



**VALE OF GLAMORGAN AND CARDIFF REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE
COMMITTEE
6th February 2013**

Present:

Councillor Bronwen Brooks – VGC
 Pam Toms –VGC
 Mike Ingram – VGC
 Francis Beecher – Cymorth
 Mike Friel – CCC
 Helen Jones – CHC
 Jeff Gooch – Cymorth
 Sian Harrop-Griffiths – CVUHB
 Chris Maggs – SPNAB
 Michelle Brewer – CCC

Mark Sheridan – CHC
 Peter Greenhill – Probation
 Simon Protheroe - WG
 Sian Griffiths – Public Health
 Donna Clitheroe –VGC (minutes)

Apologies:

Ceri Meloy – Cymorth
 Councillor Lynda Thorne - CCC

	Action
<p>Introductions and Apologies Councillor Bronwen Brooks (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves, the organisations which they represented and the apologies received were noted.</p>	
<p>Minutes of last meeting The minutes of the last meeting were agreed with the following additions, which were omitted:</p> <p>Local and Regional Commissioning Plans In response to Cardiff Council’s Local Commissioning Plan (LCP), Simon Prothero (SP) stated that Welsh Government (WG) had an expectation that the Plan would be more strategically robust. That it</p>	

<p>should make reference to the strategic reviews already carried out by the Supporting People Team and how the budget cuts would be managed from 2014 onwards.</p> <p>Mike Friel (MF) responded that whilst a lot of information from service reviews had already been gathered, the Supporting People Team preferred to undertake more work to check the findings before they were released so that they did not frighten people. In addition, the RCC had already agreed Cardiff's LCP and the process for implementing the 2013/14 budget cuts.</p>	
<p>Matters Arising Regional Development Co-ordinator – An increase in funding by WG has been approved in order to increase the originally advertised salary scale.</p> <p>Amendments have been made to the Job Description, which are being considered by the Council's Job Evaluation Team and the re-evaluation of the post will be given priority. This should ensure that it will be advertised again in the next few weeks.</p> <p>It was agreed the post would be widely circulated via Cymorth, Community Housing Cymru and Cardiff Council, as well as being in the press and Job Centre.</p>	PT
<p>Conflict of Interest Forms No conflict of interest declared.</p>	
<p>Accreditation. SP advised the group that there had been a good response to the informal consultation which ended on 31st January 2013 and this was currently being analysed by WG.</p> <p>Financial Position against Budget. No changes.</p> <p>Regional Needs Mapping. Awaiting the appointment of a Regional Development Coordinator.</p> <p>Outcomes and Performance Management (including service reviews). SP suggested that there be an update from both Councils on the first six months outcomes data which was agreed.</p> <p>A discussion took place on whether the outcomes of service reviews should be reported to the RCC and it was agreed that this would only</p>	PT/MB

<p>take place if any of the following circumstances occurred:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An issue was identified which would impact on current service delivery e.g. any remodelling requirements 2. If best practice was identified (which should also be reported to the other RCC's in Wales) 3. If there was positive feedback on a service <p>Proposals for Strategic Remodelling. None.</p> <p>Commissioning & Procurement Retendering of Learning Disability Contracts (Cardiff)</p> <p>Michelle Brewer (MB) confirmed that there had been no change since the January RCC meeting. MF advised that this was due to Members deciding to look at a new procurement model and new ways of commissioning services, which was the subject of a recent Cabinet Report. A Task Group consisting of partners had already been set up to explore the options. Sian Harrop-Griffths (SH-G) has been invited to sit on the group and Phil Evans, the Director of Social Services in the Vale of Glamorgan Council was also to be invited. It was not yet known if this work would have an impact on the planned retendering dates issued at the last RCC meeting.</p> <p>Chris Maggs (CM) requested that a copy of the Cabinet Report be forwarded to the RCC as it was in the public domain.</p> <p>MF/MB agreed to give an update at the next meeting of the RCC.</p>	<p>MB/MF</p>
<p>Service User Involvement</p> <p>PT & MB confirmed that questionnaires have been sent out to all Support Providers to enable the region to gather information on the existing consultation mechanisms that are in place. The deadline for returns is 11th March 2013.</p> <p>Once analysed, a report will be brought before the RCC to determine the next steps in developing a Service User's Engagement Framework.</p>	<p>PT/MB</p>
<p>Young Offenders – Frances Beecher (Llamau & Cymorth)</p> <p>FB explained that the project is aimed at setting up a resettlement brokership for the Youth Justice Board in North and South Wales which will develop resettlement packages for young people up to the age of eighteen who are at risk of offending.</p>	

<p>The project needs strategic leadership and the willingness of partners to provide a package of resettlement and support which can be used instead of custody. It is hoped that an all Wales approach can be adopted for consistency and the project will be able to learn from the approach taken in England which was unsuccessful.</p> <p>South Wales has already established a resettlement consortium. The partners will work together and the package of resettlement will include education, training and other interventions. Llamau will be speaking to the Youth Offending Teams and their partners, including Health, the local authorities and Mental Health Services to try to take this forward.</p> <p>This new proposal is being considered by Welsh Government and Probation and FB will report progress to the RCC in the hope that members will support the initiative in the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff.</p>	<p>FB</p>
<p>The Big Health Debate – Is a Public Health Bill needed in Wales – Dr Sian Griffiths, Public Health</p> <p>Sian Griffiths (SG) gave a presentation and explained that overall, health in Wales is improving but there are still big health challenges that need to be faced.</p> <p>The health of people who are not financially well off is not improving as quickly as the rest of the population which obviously includes homeless clients. The Welsh Government has therefore started a consultation to gather people’s views on whether a Public Health Bill is needed and if laws should be introduced to tackle some of the challenges. This includes a question on whether the NHS, local authorities and other bodies should be required to do more to improve the public’s health. SG distributed feedback cards, provided information on how to respond to the consultation and highlighted a consultation event on 13th February.</p> <p>Please see link below and attached presentation:</p> <p>http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/publichealth/?lang=en</p>	
<p>Engagement with the Private Rented Sector on RCC – Frances Beecher (Cymorth)</p> <p>FB to provide update at March meeting after which an options paper which will be produced by Cardiff Council for the April meeting for consideration.</p>	<p>FB</p>

<p>Update from Welsh Government</p> <p>A request was made previously for feedback items to be first sent by e-mail so that they could be noted on the agenda. However in order to give up to date information this was not always possible.</p> <p>SP confirmed that a Welsh Government representative attended every RCC meeting in Wales and was able to give a verbal feedback as it was too time consuming to first put everything in writing. In addition, formal feedback was already available via the regular WG Supporting People Newsletter.</p> <p>Councillor Bronwen Brooks (BB) confirmed that she was happy for WG to give a verbal feedback at each meeting and all attendees agreed that prior notice was not required of the items to be discussed. SP therefore gave the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The Supporting People Monitoring and Review framework is due to be issued to Local Authorities imminently and this will then be linked to the new Guidance ❖ The Supporting People section of the WG website is now up and running and provides a link to the Supporting People National Advisory Board (SPNAB) information and the Minutes from each RCC, although additional work is still needed on the site ❖ The Domestic Abuse (White Paper consultation) ends 22nd February 2013 ❖ The new Housing Bill is currently being drafted in which Homelessness plays a big part <p>MS asked if Renting Homes work was to be included in this Bill as CHC were part of the stakeholder group. SP advised it would be separate and gave Simon White at WG as the contact for further information, if required.</p> <p>MF advised that he was representing the All Wales Chief Officer's Panel (AWCHOP) on a group which was looking at the implications for supported housing tenancies.</p>	<p>SP</p>
<p>Questions or feedback on RCC process for Chris Maggs (SPNAB)</p> <p>CM thanked the group for allowing him to attend the meeting and gave some background information on SPNAB. He outlined his background as a former Director of Social Services, as his remit had included the management of Supporting People.</p> <p>CM is the Vice Chair of the SPNAB. He outlined the progress of the</p>	

<p>group to date, the varied backgrounds of the other members and their remit which includes identifying good practice.</p> <p>CM asked if the RCC were happy for him to continue to attend future meetings. FB asked for a list of all SPNAB members to be provided so that different people could be invited. A discussion took place about the availability problems of some of the other SPNAB members and the need to understand how they could assist the RCC.</p> <p>It was agreed that SP would send a link to the WG website containing a list of SPNAB members and the RCC would debate the attendance of CM and other members at the March meeting.</p>	<p>SP ALL</p>
<p>Agenda Items for March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Presentation on the Cardiff Single Gateway ❖ Outcomes Monitoring Results 	<p>MF PT/MB</p>
<p>AOB</p> <p>Attendees asked for a presentation from Cardiff on the impact on support providers of the 4% budget cuts in 2013/14 and the strategic approach that would be taken from 2014/15 onwards. MB confirmed that the Supporting People Team in Cardiff had been very pleased with the positive approach being taken by providers to the cuts in 2013/14 and that there would be no significant impact on service users.</p> <p>In respect of the strategic approach to cuts in 2014/15, this had not yet been determined, as priority had been given to meeting with all providers individually in Cardiff to agree the 2013/14 cuts and to ensure that new contracts were in place before 1st April 2013. MB confirmed that consultation will take place with providers on future cuts and the RCC would be updated at regular intervals.</p> <p>Given the large number of services in Cardiff, MF confirmed that whilst there was a commitment to undertake a strategic approach to making the cuts from 2014 onwards, if the work took longer the fall back position would be to make a 5% reduction in funding to providers in 2015.</p> <p>Welfare Reforms – MF gave an update on the work being undertaken in Cardiff around welfare reforms. This included keeping landlord groups updated, extending the work of debt advisors and ensuring that support providers were delivering consistent support to tenants.</p> <p>PT and Mike Ingram (MI) gave an update on the work undertaken in the Vale which included visits to all tenants' affected and joint visits with</p>	<p>MB</p>

support providers to those tenants receiving housing related support. In addition, all advice services had been mapped and discussions had taken place to ensure consistent messages were being given, as many tenants preferred to visit and discuss their issues with non Council staff e.g. Citizens Advice Bureau.

SP recommended that welfare reforms should be on the agenda of a future meeting. It was agreed by attendees that a general discussion would take place so that everyone could have input and best practice could be identified.

FB suggested that the RCC should respond to consultation documents e.g. The Violence Against Women White Paper. MF pointed out that in Cardiff responses were usually written and agreed by the relevant Group. In the case of the White Paper, this was the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Abuse Forum. CM suggested that the RCC could discuss the responses once compiled and decide whether to endorse them.

MS updated the RCC on the Finance Work Stream for Supporting People, which was being reconvened by WG to look again at the Distribution Formula. In addition, Cymorth and CHC had been working with the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) on exempt accommodation, but no progress had been made and a letter had now been received from the DWP confirming that they were no longer looking at making any changes.

Next Meeting: 3pm on 6th March 2013 in Room F26, Block A, The Alps Depot, Wenvoe.