Builders?

A – The children and families care stream board was set up by the PCT to look at best practice in local services, they provide reassurance to the PCT.

Q – What is the relationship between the children’s health group and health builders?

A – The children’s health group is a local planning group which will include health builders as well as GP’s, etc. They determine what needs to be done with regards to health services for children in the local area and they feed into to the children and families care stream board.

5. Conflict of Interests

Janet P chairs the NWAS critical friends group.

6. Work Plan/Action List

WP 1 Listening to Communities

No feedback has yet been received from partner organizations.

Action: Jane M to chase feedback.

WP 4 West Cumberland Hospital

Draft letter to Carole Heatley discussed regarding staffing issues in pathology and fundraising.

Action: Jane M to amend letter and send round via email for comment.

WP 6 Personalisation

There is no activity on this item.

Action: Jane M to speak to Juan Shimmin. Jane M to speak to Adult Social Care about how they are doing with personalisation.

WP 7 NHS Dentistry

Report from the mystery shopper exercise circulated for comment.

Action: Jane M to send report and official letter to David Tyson for his response.

WP 9 UHMB

An emergency department action plan was circulated from UHMB.

Action: Janet P to arrange a meeting with Tanya Holmes, the A & E matron to check changes on the action plan have been completed.

WP 10 North West Ambulance

Community transport officer of CCC did not know about the eligibility criteria changes, the ambulance service are not talking to the county council. At the Overview & Scrutiny committee meeting representatives from NWAS and NHS Blackpool spoke about the changes and Peter Clarke said it was agreed to use the rural wheels service instead. The council are reviewing all public transport in Cumbria to try and improve. Liz would like to know how much the rural wheels service costs under the freedom of information. Liz would like to gather information on peoples views on the patient transport service through questionnaires sent out to LINK members, local GP surgeries and patients.

Action: Liz C to write letter to NHS Blackpool to raise the governing bodies concerns. Liz C to set up a group on interested people to do work on the patient transport service. Jane M to email round draft questionnaires for approval.

WP 16 Care Quality Commission

Jane M met with Jan Yates on the 4th November, her manager would like to attend the next governing body meeting to update on current issues and then to observe the rest of the meeting.

Action: It was agreed the CQC could attend, Jane M to invite them to next meeting.

WP 17 Overview & Scrutiny

Report on Fairer Access to Equipment survey circulated.

Action: Jane M to send report to PCT and Adult Social Care for their response.

WP 24 Breast Screening

A letter has been sent to Dr Hussey, Regional Director of Health, requesting a full response to our question about why the Quality Assurance system took so long to detect the problem. A meeting has been arranged with Carole Heatley, which Alan, Neil, Liz will be attending.

Action: Jane M to circulate draft agenda for the meeting.

WP 25 Consultation Keswick Care Home

The County Council cabinet meeting to decide the future of the home will be held on 19th November 2010.

WP 26 Liberating the NHS

Action: Jane M to circulate two new consultation documents 'Information Revolution' and 'Choice and Control'.

7. LINK Representative Reports

Neil H circulated a report from the "How can we use alcohol pricing to help reduce harmful drinking" event which he attended on the 11th October in Blackpool.

Liz C circulated a report she had prepared for the Cumbria County Council Health and Well-being Scrutiny Committee to update them on the current work of Cumbria LINK. Liz also gave a verbal report on the meeting where the proposed closure of Aspen ward was discussed. Aspen Ward at the Cumberland Infirmary is due to be closed. Speaking at the meeting Carole Heatley said this was to create a surgical ward and that most genealogical cases were usually day cases.

Action: Agenda item for the next governing body meeting. Alan to ask Carole Heatley for more details at the arranged meeting.

Liz also attended the PCT Board Meeting, where the main points discussed were:
New pilot for elderly care in Maryport
Reduced admission in Copeland
Transfer of provider arm to Cumbria Partnership Trust
Commissioning of Dementia services

There was a discussion about meetings running over. Alan to think of ways to prevent this and to discuss at the next meeting.

8. Governing Body Elections

Only 1 expression of interest has been received. It was agreed to extend the deadline and contact those initially expressed an interest.

Action: Host to re-advertise.

9. Information Governance

A response from Judith Deft was circulated.

10. Operational Methods

Item postponed to next meeting.

11. Third Sector Network

A LINK representative was needed for the Third Sector, Liz offered and this was agreed.

12. Annual Reports

Copies of numerous annual reports were available. The host to be contacted if any copies are required.

13. Equality & Diversity

No issues.

14. Any Other Business

LINK Representation

Neil raised the issue of where and how Cumbria LINK is being represented at a county strategic level.

Action: Agenda item for next meeting.

Cumbria LINK Budget

The budget has been thinned out in places to last a further 3 months. No problems with spending at present, however if LINK wanted to take on another project would need to look at how to fund it.

GP Leads

It was suggested that a meeting be set up with all 6 GP leads to discuss expectations and working together.

15. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 13th December 2010 – 10.30am – 2.30pm
Castle Lodge, Kendal.