

Advisory Group Notes - Meeting Two 7/12/09

Present:

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Sue Turner Sue.Turner@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Bill Allen bill@cpnd.org

Rod Landman rod.landman@arcuk.org.uk

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Apologies:

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1. Welcome – Yvonne welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for brief introductions.

2. Previous minutes

- a number of spelling mistakes with names were highlighted.
- **matters arising.**
 - Rose updated the group with the latest help line figures for the first 6 months of 09/10. 174 calls recorded as disability hate crime – of those 17 were calls regarding people who have a learning disability. Does Voice UK have any statistics from its helpline?
 - We are still struggling to identify a person with a learning disability to join the Advisory Group. Dave agreed to continue to liaise with Mencap to secure a representative for this Group.

3. Project Update

- Rod gave an update on the activity in the Nth Devon pilot group, who have met twice and agreed a work plan in line with the project work plan. It covers developing protocols in year 1, a media campaign in year 2, and training and awareness raising in year 3.
The first meeting had gone very well, but the second one was frustrated by the fact that several professionals who missed the first meeting also missed the second one! It became evident that protocols could not be developed and implemented locally by either the police or the LA, so Rod has a list of people who need to be canvassed to get protocols sanctioned/developed. There are a large number of organisations engaged in this work in some way, shape or form. Rod feels unsure about the merits of pursuing a bottom up approach to developing protocols. He has a meeting planned with a key parent/carer who seems to be very influential in many spheres. The local Police Diversity Officer, Julie Dixon, is very supportive. (Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership)

- David's pilot has some similarities and some differences. He has also had 2 meetings; the first one only seem to attract professionals, the second attracted more people with learning disabilities but no professionals! He has a third meeting planned for January. He currently thinks he will approach different groups to develop different aspects of the project activity.
Dave is now involved in the Safety Partnership meetings, he has been to the LD Training department, and has written an article about the project for LD Today magazine. He has made a presentation to the Calderdale Partnership Board, and is involved in the West Yorks LD hate crime conference on 26th March with Mencap.
Calderdale College is a local Hate Crime Reporting Centre and they also offer courses to people with learning disabilities, but Dave is not convinced that they have made any contact between the two.
Dave showed a video clip from a recent conference that was reported on the local news.

4. Findings/Issues for discussion.

- Rod gave a presentation about the findings/issues to date. See attached.
- Our dilemma is about whether we describe the project as hate crime or mate crime, given that there is only funding to tackle hate crime. We were keen to maintain the evidential link between mate crime and hate crime. We were also clear that we need to avoid referring to it as bullying. We felt that reporting should be encouraged, regardless of whether it is a crime or an incident.
- There is a cross government target to review the hate crime manual for the police – joint Home Office and ACPO Good Practice and Tactical Guidance. Rod identified where the existing guidance relates to Mate Crime. This work is being undertaken by Paul Gianassi, and we need to influence this to ensure Mate crime is recognised within the guidance.

5. Updates from AG members

- Rose reported that Stop Hate Crime were now engaged in Gateshead, Merseyside, Lancs, Oldham, Leeds, Kirklees, Bradford, South Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Cambridgeshire, Wolverhampton, Telford & Wrekin, Beds, Barking & Dagenham, and Havering. They have on-line chats, email reporting, on-line reporting, and the phone helpline. They have a launch event in Leeds on 15th December.
- Sue said she would be collating LDPB reports which will include information on hate crime. Wilts have started a new initiative. Rod and Bill said they would see if the Assistant Director (LD) in Devon knew about this.
- Cornwall have had a Blue Light day where the police ran a workshop to help people with a learning disability to understand the language used and the processes involved in reporting hate crime.

6. Actions and Priorities

- Meet with Paul Gianassi
- Look for 'small wins' before the next Advisory Group meeting
- Put publicity on the agenda for the next meeting

7. Future meetings

23rd March – teleconference

24th May – face to face at Cheltenham (this venue provisionally booked)