

Disability Hub

30 November 2016

Actions and notes



Attendees

- Adam Batty, South Yorkshire Housing Association (SYHA)
- Aletheia Gentle, Sheffield Royal Society for the Blind (SRSB)
- Alex Wilson, Activity Sheffield
- Andrew Crooks, Disability Sheffield
- Andrew Glossop, Carer for Craig Williams
- Cllr Jack Scott, Sheffield City Council (SCC)
- Craig Williams, Transport 4 All
- Dan Green, SCC
- Darren Lee, Free Voice People's Parliament
- Dave Cooper, Community Transport - South Yorkshire
- David Crook, Sheffield Mencap & Gateway
- David Tochukwu Otuonye
- Eleanor Du Fresne
- Emily Morton, Disability Sheffield
- Enid Bensa, Sheffield 50+
- Faraz Choudhry, Heeley City Farm
- Grace-Maria Parry, Disability Sheffield
- Hardeep Pabla, HealthWatch Sheffield
- Harry Clarkson, SCC
- Ian Furness, DWP
- Ian Wright, SCC, Development Services
- Jake Green, Disability Sheffield
- Karen Aawdhali, Nomad
- Kemone Miller, Key Changes UWP
- Lizzie Simpkin, Sheffield Mencap & Gateway
- Martin Brighton, IndyVolCom
- Naomi Saxton, South Yorkshire Police (SYP)
- Rachel Sanchez, SCC, Equalities and Involvement
- Rebecca Brackett, Together Women
- Ruth Hawke, SYHA
- Sharon Brearley, Belong Day Centre
- Sheba Tabani-Shaikh, SCC, Children and Families Services MAST
- Steven Storey

Apologies

- Kath Housley, LGBT Sheffield
- Angela Sampson, SCC, Employment Services
- Debbie Rhebes
- Deborah Sunday, Disability Sheffield
- Ian Proffitt, SYP
- Louise Alford, Sheffield Hallam University
- Rich Allen, Leonard Cheshire Disability
- Suzanne Eusman, Autism Plus
- Wilma Smith, Royal Voluntary Service (RVS)

Actions

Canvass potential to set up a cross Hub event on transport and invite City Taxis and Licensing
Disability Hub (AC)

Welcome and Introductions (Item 1)

Feedback from previous meeting (Item 2)

No feedback.

Housing (Item 3)

- [Presentation about the Housing Equalities Group](#) from Dan Green, Housing Strategy and Policy Team, Sheffield City Council will be available to download from [meeting's webpage](#).
- 2,300 new houses planned over next 5 years built to Lifestyle homes standard.

- Very small supply of accessible housing, need to increase in new [Sheffield plan](#) including housing for independent living.
- Critical Friend to Sheffield Housing Company
- Feed housing issues from groups/organisations including any barriers in accessing suitable housing
- 5-6 Housing Equalities Group (HEG) meetings per year: Issues raised by HEG members and policy officers – in future would like to add issues raised by all Hubs. Jake Green attends on behalf of Disability Sheffield/Disability Hub.
- **Comment:** Val Bowen, Information Officer at Disability Sheffield, attended HEG meeting previous week to give presentation on service users' experiences of rehousing. Council Officers are looking into the issues highlighted and taking follow up action which will benefit all disabled people.
- HEG Review due to take place.
- Potential of Housing Sub Group for all Hubs?
- Homes and Neighbourhoods that are disability friendly.
- Sheffield has been awarded housing zone status
- Role of Council's Community support workers
- **Comment:** Sharon Brierley, Belong Day Centre Service Manager, gave example of her client waiting 5 months for an emergency review before ball can even start rolling to look for suitable housing.
- **Comment:** Accommodation centred on physical disability and access issues, other groups not getting same quality of housing and marginalised in unsuitable accommodation, e.g. ex-offenders.
- **Response:**
 - New centralised system for awarding priorities
 - Accommodation Plan for people with learning disabilities
 - University of Sheffield suite of design guidelines for independent living
 - Ex-offenders recognised as priority group in homelessness strategy (going to Cabinet in Jan 2017)

Leisure and Sport (Item 4)

Volunteering Opportunities for the 2017 Special Olympics (Item 4a)

- The Special Olympics is coming to Sheffield from 7 to 12 August 2017. Look out for news items about the Special Olympics on Disability Sheffield's website.
- If you are interested in volunteering at the Games you can find out more in this [Volunteer Information Pack](#).
- You can also [register online](#).
- [Volunteer Role Descriptions](#) are available online.
- People can get help, if needed, with applying to volunteer at Sheffield Volunteer Centre. The Burton St project are offering support with the application process for people with a learning disability.
- Disability Sheffield will be launching a photographic competition of disabled people participating in sport that will be staged in the Winter Gardens during the Olympics.
- A 'Legacy' group of Council Officers and Voluntary Sector reps. is meeting in the lead up to the Games.
- **Comment:** Grace Parry spoke about her experiences of leisure activities and how this has helped her over the years as a person with autism, which she would be happy to summarise.

Drill (Item 4b)

Get Yourself Active (Item 4c)

- Get Yourself Active is a partnership led by Disability Rights UK and funded by Sport England measuring impact of their work through asking disabled people who are getting active about the following areas of their life:

- Confidence
- Independence
- Community involvement
- Physical and mental wellbeing
- They want to increase the number of people involved. Disability Sheffield is helping to recruit anyone who receives (or knows of anyone who receives) a direct payment and uses it to take part in any leisure activities who would complete a small survey before, at 6 months and at 12 months about their experiences. Disability Sheffield is also encouraging social workers in the city to include leisure activities as an outcome in people's support plans.

Within Reach (Item 4d)

- Alex Wilson spoke about the [Within Reach Website](#) Directory (you can download the directory at the bottom of the page).
- Roadshows Activity Sheffield's free Health and Wellbeing Roadshows started on 30 October and will showcase Health and Wellbeing activities in and around Sheffield for Disabled People.
- [View Poster](#) for event dates and full details.

Access Card and Carers Card (Item 4e)

- Andrew brought those present up to date with the Access Card and the recently introduced Carer Card which would be available in the New Year (January 2017). Information available via the following link: <http://www.disabilitysheffield.org.uk/accessible-sheffield>

[Comfort break]

Updates (Item 5)

Independent advocacy – Free Voice, Update on Event

- Following this successful event would like to start up an advocacy forum to develop different ways of delivering advocacy. Andy Hare (Commissioner of the tendering process for the new Advocacy Hub) has agreed the need for a broader range of advocacy support when the new hub comes into being.

Transport – Transport4All - Discussion on taxi services

- A number of members expressed their concerns about the safe transport of disabled people, particularly wheelchair users in taxis and the handling of complaints, building up a picture of regular bad practice by Sheffield City Taxis (the main provider in the city). Charging for accounts and the cost of having an account for Inland Revenue purposes was also raised. This issue has also been discussed at Sheffield Transport 4 All (T4A).
- Discuss at next T4A meeting.
- Members would like to invite City Taxis and Licensing to a future Hub meeting.
- Introduction to Cllr Jack Scott
- Councillor Jack he would be pleased to attend any meeting with City Taxis, T4A members and Disability Hub members.

Close

Date of next meeting

28 March 2017, 10.00 am to 12.30 pm, The Circle

Evaluation of the meeting

A total of 6 feedback forms were received.

Question 1: Have you enjoyed the format of the meeting? 6 'Yes' (100%)

Question 2: What did you find most enjoyable?

- Finding out about activities taking place in the city and the efforts of disabled people.
- Information about the activities and the presentations.
- Finding the support for our project.
- Talk from Dan at Housing SCC - useful groups I can link in with, Information on the Access Card.
- I'll be following this up.
- Transport barriers and wheelchair users finding it difficult to get taxis and finding out why this is the case?
- Feedback towards the end.
- Couldn't stay for employment discussion which would have been useful.

Question 3: What parts did you find least useful or enjoyable?

- Length of presentation and questions afterwards
- None - all of it was enjoyable
- Where complaints were not actioned

Question 4: Is there any additional information you would find useful?

- Contact details of those present
- Schedule for future meetings
- Minutes sent out to all attendees where I can contact individuals for further information
- Evidence of SCC compliance to address Hub issues
- Liaise with Andrew to focus on live events re employment

Question 5: Overall did you find the afternoon to be worthwhile? 16 'Yes' (100%)

- Have time slots for each agenda item and hold them to it
- Doing OK

Question 6: Are you interested in being involved in any of the following working groups?

