**NORTH YORKSHIRE PARTNERSHIP**  
North Yorkshire Disability Forum  
11 December 2015

York CVS, Priory Street, YO1 6ET

**Disability Forum meeting: 11am – 3.30pm**

**Confirmed minutes**

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<th>Present</th>
<th>RipPSI and H/C Disability Forum</th>
<th>NYCC Health and Adult Services</th>
<th>Harrogate &amp; Craven Disability Forum</th>
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<td>Andrew Newton (Chair)</td>
<td>NYCC Health and Adult Services</td>
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<td>Shanna Carrell (notes)</td>
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<td>Brenda Haw</td>
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<td>Bill Busfield</td>
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<td>Tracey Pickering</td>
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<td>Sue Carty</td>
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BSL interpreter
1. **Introductions and Welcome**  
Andrew thanked everyone for attending the North Yorkshire Disability Forum, and informed the meeting that NYCC had agreed funding for the forums for 2016/17. As the intention is to develop more local forums, the funding will have to go further and therefore the plan is that allocations will be on the basis of covering running costs, with potential for a small ‘project’ pot.

Welcome to Nichola Brown, Roy Emmerson, Sue Carty and Lisa Farier. Welcome also to Richard Webb, Director of Health and Adult Services NYCC, who joined the meeting at 12.15.

2. **Apologies:** as listed on page 1

   Declarations of interest: none.

3. **Notes of last meeting, 4 September 2015 (attachment 1):**

   The minutes were approved as accurate.

4. **Matters arising from last meeting**

    a) Brenda shared the news that the Northern Rail franchise had been won by Arriva. We hoped that there would be positive changes, including up-to-date trains and more carriages.

    b) Meeting with Business and Environmental Services, NYCC, re dropped kerbs policy: Shanna is hoping that this will take place in January/February. Forum representatives: Andrew, Phil, Pablo.

5. **Local Disability Forum reports – highlights** (please see attachment 2 to the agenda for June 2015 for the full reports)

   **Hambleton and Richmondshire Disability Forum**

   HRDF has been successful in its grant application to fund expenses for the work with Richmondshire District Council to carry out adapted
housing assessments on behalf of the council, so it is planned to begin this in the new year.

The North Yorkshire Disability Forum discussed the audit and agreed to invite a representative from the Strategic Housing Board to see if the approach could be replicated in other areas. Shanna

Harrogate and Craven Disability Forum

At our last meeting, we welcomed Danielle Mulholland from Harrogate Borough Council Leisure Services, Karen Minteh from Disability Action Yorkshire, Marion Tweed-Jackson and Liz Meade, both from the NYCC Stronger Communities team.

We discussed closer working with the Harrogate and District Access Group, supported by Harrogate Borough Council. We would like to talk to the group about contributing to their access work, and to see if members would like to join our forum. Danielle has links with HADAG so will talk to her colleagues about closer working. This is really helpful as we’ve been trying to make contact with HADAG for a while. We think that members of the self-advocacy group in Harrogate would also be interested in working together on access issues.

We also talked about how to develop a stronger voice for disabled people in Craven, as the group recognises that it focuses more on Harrogate. Marion has some ideas and she will work with Peter to develop a plan. She is aiming to set up a small working group in the New Year.

RipPSI

RipPSI have now sourced a trainer and will be running customer awareness training for local business in March 2016. They are working in partnership with Ripon City Community Partnership.

The group appreciated a meeting with Tim Simpson from Highways to discuss a number of issues that had been identified. He has since
visited all the sites and has reported what action has been taken where possible and stated where no action is possible because of the cost.

**Selby District Disability Forum**

The street mapping for Selby town centre has been completed and was being written up. The Forum plan to produce the information in the form of a presentation and invite relevant agencies to discuss the issues identified and the priorities for improvement, where funding allows.

The group will be recruiting a part-time ‘enabler’ to help them progress their plans for developing the forum.

**Yorkshire Coast Disability Forum**

At their last meeting, the forum heard a report from two members about the event they had attended about the autism strategy. Tracy Dearing from RNIB attended and she is a really good contact as she is very committed to improving access and has links with people with visual impairment in the Ryedale area who may want to join the Forum. It was agreed to invite Tracy to a county Forum. **Shanna**

Plans to become a constituted group are progressing with support from Karen Atkinson, Stronger Communities.

There will be a demonstration of adapted cycling at the next forum meeting.

**6. North Yorkshire Centre for Independent Living**

Julie Knight, the CEO of NYCIL, explained the role of NYCIL and the services that it offered. NYCIL is a user-led organisation; it is county-wide and offers support for people taking up a direct payment from Adult Social Care as well as advice and support on issues affecting disabled people. Pablo is a volunteer for NYCIL.
They have a peer support network but would like to have more groups. Currently peer support is most often on a 1-2-1 basis, by telephone.

They have an excellent website and Julie invited the County and local forums to add its information to the website.

NYCIL has joined a steering group with other CILs in the region for support and development.

Andrew confirmed the importance of developing people’s confidence and availability of peer support to encourage people to take up direct payments.

Roy and Nichola said that they would welcome some help to develop the Scaling Dam sailing group. Stronger Communities might be a useful link too.

7. **Richard Webb and Sue Carty**

Richard and Sue explained their roles to the Forum. Richard then spoke briefly about the County Council’s ‘2020’ programme to modernise services and work with communities in a different way, to adapt to the challenging financial situation. **Shanna** will circulate the 2020 programme to the Forum.

Richard expressed appreciation of the work of the Forum, and posed the question ‘how can we apply the progress of disabled people in fighting for independent living to other groups of people’?

He explained that he and other HAS colleagues are working with health colleagues to support the culture shift to seeing people as individuals rather than as a diagnosis. He said that HAS is becoming more visible in localities and with Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs). Integration is wider than Health and Social Care; it is also about other functions of the County Council and other agencies such as housing.

Sue gave an outline of the Commissioning function in HAS and explained that there were four locality heads of commissioning, of
whom she is one, all of whom have county-wide portfolios as well as a local commissioning role. **Shanna** will circulate contact details for the team.

The county-wide portfolio role for the locality heads of commissioning includes strategy development; for example, a new strategy for learning disability. Commissioners also develop relationships with providers of services, and with forums such as this one, and will be developing local commissioning plans.

Richard and Sue then invited the Forum members to ask questions. A discussion on experiences of adult social care support then took place, including the following points:

- the impact of financial contributions to adult social care support
- the lack of access to physiotherapy and hydrotherapy (NHS) and that this was preventative but not seen as such
- issues around help leaving hospital and that it was seen as being too short-term in some areas
- Importance of prevention
- Social care and health integration.

Richard suggested that the Forum invite HAS colleagues to future meetings to discuss the charging policy and the Living Well service, and also suggested that the County Council’s communications unit could support the forums with their publicity work.

Richard said that he would be happy to come back to the Forum for a longer discussion.

8. **Access audit workshop**

In the afternoon session, the Forum members took part in a workshop to look at the local forums’ access role, facilitated by Kellie Woodley from Inclusion North.

The notes of the workshop are attached as appendix 1 to these minutes.
The discussion on access audits was very valuable but due to time constraints, we did not get through the full programme for the workshop. Kellie will be invited to the next county Forum to follow up the discussion and facilitate some action-planning.

Dates of next meetings

11th March 2016

All at York CVS, Priory Street, York.