

**Blackburn with Darwen Patients' Council**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> September 2008, 10am to 2pm**  
**The Daisyfield Centre, Blackburn**



**Present**

Andrew Prugar  
Anne Ray  
Brian Spencer  
Bryan Hammond  
Lesley Spencer  
Madhubala Pandya  
Paul Mainwaring

**In attendance**

Martin Howe, Mental Health  
Andy Harrison, LINKs  
Tracey Walsh (possible new member)  
Mrs A Atherton (possible new member)

**1. Apologies**

Brian Todd

**2. Introductions**

Member introduced themselves to the possible new members, Tracey Walsh and Mrs Atherton, from CVS and the Older People's Forum.

**3. Update on Mental Health**

Members were given a guided tour of the first floor of the Daisyfield Centre which is currently being developed to provide mental health services for the Blackburn with Darwen community. Members of Martin's team were present and members of the Patients' Council were able to discuss the general method under which BWD PCT will operate the community mental health. The issue of employing Asian female field workers as many Asian females would not be seen by an Asian male under such sensitive issues. Martin advised that the aim was to increase the team to over 30 members of staff for this unit clearly providing a major benefit to the community. A brief discussion about the possibility of using funding from the Arts Council to help promote mental health awareness and services in Blackburn was discussed.

***Action: PRM to review the feasibility of obtaining funding from the Arts Council to help promote mental health awareness.***

**4. Update on LINKs**

Andy Harrison, Manager of LINKs Blackburn, advised members that things were progressing nicely. Unfortunately a member of his team has just recently left and therefore he was running things singlehandedly, however, they are hoping to replace this person shortly. They aim to commence the running of the Steering Group by November 08. Anne Ray and Brian Spencer showed interest in joining the steering group. Andy advised that he would keep members updated on the progress of LINKs. Members of the Patients' Council were encouraged to become members of the LINKs Steering Group.

**ACTION**

## **5. Notes of the previous meeting**

The notes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2008 were approved.

## **6. Actions from previous meeting**

Work up ideas to market the new mental health services – *Ongoing*.

Obtain statistics on mental health within Blackburn with Darwen and get a breakdown of mental health statistics within the different communities – *Outstanding*.

Collate member's ideas/ways in which they could play a role in the development of the new primary care mental health service – *Outstanding*.

Forward copies of the presentation given to Liz Hudson to distribute to all members – *Complete*.

Liaise with Martin Howe to arrange the next Patients' Council meeting in September to be at the Daisyfield Centre and invite Martin Howe to attend to give an update – *Complete*.

Send out a 12 month diary of future meeting dates to all members – *Complete*.

Arrange for Madhubala and Brian to received media training – *Outstanding*.

Arrange for Brian Spencer and Andrew Prugar to receive a Patients' Council e-mail account – *Complete*.

Forward recruitment policy to all members – *Complete*.

Members to recommend a suitable Deputy Chair – *Outstanding*.

Get clarification on travel expenses for members – *Outstanding*.

Request a stationary allowance for members from BwD PCT – *Outstanding*.

Register members as attending the World Class Commissioning Event on 21<sup>st</sup> August – *Complete*.

## **7. Council Business**

- Recruitment of members – 3 new members were introduced by Anne Ray and Bryan Hammond and were welcomed duly to the Patients' Council and will be attending the next meeting. Members were also asked to extend the invite to further members.
- Deputy Chair – The issue of a Deputy Chair was discussed and as of yet no name has been put forward and therefore unless a name is put forward by the next meeting the current Chair will nominate a member for this position.
- Travel expenses – Members were advised that the travel expenses will remain at 23p per mile until further notice.

## 8. For Information

Copies of the following documents were distributed to the members:

- Mental Health Presentation by Martin Howe
- Future Meeting Dates Schedule
- Patients Council Recruitment Policy

## 9. LIFT Update

Jan Hart, LIFT Support Officer for Blackburn with Darwen PCT, gave a brief update on the current situation.

## 10. AOB

Members were advised of current construction work which is taking place at the college adjacent to the new LIFT centre which is causing residents in the area much inconvenience. There is some concern that the Montague Centre may attract the same problems.

***Action: Paul Mainwaring and Madhubala to arrange a meeting to meet with residents to discuss ways of ensuring any inconvenience is minimised and reviewed.***

***Action: Paul Mainwaring to make contact with CVS and the Older People's Forum and arrange a meeting to discuss further developments.***

## 11. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 12–4pm at the Residents Lounge, Montague Health Centre. Apologies to Liz Hudson (0161 766 9323 or [liz.hudson@patientscouncil.org.uk](mailto:liz.hudson@patientscouncil.org.uk)) by 20<sup>th</sup> October.