



Kent Learning Disability Partnership Board Minutes

Date: Thursday 19 September 2024

Location: This meeting was held virtually via Zoom

Who was there?

Attendees:

Alyson Wagget - KCC, Assistant Director, Social Care and Health (East)
Thanet and South Kent Coast

Toni Easdown – KCC, Stakeholder Engagement Officer

Tracey Burn — KCC, Social Care Involvement Officer

Continued . . .

Who was there? (Continued)

Attendees:

Aly - Self Advocate, Without Exceptions

Chelsea Roberts - KCC, Engagement Officer

Cheryll Champion – LDC Care Co, Quality and Compliance Manager

Chris Evans – Parent Carer

Jade-Amora Omoleigho – KCC, Social Care Involvement Officer

Kirstyn Roberts - Development Director, Without Exceptions

Kristina Powney - KCC, Senior Practitioner

Laura Taylor- KCC, Environment Team

Linda Chapman – Parent Carer

Marie Hackshall – System Programme Lead – Learning Disability and Autism

Michelle Gardener - Adult Social Care People's Panel member

Mollie Mattingly - Bemix, Project Lead, Leadership Development

Patricia Moon - Self Advocate, Without Exceptions

Penny Cole - KCC, Deputy Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

Peter Zein - Adult Social Care People's Panel member

Robyn Swirles – KCC, Administration Officer

Steve Chapman – Self Advocate, Bemix

Taylor Anderson - Challenging Behaviour Foundation, Project Worker

Theresa Watson - KCC, Social Care Involvement Officer

Trevor Chapman – Parent Carer

Apologies:

Daniel Hewitt - Joint Co-Chair of the Kent LD Partnership Board

Welcome

Welcome and update from Alyson Wagget, Assistant Director, Social Care & Health, (East) Thanet and South Kent Coast

Alyson welcomed everyone to the meeting, and went through the housekeeping rules.

Daniel wasn't able to join the meeting and has sent his apologies.



Alyson invited other people in the meeting to introduce themselves.



What is important for you to talk about at future meetings?

Alyson said a lot of our agenda items are what Adult Social Care want to talk about, or are about changes that are happening.

We want to know what you would like to talk about at future meetings, as this is everyone's Board.



These are the things that people said they would like to talk about at future meetings:

- Shaping contracts across Health and Social Care and co-producing these.

An example is the planned redesign of the care provision contract.



Update from Alyson Wagget (continued)

These are the things that people said they would like to talk about at future meetings:

- When there are consultations about changes, can the board get involved before things go out, not just responding.
- Have a lived experience representative at consultations.



An example is changes to care charges.

- Advice and support to people with learning disabilities and autistic people, about how to manage their money, and how to cope with less money.



An example is charging for care and disability payments and benefits being taken into account, and how this affects people and their families.

- Housing needs and planning for the future.

An example is people with support needs being in housing that is appropriate for them.



- Support for older family carers.



Update from Alyson Wagget (continued)

These are the things that people said they would like to talk about at future meetings:

- Employment and careers advice for people with learning disabilities and autistic people as they leave school settings.

An example is helping people to go from 6th form, to college and then into employment.



- Make sure people can get involved and they know the value they have added to things and the difference they can make.

An example is 'You Said, We Did' update at Board meetings.



- Bring more people with different lived experience into the Board.

An example is to have younger people and people from different ethnic groups at the meetings.



- Run training sessions for people on what it feels and looks like joining an on-line meeting, and how the meetings works.

An example is having videos of people with lived experience already on the Board talking about being on the Board.



Update from Alyson Wagget (continued)

These are the things that people said they would like to talk about at future meetings:

- Make sure we hear from people even if they don't want to join the Board

An example is roadshows across Kent to hear from people with different ideas.



- Have pre-meetings for people with learning disabilities and autistic people before the Board meeting so they know what to expect and what is going to be covered.



Care Quality Commission (CQC) on site assessment visit

Alyson updated the Board about the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on site assessment visit on 30 September, and how the Board might get involved.

CQC are inspecting local authorities to make sure they are doing what they should be doing.



CQC is coming to Kent to look at how we are assessing people, how people are being supported, what is available to support people in the community, and leadership.

They want to speak to people receiving care and support, Adult Social Care staff, and Senior people in the Council.



They might contact members of this Board for your comments

Actions from the last meeting (18 April 2024)

Linda and Trevor Chapman to update the Kent Adult Strategy Carers Group about carers re-assessments, and that these don't regularly happen.



UPDATE: Linda and Trevor did go to the Kent Adult Carers Strategy group meeting and raised the point about carers re-assessments. However, they didn't get enough notice about the next meeting and they didn't get the meeting paperwork in advance.

ACTION: Alyson will feed back to the co-chairs of that group that it has been challenging to engage because of the lack of notice of the meetings and having meeting paperwork in advance.

Information about the Learning Disability and Autism Neurodiversity Programme workstreams, including a timeline and overview of the meetings to be shared with the Board, so that Board members can see if they would like to join any of them.



UPDATE: Marie Hackshall will be providing an update on the workstreams at the meeting today.

Redesign of the Partnership Board website.

UPDATE: an update was sent to the Board on behalf of Paul Jerome.



The current Local Account to be shared with Board members.

The new Kent Local Account is being designed at the moment and the Board can get involved.

ACTION: The link to the current Local Account will be shared with the Board.



Partnership Board co-chair update

Toni thanked everyone for helping to promote the paid lived experience co-chair role.

Toni also thanked the co-production group (who were members from the Board) for co-producing the recruitment process and paperwork.



We have had some applications for the co-chair role, and we are currently setting up the interviews.

We will bring an update back to the Board as that moves forward.



The people on the interview panel will be Alyson Wagget, Marie Hackshall and a person with lived experience.



The person with lived experience will be someone who is not currently connected to the Board, and who doesn't know the people who have applied.

Race Riots and the impact on people

Cheryll Champion led a discuss with the board about this.

Cheryll said that people they supported and staff had been really impacted by the race riots.

Staff were worried about travelling to work.

People felt protective towards and were worried about the staff who support them.



There was a lack of tolerance towards people with learning disabilities.

Race Riots and the impact on people (continued)

Some people cancelled their appointments as they felt scared.



They didn't want to travel with a staff member who was of a different race.

Some of the rioters were making comments about the LGBTQ+ community.



It made people scared to go out, or they wanted to challenge the protesters.

Cheryll said they have put some things in place to support people if this happened again.

They are using their links to the local police so they can be aware of anything like this happening again.



This is to keep the people they support and their staff safe.

They also spoke to people about using what3words.



What3words is a free app, that gives you three words to describe your exact location.

You can use the three words to tell other people where you are in an emergency situation.

More information about 'what3 words' can be found here: [About us | what3words](#)



Cheryll said staff were reminded about self-defence classes.

Race Riots and the impact on people (continued)

Michelle Gardener said when the police have notice about potential riots, do organisations work together to give people information on how to stay safe, and the things that can support them.



Cheryll said they developed their own information, so it is important to plan now in case this happened again.



It would be great if something could be done Kent wide, and the board could be pro-active.

Alyson said communication did go out, but it could be improved.

This is something that could be discussed at the Kent and Medway Adult Safeguarding Board.

We could co-produce something with this group to ensure people with learning disabilities are supported.



Alyson said we could ask someone from the Adults Safeguarding Board to come along to a future meeting.

Alyson suggested having a small group to look at this.

Cheryll Champion said she would get a small group of people they support together so their voices can be heard.



Michelle Gardener and Peter Zein to be included in the small group.

Race Riots and the impact on people (continued)

Jade told the group about 'My Community Voice Kent'.



My Community Voice Kent can tell you about what is happening in your area.

It is a secure and personal messaging system you can use to be updated by Kent Police about the issues that matter to you.

Alyson said the link to 'My Community Voice Kent' should be shared with the Board, and also wider with Kent Care Providers and Adult Social Care staff.

More information about 'My Community Voice Kent' can be found here: [Home Page - My Community Voice Kent](#)

Robyn said one of her friends with a learning disability was confused about the riots, and he was unsure about whether he should take part.



Alyson said this should be considered when we talk to people about making choices, so they understand what they are engaging in and the consequences.

ACTION: Cheryll to set up a small group to discuss what can be taken to the Kent and Medway Adult Safeguarding Board.

ACTION: Toni to share contact details for Peter Zein and Michelle Gardener with Cheryll.

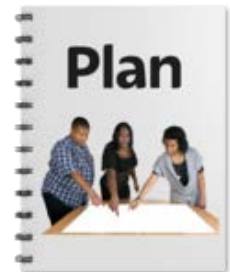
ACTION: Alyson to link Cheryll with the Kent and Medway Adult Safeguarding Board.

ACTION: The Kent and Medway Adults Safeguarding Board to be added to the list of future meeting agenda items.

ACTION: Link to 'My Community Voice Kent' to be shared with Kent Care Providers and Adult Social Care staff.

Kent and Medway Learning Disability and Autism Strategy

Marie Hackshall updated the group on what had been happening to develop a Kent And Medway Learning Disability and Autism strategy.



Work on this started in 2023.

Marie talked through some slides. These were shared with the Board before the meeting.

The strategy is being developed with autistic people and people with learning disabilities.



This is so it includes the things that people say they would like to have.

The strategy will be about improving services for autistic people and people with learning disabilities.



We need to measure the impact for people, and this will be included in the strategy.

Q

In Health, they are experiencing huge problems around digital, is that going to be covered in this strategy?

A

It is important to think about reasonable adjustments and digital accessibility. This will be included.

Kent and Medway Learning Disability and Autism Strategy (continued)

Q Can you include some of the work the Board has done already around people being seen, been heard and being valued?

A This can be done as we start to look at the next steps about making people aware of the strategy.

Q This has been a good example of co-production and we need to make sure we use it to influence other things that are being done.

We need to make sure the strategy feeds into other things that are being worked on, and it goes to lots of different places and boards.

A The strategy will inform and drive things going forward. It is being endorsed and signed off across the health and care system, not just Kent County Council or Medway Council.

Q We have had strategies before, but once the strategy has been developed, we don't get feedback on what has gone well or what hasn't.

A We do need to tell people what has or hasn't worked. We haven't had a system wide learning disability and autism strategy before though, so this is new.

Toni suggested having a mid-point review of the strategy once it is in place.

Alyson said that the Partnership Board could check what is being done (you said, we did).

Programme for Neurodiversity workstreams update

Marie updated the Board about the workstreams, and the workplan that people have been working to.



These are the workstreams and what they do:

Co-production, and Communication

- Setting up meaningful ways for people to have their voices heard and work closely with staff in the NHS and councils to make more shared decisions.
- To make information about support in Kent and Medway clearer for everyone.



System Development

- Helping to make sure the NHS, councils and support organisations are working together in a joined-up way to help people's lives.
- The word 'System' means all the people working in health and social care in Kent and Medway.



Improving Health

- Helping more people to get the support they need to stay well and understand how to look after their own health.



Programme for Neurodiversity workstreams update

Housing and Accommodation

- The 'Homes not Hospitals' work is part of this workstream.

Having better options for people that go to hospital, making sure that they do not have to go too far from home and can come back home quickly.



- The group wants to understand what people will need across Kent in the future to make sure that organisations like the district and borough councils offer the right homes.

Improving Quality (making things better)

- Making sure that the 'Learning Disability Improvement Standard' is being followed which aims for better support in the future.

This includes making sure that Care, Education and Treatment reviews are done together with people, and that LeDeR reviews are done as soon as possible.



LeDeR reviews are about learning from the Lives and Deaths of people with Learning Disabilities and Autistic People.

Skilled Workforce

- Making sure that all NHS, council and other support staff fully understand the needs of people who have learning disabilities or are autistic and use their skills to support people.
- Having more paid jobs for people with learning disability and autistic people.



Programme for Neurodiversity— workstreams update

Autism and ADHD (Neurodiversity) Community Support

- Better support for autistic and neurodivergent people and shorter waiting times for support.
- Making it easier for people to be diagnosed and be able to have the same opportunities as people who are neurotypical.



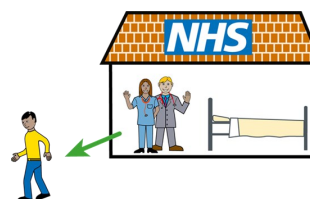
Children and Young People

- Making sure that 14–25-year-olds and children with a learning disability or who are autistic, have better support and access to keyworkers.
- Making young people's voices heard and a bigger part of the Learning Disability Partnership Board.



Admission Avoidance and Supporting Discharges

- Making sure we reduce the use of mental health inpatient hospitals for autistic adults and/or those with learning disabilities, and ensure people who have been in hospital the longest are discharged into the community.



Q

How many lived experience people are on each workstream?

A

There are one or two people with lived experience on each workstream, although we would like to involve more people.

Programme for Neurodiversity— workstreams update

The Board made the following comments;

- Linda said that when she joined the co-production and communication workstream, she was dropped in and she didn't know what had been worked on already.



As part of the workstream, she has been working with other people with lived experience in the group on how all people that join a workstream should be introduced and welcomed so they can take part.

- Trevor said it is good to get people to do introductions at meetings.



- Toni mentioned that a guide for Adult Social Care on co-production had been produced. This was co-created by people with lived experience.



- Aly asked if the Board meetings were too long, and how do we make this meeting more accessible and involve more people.



- Kirstyn said that we need to make sure that big words were not being used. People can't be involved if they don't understand what is being covered.



Social Care Involvement Groups

Jade updated the Board about the role of the Social Care Involvement Officers and what they have been doing.



There are six Social Care Involvement Officers who cover all of Kent.

They have their own area of focus and their own lived experience.

They have been actively engaging with communities and promoting some of the things that are happening.

They have been to over 70 events and met over 1,300 people so far.



They have also gone to the staff roadshows to hear from Adult Social Care staff as well.

Social Care Involvement Groups have been set up across Kent, to hear from people in smaller groups.

If you would like to join one of the Social Care Involvement Groups in your area, please email: makingadifference@kent.gov.uk

Any Other Business

Linda and Trevor asked if the Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training could be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Aly said also training generally.

Steve said he would be happy to be on agenda to cover this at next meeting

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 22 January 2025 - on Zoom



Videos and Presentations

A copy of the minutes from the Kent Learning Disability Partnership Board will be made available on the Partnership Board website.

[Kent Learning Disability Partnership Board | Connect to Support | Kent](#)

