

Lancashire Forum of UKHCA Members

NOTES FROM THE MEETING HELD AT PRIORY RESTAURANT, SCORTON TUESDAY 8 APRIL 2008

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Present: | Carol Smith (Priory Homecare) | Apologies: | Ian Newby |
| | Maureen Hartley (Prime Care) | | Bill Evans |
| | Dawn Wood (Guardian Homecare) | | Julie Evans |
| | Sandra MacRaild (Guardian Homecare) | | Martin Mchugh |
| | Kris Peach (Ravenscroft/Claimar) | | Julie Defty |
| | Tracy Bean (C.U.C. Services) | | Hazelwood Homecare |
| | Jan Jacob (Watch Home Care) | | W E Pickering |

Notes Of Last Meeting

These could not be approved as no one from that meeting was present. However, it was explained that the notes of the meetings are always published on the UKHCA link on the LWDP website, but these are often published late as they can only be published once approved. To get a copy of the minutes quickly, you need to be a paid up member of the Forum – membership fee £20.00 per year. It has been agreed that members who join half way through the year only need to pay £10.00. Application Forms have been distributed to new attendees.

Matters Arising

These were deferred to the agendered items.

Secretary's Report

It was noted that it was good to have a lot of new faces and companies represented at the meeting and Carol gave a brief history of the Forum and also explained the aims of the Forum which is to gather information from as many domiciliary social care providers as possible, to give a true representation of the industry to our elected UKHCA/Working Group members.

Skills For Care

We are still looking for a representative to replace Julie Evans who has been the UKHCA representative on the Skills For Care board for some time and would like to pass this on to someone else as she has now been elected to be one of our two Working Group representatives. Jan Jacob from Watch Home Care has agreed to take up this position. This arrangement will be verified as soon as Skills For Care has accepted her application.

Report From Working Group Members

Carol explained that in the absence of our Working Group representatives she would be giving the feedback from the last Social Care Partnership meeting via email that she has received.

- The Laing & Buisson fair price issue is still being pursued and it is likely that a small number of agencies will be asked to resubmit some data. However, nothing is confirmed as yet.
- April sees the start of the funding year for LWDP so all companies are encouraged to use this facility for their training needs.
- LCC's plans for web based commissioning are to be extended. The web will be a brokerage system for PCT and individual budgets service users.
- VAT – Andrew Wilson from the UKHCA, together with Ian Newby (our 2nd Working Group rep) are looking at the matter of VAT registration.
- The next Social Care Partnership meeting is on 30 April 2008. This will be discussed at our next meeting.

The Way Forward

Following the meeting on Outcome Based Commissioning and Individual Budgets held at the Jupiter Suite, Accrington 18 March 2008, an open discussion was held. Overall, only one point needs to be visited at this stage – if PCT commissioning is sought from domiciliary providers via the web or independently for high dependence service users on continuing care, a favourable price should be agreed the extra costs in providing such care. It is important that this extra cost is costed out before PCT make a general assumption that we will provide the care at the same rate as Social Services pay for social care as opposed to nursing care.

Generally, the feeling around the table regarding these proposed changes was positive with the only concerns being about the retraining of social workers and service users without representatives handling their own individual budgets.

Independent Safeguarding Adults Authority

Jan from Watch Home Care informed us that in October 2009 we will see the 'go live' of this authority which is the new database replacing POVA and POCA lists. More news of this nearer the time. In the meantime you can visit a Q&A section on the CRB website (www.crb.gov.uk) .

Meeting Closed

Next meeting Tuesday 10 June 2008.