

<p>Minutes of the Housing Disability Panel Tuesday 14 March 2017 Community Space BWH</p>

PRESENT

Members

John Piper (vice chair)

James Fraser	Stephen Aselford	Sheila Howard	Peter Green
Linda Hill	Maureen Symes	Jill Arboine	Mark Burrell
Peter Collier	Ashish Patel	Juliet Motley-Wilcock	
Alan Beale	Sheila Mitchell	Bob Horne	

Presenters

Jarek Kopec	Welfare Benefits officer
Verena Trend	Active Lifestyles manager

Officers

Rachel Pankhurst	Resident Involvement officer
Steve Driscoll	Resident Involvement officer (minutes)

Ref.	Subject	Action
1.0	Welcome, introductions and apologies	
1.1	Apologies were received from Marilyn Smithies, Guy Pile-Grey, and Kim Wakely. Cllrs Bonner, Dennis & Hale also sent their apologies.	
1.2	The Chair asked everybody to introduce themselves.	
1.3	In the absence of Marilyn Smithies, John Piper opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was noted that Rachel Pankhurst is now the Lead officer for the Panel.	
2.0	Minutes from last meeting and action plan	
	Steve went through the updates on the Action Plan	
2.1	(2.2) The Lindens (parking issue) No update received.	
2.2	(2.4) Roden Gardens – No update received –Rachel to follow up.	RP

<p>2.3</p> <p>2.4</p> <p>2.5</p>	<p>(7.1) Video conferencing – Sentab presentation to be arranged for next meeting.</p> <p>(7.2) Universal Credit – Jarek Kopec on agenda.</p> <p>(6.3) AXIS – Customer Services manager will attend the next meeting of the Panel in July.</p>	<p>RP</p> <p>RP</p>
<p>3.0</p> <p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p>	<p>Universal Credit – Jarek Kopec</p> <p>Jarek explained his role to the Panel and how he helped residents maximise their income and help them claim for benefits they are entitled to.</p> <p>Jarek then went through a comprehensive presentation on the introduction of Universal Credit (U/C) and future welfare changes.</p> <p>Q&A</p> <p>Q: The pension increase is not mentioned. A: Same increase for pensions as last year.</p> <p>Q: Is the 63% figure net A: Yes it is</p> <p>Q: Can carers allowance be claimed if in receipt of Personal Independence Payment (PIP). A: Yes the person can claim carers allowance.</p> <p>Q: Is severe disability benefit still payable. A: In certain circumstances. Can also be paid as pension credit</p> <p>Q: If sanctions are enforced how can the person pay their rent? A: Sanctions are applied to the personal benefit not the housing element of the benefit.</p> <p>Q: With the Bedroom Tax will they not pay for the extra bedroom if a carer. A: Yes that is correct. Disability Living Allowance would not apply to a 3rd bedroom.</p> <p>Q: If you live in supported living accommodation and claim for Housing Benefit are you not able to claim U/C. A: Contact the Welfare Rights hotline – 0800 731 5920.</p> <p>There being no further questions, Jarek was thanked for his presentation.</p>	

4.0	Physical Activities/Live Well – Verena Trend	
4.1	Verena introduced herself to the Group. As well as being the Active Lifestyles manager, Verena is also responsible for coordinating the Live Well project.	
4.2	The Live Well project aims to get more residents to become more physically active by coordinating services to meet individual’s needs on a one to one basis. The project works with the local community to develop healthy living hubs across the borough and encouraging agency partners to signpost residents to seek support.	
4.3	There is a website (Just Be) which residents can access, though they recognise that not all residents will have web access, hence the project is being promoted at dentists, GP’s and chemists. Verena also provided a handout to the group.	
4.4	The project offers to work with individuals for 12 months for free, and it is voluntary if the individual wants the support to change and become more active.	
4.5	<p>Q&A</p> <p>Q: Isn’t this project encouraging the Nanny state A: Not down to us to make people change the way they live, the individual needs to want to change</p> <p>Q: I have mobility issues so cannot not do a lot of physical activity A: Chair based exercise classes are available in the Central Library here in Croydon.</p> <p>Q: What are the costs A: Live Well is fully funded and offers face to face support.</p> <p>Q: I am disabled and unable to undertake a lot of physical exercise. A: In addition everyday tasks such as housework, gardening, walking to the shops all encourage movement of the body.</p> <p>Live Well also offer dietary advice to compliment the health advice given.</p> <p>There being no further questions the Chair thanked Verena for coming along.</p>	
5.0	TAASC Event feedback – Rachel Pankhurst	
5.1	Rachel gave a verbal update on the TAASC event that took place on the 9 th March 2017. The theme was around advocacy services in the	

	<p>borough. Suzanne Culling – Senior Joint Commissioner delivered a presentation and there were round table discussions on people’s understanding of advocacy, which were facilitated by CASSUP panel members.</p> <p>Rachel read out a summary of issues that had arisen from the round table discussions. She also read out feedback that had been received from attendees after the event – which was very positive.</p> <p>Rachel agreed to send a copy of Suzanne’s presentation out along with the minutes of this meeting.</p>	<p>RP</p>
<p>6.0</p> <p>6.1</p>	<p>Date of next meeting & possible agenda items</p> <p>4th July, surgery at 1pm, meeting commences 2pm (Venue tba).</p> <p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.30pm</p>	