


TITLE OF MEETING	Life Stages Carers' Network	
Date	8th December 2014	
Present	Lisa Holdsworth - Service Development Officer (Chair); George Cree – Carer; Margaret Cree – Carer; Elaine Abbott – Carer; Catherine Bowman– Carer; Anne Wood – Carer (part); Julie Hopkinson - Team Manager 26+	
Apologies	Mary Brookbanks - Carer; Karen Reed – TEWV; Ian Walker – Team Manager 0-25	

Item No.	Item Heading	Comments	Actions	Lead	Timescale
1.	Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising	<p>JH will invite Karen Reed and Ian Walker to attend the next meeting.</p> <p>Access to podiatry remains an issue and can be raised with Karen Reed</p> <p><u>Care management issues</u> - MB had raised that her daughter's review was overdue. JH advised that the staff member had been off sick but had now returned to work.</p> <p><u>Staffing</u> – the team is advertising externally for 1 permanent full time member of staff and a 12 month contract. Issues were raised re an agency social worker – JH to follow up.</p> <p><u>Delays in Direct Payments returns</u> – LH has followed up with Paul Banham and there is currently a backlog. PB has requested that LH provide names of people currently waiting for returns to be completed. A number of queries were also raised – LH to follow up.</p> <p><u>Health checks</u> – JH brought a copy of the health check booklet. Group members continued to express concern about the low uptake of health checks and queried why these weren't</p>	<p>JH to ask for the review to be progressed.</p>	<p>JH</p> <p>JH</p> <p>JH</p> <p>LH</p>	

		<p>happening. JH advised that there was a question in the review document regarding health checks/completion of the hospital passport. JH suggested that completion of health checks should be discussed with Karen Reed.</p> <p><u>Seated Scales</u> – there is a set of seated scales at Lakeside. JH to check when these can be accessed and also if there are other seated scales available in Darlington, other than at the hospital eg at Gateway/Dr Piper House.</p>		JH	
2.	Carers Questionnaire	<p>LH shared responses to the completed questionnaires (13).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was queried who had decided on the questions (response – they are based on the questions in the Learning Disability SAF). • It was observed that you cannot tell how people are treated when you are not there. • It was also queried what was meant by ‘commissioning’ and at what stage in the process? Eg is it in relation to identifying providers who will be available to commission individual care packages from, or is it in relation to arranging individual care packages? • It was noted that carers had previously been involved in staff interviews, in the building of South Park and in the development of the Newton Lane respite service. There has been no similar involvement recently. • It was queried what providers there were? JH advised that there is a directory of services. • Discussion took place about ways in which more people could have been encouraged to complete the questionnaire. It was felt that social workers taking it with them on planned visits might have been an option. It was also suggested that if people had been more aware of its importance and what would happen to the information provided that this might have helped. 	JH to provide a list	JH	

3.	Preparation for DLIN	See comments above re health checks and carers questionnaire.			
4.	Review of Terms of Reference	To discuss at the next meeting, particularly in relation to the 0-25 age range.			
5.	Autism	There was an autism event on the 3 rd December.			
6.	Issues raised by carers	See matters arising above.			
7.	Any other business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GC provided information about Personal Health Budgets. • LH provided information about the Care Act. 			
8.	Date of next meeting	Monday 2nd February 2015 – 11.15 – 12.45, Meeting Room, Dolphin Centre, followed by the DLIN from 1.00-3.00, Studio, Dolphin Centre.			