

Main/Registered Office: Signposts, 58 Regent Road, Morecambe, LA3 1TE

Telephone : (01524) 419021

Fax : (01524) 411541

*Community
Legal Service*



E-mail: signpostsmarc@signposts.org.uk

Website: www.signposts.org.uk

**“Working to Empower the Community”
in Lancashire and Cumbria**

Pamela Beswick – Chief Executive



Help Point

Also:-

Preston Office: (01772) 759413 Carnforth Office: (01524) 732807

**Penrith 50+ Forum
Penrith Methodist Church
Thursday 29th January 2009**

Present

Notes from meeting

Cumbria LINK (Local Involvement Network)

Jane Macfarlane attended the meeting and informed the group about the LINK.

- LINK will be a network of local people, organizations and groups that want to make care services better
- LINK will give you the chance to say what you think and to suggest ideas to improve services
- LINK will represent everyone
- LINK will also work with professionals to make sure your views are heard
- LINK will encourage and support local people to get involved in how local care services are planned and run.
- LINK will look at all health and social care services in an area that are funded by taxpayers
- LINKs will feedback this information to the people responsible for commissioning, providing, managing and checking up on the health and social care services so that things can change for the better

Individuals and groups can register their interest in the LINK by:

1. General Involvement – to receive updates and information
2. Task and Complete Groups – join when topics are of specific interest to you
3. Visiting Teams – visit services to find out what people think about the quality of health and social care services.

Charity Registration Number: 1117645
Member of AdviceUK (previously FIAC)

Company Limited by Guarantee: 5990592
Registered in England and Wales



North Lancashire
Teaching Primary Care Trust



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Additional major funding from Preston City Council, the FC Scott Charitable Trust and Tudor Trust

A general discussion took place where various issues were raised relating to Health and Social Care Services:

Learning disabilities and challenging behaviour – lack of appropriate services.

Mental Health Services - Communication between services is not always there. It was also raised that confidentiality issues, whilst very important, can cause problems for friends and family when they are trying to offer support.

In the Eden area there has been a reduction in the number of incontinence pads that are available to service users. LINK are looking at this issue and will be sending out questionnaires to carers groups and Age Concern to ascertain the impact of this on service users. The group felt that it would have a big impact on people's social isolation, self esteem and health. Praise was given for the Incontinence Nurse team who provide invaluable advice and support to service users.

If you want more information about this or would like to contribute or join the LINK contact Jane Macfarlane on: 01228 512513

Any other business

Moira Gaine has been employed by Age Concern as the McMillan Community Solutions Officer. This is a post that will offer advice and support to older people effected by cancer. Fro more information Moira can be contacted on 01768 863618.

Actions:

1. Jane Macfarlane will take issues raised to the LINK.
2. Organisations to encourage service users to participate in the consultation on the impact of reduction in incontinence pads.

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 26th March Penrith Methodist Church 1pm – 3pm, with lunch provided.