

**Darlington Local Involvement Network (LINK)
HealthWatch Meeting**

Wednesday 7th December 2011 12.30 – 14.30

eVOLution Board Room

MINUTES

ATTENDEES: Paul Bell (Chair)
Michelle Thompson (Vice Chair)
Peter Freitag
Mark Cran
Terry Taylor
Betty Hoy
Maura Monaghan

APOLOGIES: Emma Roebuck (G.A.D.D)
Jane Hesford
Bill Morehead
June Wilson
Cynthia Sillars

IN ATTENDANCE: Diane Lax (Host Organisation)(Minutes)
Andrea Goldie Host

Introductions

Paul welcomed everyone and Diane gave apologies.

Declaration of interest

Diane gave the chair a letter and advised the group that Carers Federation would be tendering for the contract of HealthWatch when this comes out next year. Diane advised the group that it was up to them if they wanted host staff present during discussions on HealthWatch. The whole group agreed that there was no conflict of interest at this time.

HealthWatch Functions and Next Steps

Discussions took place about the key functions of HealthWatch and the group agreed that they would continue to connect with groups and organisations to gather information and use the tools that Michelle has put together; these include the internal and external communication plans. Michelle will pull together the information and draw up an action plan with tasks for individuals and then members can choose what they want to get involved with. This action was agreed by the group and confirmed by the Chair.

Peter advised through the experience of some of the longer standing members of the core group have had over the years they were sceptical about the transformation and believe that these new changes are unlikely to make a difference. He would like to encourage the Local Authority and Trusts etc to listen and act upon what the public have to say. Newer members of the group were much more optimistic and believe by setting up and 'actioning' work plans and making visible positive changes

and measurable outcomes this would put HealthWatch in a much better position in the future.

Paul advised that at the regional chair meeting CQC had requested that they would like to work with local LINK/HealthWatch groups to complete enter and view visits. The whole group thought that this was a good idea and chance to get involved. Paul will take this back to the Regional Chair meeting.

Any Other Business

Diane advised that an advert can be placed into the Darlington Sports Development booklet at a cost of £250. The group agreed that the advert should go ahead and the Chair confirmed the decision. Michelle and Maura from the communications task group should put something together to put in.

Andrea requested individual task and finish group items to be re-added to the core group agenda to ensure that when members left the meeting they were fully aware of ALL action and work that has been going on within the whole workings of the group. This way if anyone is asked out of the meeting and without the host staff present what the LINK group is up to an extensive and thorough answer can be given. The group thought this would be a good idea and this was agreed by the Chair.

Diane asked when they would like the next core group meeting this was agreed as Tuesday 24th January 1pm till 3pm.

Diane asked for a volunteer to attend the Overview and Scrutiny Health Partnership meeting Paul agreed to attend.

Paul advised the group that the majority of them would need to stand down in March as they will have completed three years on the Core Group and as stated in the constitution this was the maximum term allowed before having to stand down for a year. Diane advised that all members could still be members of LINK and be part of Task and Finish Groups.

24th January 2012 1pm
Core Group Meeting
eVOLution, Church Row, Darlington

ACTION POINTS

7 December 2011

ACTION	BY WHOM?	BY WHEN?
Put together an action plan based on the internal and external communication plans.	MT	24-01-12
Communications and strategy group to assist MT in allocating prospective members of the core group to the actions based on the skills matrix.	C&S group	24-01-12
Advise at the regional chair meeting that Darlington LINK support the CQC's suggestion to work together on 'Enter and View' visits.	PB	24-01-12
Write short snappy advert for the Sports Development publication for Darlington.	MT & MM	24-01-12
Task and Finish group individual updates to be added to all future core group meeting agendas.	Host Staff	24-01-12 >
Attend Overview and Scrutiny Health Partnership meeting on 13 Dec 11.	PB	13-12-11

Minutes taken by Carers Federation, host organisation for Darlington LINK



Free post RSGX-HBSK-YXBB

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