

<b>Healthwatch Kingston Board Meeting (Part A)</b>	<b>Date:</b> Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
<b>Report Title:</b> Projects and Outreach Officer	<b>Author:</b> Scott Bacon (SBA) Projects and Outreach Coordinator (Learning Disabilities)
<b>PART A Agenda Item 14</b>	<b>Appendix:</b> No

<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>
The purpose of this report is to update the HWK Board on recent and planned Projects and Outreach.

**All Ages Learning Disability Partnership Board**

The two meetings in February and March were rescheduled to make time for outreach work and starting the project work (Health and Wellbeing and Communications) agreed at the board meeting in January.

Two leads have been identified to move the project work forward. Jonathan Brown (RBK) will lead on Health and Wellbeing and Michelle Murray (Adult Commissioning RBK) will lead on Communications.

The communications group will meet for the first time on 12<sup>th</sup> March.

Both projects will be giving updates to the partnership board on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

**Outreach Work**

Date for a youth forum have been set up at Dysart school.

First forum held at Orchard Hill College and Bedelsford.

Orchard Hill meeting started with small introductions as first meeting. Students spoke about what they like to do with school and have taken away the ‘Making Lives Better’ paper to review and come back with what is important to them. Next meeting is the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

The first meeting at Bedelsford the students spoke about what they liked to do. What they did in Kingston and if there were things to be improved so the students start to understand they can say if

they don't like something. We also spoke about if they have been to doctors recently and how they were treated, did the doctors speak to you, did you feel frightened, etc? Next meeting is April 5<sup>th</sup>. Students will think about what they want to talk about and the school would like to discuss mental health support.

Connection made with Jane Pidduck at Grand Avenue (primary school with SEN unit) and also St Philips. They already have plenty of participation work happening, so no need for a forum. However, both schools are happy to support our work when needed.

Meetings with Grace Over (Achieving for Children) and Michelle Murray (RBK) highlighted the need for joined up working for participation. Sharing contacts and trying to establish a timeline for participation work so people with learning disabilities, their parents and carers are not overwhelmed with requests for feedback and information.

Bedelsford school very interested in looking at physical access of Kingston (information from meeting to set up the forum, not from the forum itself). The school has a high percentage of wheelchair users and students with mobility issues. I have linked them in with Cllr Christine Stuart and Kingston Centre for Independent Living (KCIL) as the school have shown an interest in reviewing access all across Kingston and the Visually Impaired Parliament (run by KCIL) meeting I attended was based heavily around access.

Following on from YOL! completing the 15 Steps Challenge at Kingston Hospital the hospital would like to repeat this. We have approached Bedelsford about their students completing this and the school are keen too. We may need to amend the easy read toolkit to meet the needs of the students, but this is a very positive result from the outreach work.

Joined up participation work and linking Bedelsford with KCIL and Cllr Stuart are not essential HWK work but improve our image, keep us linked in with partners and improves the overall voice of people with learning disabilities.

### **Learning Disability Task Group**

The initial process to set up a task group has begun. Meetings with Achieving For Children who have adults that are leaving there service and looking for meaningful ways to contribute are being set up. Once this meeting has taken place will notify people with learning disabilities we are already in contact with to set up the initial meeting before promoting wider.

The task group will be supported by the links created with schools and other organisations. People with learning disabilities who will not be able to access a two hour meeting will be able to contribute through the outreach work we are doing. Similarly once a topic has been selected we can use the links created to get the opinion of the wider community on the service.

### **Disability Confident and Time to Change Pledge**

A plan has been written for both and they need checking and agreeing.

### **Time to Change Champion**

A job description, person specification and application form as well as easy read for how to apply has been written and needs board approval.

### **Learning Disabilities Support Officer**

A job description, person specification, application form and easy read cover letter have been written and need approval.

Currently waiting on Balance or Job Centre plus for support on financial packages. Disability Confident means you do not put unnecessary barriers for someone seeking employment. For example stating you need your own car when public transport is perfectly acceptable. We need to ensure that what we offer will not affect someone's universal credit and become the barrier to employment (would it be financially beneficial to not work).

**YOL!**

See Laila Awda's report. Agenda Item 16

### **Kingston Voluntary Action (KVA) Health Conference and Connected Kingston**

I attended the KVA Health Conference on 6<sup>th</sup> March which discussed Connected Kingston. I had been in conversation with families about the local offer (website with information on services for people with learning disabilities). From these conversations one question two questions were raised:

1. How does someone who does not want to go online or cant access something online receive information?
2. How do families know the information is correct?

Great to know Staywell offer Community Connectors to support people, but are these just for older people? Is there a plan for other groups in the community such as people with learning disabilities or access Community Connectors Staywell? If it's all within Staywell how do people with learning disabilities know to access Staywell?

The other concern from families is how can you tell information is in date? This question was asked to Julie Bristow previously and remains unanswered. My suggestion was to have a system that sent out reminders to the person who set up the page. If no action was taken after other automatic reminders the page would be removed.

Both queries on people with learning disabilities accessing Community Connectors and also how do you confirm information is in date have been sent to the KVA for answers (8/3/19).