

**South Lakeland Working Together Forum
Stonecross Manor Hotel, Kendal
Wednesday, 9 September 2009 : 12 noon – 2 pm**

Minutes

Present

Julian Legat – Chair
Sue Edwards
Sarah Roberts
George Tomlinson
James Jason Wood
Susan Jason Wood
Helen Worton
Jean Worton
Angela Smith
Jim Smith
Brenda Shepherd (Minutes)

Apologies

John Maguire
Tom Fraser

Julian welcomed everyone to the meeting. He reminded everyone that the intention was for this Forum to be independently chaired, with full support from Adult Social Care, to help develop services.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of 9th July 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

2. Matters Arising

- Apologies recorded for 9th July meeting from James and Susan Jason Wood, who were unavoidably away on other matters.
- Action Julian: to ascertain status of (i) Dementia Board Strategy; and (ii) Carers' Strategy.
- Julian noted two consultation exercises taking place:
 - i) DoH Green Paper re shape and future funding of social care - consultation on 17th September in Carlisle. No venue etc publicised – need to book via website to obtain details.
 - ii) Follow-up from 'Big Q' Debate. Kendal event on 5th October, 12.30 pm, Castle Street Community Centre, Kendal – looking at shape and charging re social care. Book via Age Concern South Lakeland.

3. Development of Other Forums

Sue working with Signposts to 'plug the gaps' in forum coverage:

- Met with Barrow/Furness Pensioners' Forum. Local issue re bus travel.
- Liaised Askam 'information and advice' drop-in centre – although not a forum, support being sought which Signposts may be able to offer.
- Will follow up possibility of developing a Forum in Ulverston (as previously mentioned).
- Julian had responded to requests re mapping of Cumbria Forums; and plans were continuing re development of forums in terms of 'Go North West' support.
Action Julian: Forward agenda item.

4. Older People's Project - South Lakes

No further report this stage. To follow. (See also Minute 10.1 below – last bullet point.)

4/5. Safeguarding Adults/Complaints Involvement

Julian reiterated that opportunities were available to become involved in any area of Linda Mason's Complaints and/or Safeguarding development work.

6. Better Government for Older People

No current activity to report.

7. In Control Total Update

Latest Newsletter tabled. System rolling out. Julian reiterated Government's intention for the public to be given more control over how they administer their care, whilst not precluding flexibility to continue care-managed services.
Queried whether any controls/monitoring checks

- An attendee referred to a Newsletter item noting Cumbria Mental Health group meeting on 15th September at South Lakeland House, Kendal – querying whether any Mental Health/Working Together representation; also requesting copy of presentation mentioned.
Action Julian: to check via David Le Mare.

8. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

Julian reiterated JSNA as another means of pulling together a coherent picture re age 55-plus public's wishes, looking 5, 10, 20 years ahead, and changing patterns of population, epidemiological changes etc. A summary report will be available within next two months.

9. Website Events Diary

Julian noted two websites for co-ordinating Forums, events and consultation activity, plus feeding in other events etc to avoid duplication, as follows:

- <http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/adultsocialcare/workingtogether>
- http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/events_calendar/default.asp

10. Any Other Business

- 10.1 Julian reported on a new national computer programme to streamline service assessments for self or cared-for who are confronted with number of duplicated processes, aiming to capture data and share appropriately across relevant organisations. A major piece of work, national funded, to be driven locally by district

councils; with South Lakeland as pilot, rolling out countywide etc if successful. Initially, the pilot would cover two lower-level services: 'Blue Badge' Scheme and Meals on Wheels.

Action All: Views and comments needed re how the changes work, to feedback.

- Arising out of above, an attendee noted that Meals on Wheels' take-up had dramatically reduced over the last months, and remained low – suggesting the reason being significant increase in charges (to £2.75 each). Concerns were expressed that vital 'hidden' benefits of this service were being lost, ie, pick-up on health issues, nutrition (if SUs not eating as a result), social interaction etc, especially in rural communities.

Queried whether any mechanism in place for exploring this issue with a view to safeguarding older people's interests.

Action Sue: to check information via 'village agencies' and forward, plus to ASC.

- Another attendee queried the next stages in the above data collection: ie, whether actively screened for potential referral to other services; plus how the data is otherwise used.

Action Julian: to invite OP programme's director/representative to next 'Working Together' meeting, to outline the proposals respond to any queries.

Web site/Events Diary:

10.2 Age Concern South Lakeland holding 4 meetings in South Lakes as part of a consultation process about their services:

September 14 th	1 – 3	Coronation Hall, Ulverston
16 th	10 - 12	Marchesi Centre, Windermere
16 th	2 – 4	Castle Street Centre, Kendal
17 th	2 – 4	Parish Hall, Grange

All welcome – tea/coffee and biscuits.

11. Chair Vacancy - South Lakeland Working Together Forum

Julian reminded the meeting that the Forum was still seeking a chairperson/joint chairpersons, who would continue to have full admin support from Adult Social Care.

12. Next Meeting

Wednesday, 11th November, 12 noon – 2 pm, Stonecross Manor Hotel, Kendal.
Topics invited for the agenda.