

minutes



Meeting PROMOTION OF INDEPENDENCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Date Tuesday, 14 September 2004 (commencing at 2.00 pm)

membership

Persons absent are marked with 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Chris Baron (Chair)
Sue Bennett (Vice-Chair)

A	Alan Davison	A	Brian Smith
	Ellie Lodziak	A	Yvonne Woodhead
A	Joe Lonergan MBE	A	Keith Walker

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor M Brandon-Bravo

MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 6 July 2004 having been circulated were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Davison, J Lonergan and B G Smith.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest by Members or Officers.

GENERAL CONSULTATION

The Committee had received a copy of the consultation leaflet, which had been widely circulated. Joe Pidgeon, Project Manager for the Review, reported on some of the responses which had been received.

STAFF CONSULTATION

Mr Pidgeon explained that, as part of the Best Value service review, staff working with disabled young people in the Social Services Department, Education Department, Culture and Community Department and Connexions had been consulted. He introduced the views which were summarised in the report.

Councillor Baron pointed out that new housing developments had to include a percentage of affordable housing. He felt the review might enable pressure to be put on district councils, and that research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation might also help. He pointed out that the Disability Discrimination Act would be in force from October, and was disappointed that more work in relation to this was still to be done. He commented that a study group on direct payments was about to start work. In relation to the stigma of the County Council logo on transport, he wondered what the corporate policy was. David Gibbons, Service Head – Transport, Catering and Services, replied that the modernised livery was used on all County Council vehicles.

Mr Pidgeon indicated that a Home Improvement Agency for the south of the county was to be established early in the new year, but it was not clear whether funding would allow for a handyperson scheme to be included at this stage. However it was not clear if it would include a handyperson scheme. Councillor Bennett commented that hospitals did not seem to take account of young people's needs when placing them in wards with elderly people. Mr Pidgeon replied that there was a health baseline in the review, and he was planning a workshop with health managers on their awareness of the disability needs of young people in the health context.

CABINET OFFICE STRATEGY UNIT REPORT

Joe Pidgeon reported on the central government review currently being undertaken by the Cabinet Office about the life chances of young people with disabilities. The reviews were covering a similar range of issues. A lead member of the Cabinet Office team had met with the Nottinghamshire review team, and had indicated that both reviews were highlighting many of the same points. The Strategy Unit's report is due to be published by the end of 2004.

The meeting closed at 2.35 pm.

CHAIR

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