

**Devon Supporting People
Housing Support Strategic Partnership**

Date: Tuesday, February 24th 2009
Time: 10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.
Venue: Livestock Centre, Matford, Exeter.



Attendees:

Max Sillars
Kerry Plumb
Catherine Simmons
Nicola Forsdyke
Liz Steele
Debbie Holloway
Simon Perkins
Gill Unstead
Ian Stewart-Watson
Richard Crompton
Theresa Farris
Clare Miller
Kevin Oke
Sue Gubb
Christiana Fisher

Devon Supporting People
Exeter City Council
Mid Devon District Council
Teignbridge District Council
Torrige District Council
South Hams District Council
Devon and Cornwall Probation Area
Devon DAAT
Children's & Young People's Services
Exeter Shilhay (RSL)
Teign Housing (Sheltered Housing)
Devon Supporting People
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Apologies:

Marion Playle
Sherrie Hitchens
Trudy Robinson
Diane Simpson

West Devon Borough Council
Devon Mental Health Partnership Board
North Devon District Council
Young Devon

Agenda items covered	Agreements & Action points
<p>1. Apologies. Apologies were read out.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes from last meeting. The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record with the exception of agenda number 6: Report HSSP/117/08: Finance. This was discussed as a matter arising.</p>	
<p>3. Matters arising. Liz Steele requested an amendment to the minutes regarding agenda item Report HSSP/117/08: Finance. She felt that the minutes did not truly reflect the proceedings from the December meeting.</p> <p>Max Sillars apologised for this, and put forward the suggestion that for the future, if consensus was not reached at the HSSP, the position of each HSSP organisation would be passed on to JCB, to help them manage any vote subsequently held.</p>	<p>Action: December 2nd HSSP minutes to be amended to state that the majority supported 'option one', but that because the HSSP is not a voting partnership, clarity over how non-unanimous recommendations are made to JCB is required for the future.</p> <p>Agreed: Future unresolved recommendations to have named organisations individually minuted as a true record of consultation.</p>
<p>4. Presentation: Key Elements of Devon's Housing Support Strategy 2009 HSSP viewed suggested key elements of housing related support work for 2009. Supporting People Team posed the question that given 'Supporting People' is now quite well integrated into each of Devon's care group strategies, is there still a role for a single overarching housing support strategy for Devon? Research appeared to show quite mixed responses to this question from other Supporting People Teams elsewhere in the Country.</p> <p>Simon Perkins reminded the HSSP about the themes that are emerging through the LAA, these had potential to be viewed as the strategy Devon Supporting People is working to.</p> <p>Gill Unstead said that the merger of the Homelessness Steering Group and Social Inclusion Theme Group will pick up a lot of cross cutting work themes and cover a wider agenda, linking in with other sectors like Mental Health.</p> <p>Richard Crompton suggested a summarised strategy from Supporting People to clarify exactly what the programme does, and how the programme fits into care group strategies; statements about what it is SP intend to action and how they are going to implement it.</p>	<p>Action: Presentation to go out with minutes</p> <p>Agreement: Supporting People Team will attempt draft of a 2 - 4 page summary around strategic links of Devon's housing support. The summary will open for suggestions and contributions, and will be discussed at the next meeting of 26th May 2009.</p> <p>Action: SP to distribute an example from another authority as a possible template for Devon. HSSP members to submit thoughts and suggestions directly to the SP team to collate.</p>

<p>5. Report HSSP/119/09: Finance</p> <p>The report began with a progress report against each of the programme's five finance strategy principles.</p> <p>Kevin Oke pointed out that as a result of the 'ring-fence' being removed from the programme grant from 2009/10, it would be unwise to make plans that 'assumed' any future unspent programme grant funds will be allowed to be carried forward from one financial year to the next. To help him develop budgets that avoided 'carry over', He invited ideas to help him re-design the short and longer term finance projection reports.</p> <p>HSSP discussed the question of how to report activities that were not attributable to individual service user locations e.g. G.P & residential care home postcodes. It was noted that there was a parallel with reporting anomalies in domestic violence service activities, and the two organisations could work together in finding a solution.</p> <p>Kevin Oke gave a summary of the current 2008-09 financial position. The updated forecast underspend, as at 31 Jan 2009 stood at £576k. This represents 2.8% of the total programme grant funding available; CLG have granted permission for this to be rolled forward. £500k has been earmarked to fund an inflationary uplift for 2009/10; The remaining underspend is primarily as a result of slippage in funding drawdowns (see app 5) specifically the under spend associated with the P&D Brokerage pilot.</p> <p>SP were still awaiting a decision from the County Council regarding inflationary increase for 2009/10</p>	<p>Agreed Recommendation 3.1: Reporting against financial principles agreed.</p> <p>Action: HSSP representatives to e-mail Kevin Oke with any further suggestions for more detailed financial monitoring.</p> <p>Agreed Recommendation 3.2: HSSP to consider how provision monitoring, which is not connected to individuals, could be reported on in the future.</p> <p>Agreed Recommendation 3.3: SP to Continue working on implementing financial principles.</p> <p>Action: SP to liaise with Domestic Violence group.</p> <p>Action: SP to inform all Providers and HSSP representatives once a decision is known.</p>
<p>6. Report HSSP/120/09: Performance Assessments</p> <p>The HSSP were asked to support the arrangements for managing non-guaranteed elements of contracts</p> <p>Richard Crompton was in support of the proposal and agreed that high level service analysis would consider priority needs; but he expressed concern regarding the opportunity for Providers to develop new investment and the validation of outcomes data. He suggested that universal benchmarking, particularly for NI 141 and 142 would be one way forward; and wider consultation with local authorities.</p>	<p>Agreed Recommendation 4.1: The HSSP supported the overall process for managing the non-guaranteed elements of the programme spend.</p> <p>Agreed Recommendation 4.2: The HSSP agreed the proposed reference group to oversee the implementation and development of the performance assessment framework but emphasised that there be strong Provider representation.</p>
<p>7. Report HSSP/121/09: Joint Contracts</p> <p>The report noted the national steer for integrated contracts as best practice. Integrated contracts could be considered when a client has both a care and support need and can also join up provision, create greater efficiencies and flexibilities and focus resource where it is needed most.</p> <p>HSSP members were invited to help identify provisions</p>	<p>Agreed Points 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3: The</p>

<p>better suited to integrated contracts through their relevant steering group, or directly to the SP team.</p>	<p>HSSP agreed the implementation plan for joint contracts.</p>
<p>8. Report HSSP/122/09: HIA Review</p> <p>The product of the review was a number of work packages to be developed by named leads and contributors. Clare Miller stressed that streamlining some of the processes appeared critical to moving this service forward.</p> <p>Liz Steele, having been involved in the review process, commented that it is difficult to criticise the provider for performance as there are flaws in the system of monitoring information.</p> <p>Catherine Simmons expressed concern, on behalf of Dick Scott, that local significance is at risk of being lost and a one size fits all approach may not be appropriate.</p> <p>Kerry Plumb expressed concern, on behalf of Ron Mayers, regarding the perceived lack of performance data. The access to the performance data monitored by the Service Review and Development Board (SMDB) was discussed, and it was clarified that this information is published on the SP website: http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/socialcare/sc-partnerships/servicedevelopment/hia.htm</p> <p>SP intends to have the work packages finalised by April and subsequently host a half day event in September to report on the progress of them. Timescales need to be attributed to the work packages, and the individual leads and contributors finalised; subsequently work can commence.</p>	<p>Agreed Points 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3: The HSSP agreed on the work package approach and felt that they captured all issues. Setting timescales for the work packages will be a priority.</p> <p>Action: SP will present an update of progress at the September meeting.</p>
<p>Information Items</p>	<p>Action points</p>
<p>9. Report HSSP/123/09: Report from Devon Sheltered Housing Providers</p> <p>Theresa Farris thanked the HSSP for bringing this report to the table and noted the main points.</p> <p>She drew attention to the aspects that are cause for concern for providers and service users. She stressed that is important to retain the preventative aspect of sheltered housing and highlighted the risk of isolation for some older people. A particular concern is the capacity for and affordability of floating support. Another question was the link with hard wired alarms and telecare services.</p> <p>Max Sillars informed the HSSP that an alarm and telecare sub group of the Sheltered Housing Provider Forum has been established to map current commissioning and service provision.</p>	

<p>She continued by stating that the JCB need to be informed about the legal challenges that have arisen from the older persons housing review, especially as they are somewhat politically charged.</p> <p>Catherine Simmons said that Mid Devon welcomes this as there are many sheltered housing units that are either hard to let or have tenants who are paying for the service that they do not require, etc. She envisaged that a better system will be in place post strategic implementation.</p> <p>Simon Perkins expressed concern for the number of elderly people released from prison who are in need of support on exit. This is a sub group of the sector that needs to be acknowledged and catered for by linking in with appropriate partnerships.</p>	<p>Action: SP to update the JCB on the legal challenges</p> <p>Action: HSSP District representatives to brief their JCB members on the assessment and mapping functions of the locality group.</p> <p>Action: SP to submit a report to the JCB that explains the function of the locality groups more clearly and the report submitted by the Sheltered Housing Provider Forum to be added as an appendix.</p>
<p>10. Presentation: Older Persons Housing & Support Review Update</p> <p>Nicola Fordsyke gave a brief presentation of the progress that the Teignbridge locality group had made. They began by physically mapping where services are and in relation to local amenities.</p> <p>Max Sillars thanked Teignbridge for sharing this information. Liz Steele commented on the benefits of being able to get the whole local picture of provision. Clare Miller asked if private provision had been mapped. Nicola Fordsyke said that they had not but the data was available.</p>	<p>Action: Presentation to be e-mailed out with these minutes.</p>
<p>11. Handout: Mobile Response Service Evaluation</p> <p>Max Sillars informed the HSSP that the intention is to tender the service alongside the ACS Rapid Response Service.</p> <p>SP propose to host a half day information and evaluation event later this year.</p>	
<p>12. A.o.B.</p> <p>Gill Unstead wished to raise concern fed back from the Homelessness Steering Group regarding LPSA2 award investment for youth homelessness.</p>	<p>Action: Ian Stewart-Watson to get clarification and report back to the HSG.</p>
<p>Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 26th May, 10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. Yaroslavl Room, Civic Centre, Exeter City Council.</p> <p>Gill Unstead volunteered to chair the next meeting.</p>	<p>Action: Future chairing of HSSP meetings to be added to the agenda of the next meeting.</p>