

Meeting Minutes



Meeting Title: East Surrey Valuing People

Date: 12th of October



Time: 1pm – 3pm

Location: Zoom

Meeting Summary



Welcome and introductions

- Welcome and introductions were made
- Apologies from Leanne – who could not attend as she was hiking up Mount Snowdon for Active Prospects.

Introducing our new Engagement and Partnership Officer – Amanda – contact number: 07929863582



- Amanda introduced herself to the group as the new Engagement and Partnership Officer, replacing Imogen.
- Amanda spoke the group about her professional background, working with people with LD within some of the local providers. She then moved to education and was working in

supporting the special education sector.

- Amanda's contact details: email address:
Amanda.aldridge@surreycc.gov.uk

Advocacy – Mark Rapley



- Mark Rapley – introduced the topic of advocacy and the new contract in place for this, and the new provider POhWER.
- The presentation for this topic has been shared with the minutes. If you would like a copy of the presentation, please email us at:
ldcommunications@surreycc.gov.uk
- Mark's contact details can also be found on the presentation.
- To contact Mark please email him at:
Mark.Rapley@surreycc.gov.uk
- Please find the following link for Advocacy: [Surrey | Home | POhWER](#).

Questions, Answers and Comments for Mark:

- Yasmin had a comment/ feedback from her experience referring someone for advocacy.
- Yasmin mentioned that it was difficult to refer someone to the advocacy service.



- Due to the law, there are different ways that people can apply. E.g., Advocacy under the Care Act. This made it hard for Yasmin to refer someone.
- Yasmin also mentioned there was a delay in communication.
- Mark answered: that he can discuss this with Yasmin. He explained the reasons for the difficulties. Including the legal position of the previous provider. It was also noted there was no real definition of Discretionary advocacy until quite recently.
- Mark apologised to Yasmin and said Yasmin can get in touch with Mark.
- Sarah asked, what counts as a professional in terms of referrals?

Mark replied with dependent under what law it goes under, for example the Mental Health Act, Registered clinicians, Approved Mental Health Professionals, and designated professionals are defined as professionals but in any event people can self-refer.

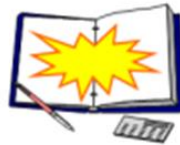
For Care Act, professionals are designated and are generally NHS designates or specific local authority staff.

- Yasmin also asked about people referring themselves – if this is possible. Yasmin also noted the

website is complicated for people to navigate when they refer themselves.

- Sarah emphasised accessibility
- Mark agreed – there are ongoing talks/ meetings with the providers to make the website more accessible.

ACTION



Action:

- Mark's details have been shared on the presentation.
- Mark to speak to Yasmin.
- Mark also to discuss accessibility with POhWER.
- Any queries with regards to advocacy can be emailed to:

Mark.Rapley@surreycc.gov.uk



Break



The group took a 15-minute break

Peak 15- Big Life – Glastonbury Experience



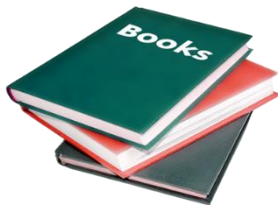
- Alexis Ali from Big life and Holly came along to talk about their experience going to volunteer at Glastonbury for WaterAid.



- They shared a presentation that will be circulated to the group.
- Alexis shared what Big Life do and what activities they run.
- Big Life Adventure is a goal planning software that is accessible to people, to map out their aspirations and life plans. As well as having a social media platform to communicate with others. The planning also breaks down their goals into smaller steps.
- Big Life Events – allows people to enjoy every-day activities like everyone else e.g., night clubbing and pub nights.
- Big Life Opportunities – allow people to take part in activities like Glastonbury festival.
- The members of Big Life, volunteered at Glastonbury for WaterAid as the “loo crew” - the members felt they were giving back by doing this work, they had 6-hour shifts per day. They also had fun at the festival!
- Holly spoke about her experience working and enjoying Glastonbury.
- To contact Alexis, please email her at: Alexis.Ali@biglifeadventure.co.uk



Books Beyond Words:



- Lucy from Books Beyond words came to present.
- Her presentation will be circulated.
- Lucy talked about Beyond Words Book club, and where they are being hosted.
- Currently there are 6 book clubs.

- Lucy also thanked everyone for their ongoing support and involvement in the group.
- For further info or to contact Lucy you can email her at:
lalexander@booksbeyondwords.co.uk

Local Updates and Any Other Business:



- Samantha advised any information to be sent to the
ldcommunications@surreycc.gov.uk
email address.



- Please also check our Latest News [page](#)
- Also check our minutes from our Learning Disability Partnership Board [here](#).

Upcoming Meeting date:

- We will next be meeting on Wednesday 11th January 2023 from 1pm – 3pm

