

Comms Team meeting September 14<sup>th</sup> 2012

Agenda	Discussion
Apologies	Ron Newman, Andrea Rawlings, Gill Jackson
Introductions & welcome	Comms Team meeting started with introductions and welcome to Malcolm Cripps (Akira)
Report on meeting with LBH Equalities Officer	<p>Equalities meeting - David informed the Comms Team that training for the Hackney workforce (social care and Streetscene workers) was discussed. Training in Disability Awareness David explained that DBU should be involved in the training. Andrea agreed that it would be good to communicate this with all departments in the LA. (Detailed notes are available about this meeting)</p>
YPFI – John Thornton	<p>John updated Comms Team members on the meeting with Rob Danson from YPFI. The basis of the meeting was to raise awareness about YPFI and the work they do, and also to discuss the possibility of setting up a similar project in Hackney. YPFI is based in Camden, it is funded in by Big lottery it is based in Camden and YPFI has been a great incentive to young disabled people. The project is based in Camden and is funded by the Big Lottery.</p> <p>David and other Comms team members welcomed the YPFI and the opportunities that it presented to reach young disabled people in Hackney. David explained that he could see no real issues but would discuss with Age UK Hackney and also queried the requirements of working with vulnerable adults (CRB). John informed that the YPFI would lead delivery of this activity with their volunteers as they already have experience and would help to train potential volunteers for our projects. (Detailed notes are available about this meeting)</p>
September Forum	<p>Carol informed that we would be having two forums on September 26<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Direct Payments 11.30am – 1.30pm Maureen Ford - Facilitator Speakers for the Direct Payments forum included LBH Charging Team and Jackie Brett from CIL</p> <p>DBU forum 2.00pm – 4.00pm John Thornton – Facilitator</p>

	<p>Speakers for DBU Forum included Mohammed Mohit (LBH First Response Team), Chris Beckwith (Hackney Community Transport) &amp; Vince Stops (London TravelWatch)</p>
<p>Age UK Hackney Restructure and future funding</p>	<p>David updated members about the recent restructure within Age UK Hackney to say that there had been no changes contrary to original thought. Funding continues until March 2013</p> <p>David informed Comms Team members that he has met with LBH officers who are happy with the way things were going, but would get an update from Dona Randolph (Direct Payments Manager) regarding Direct Payments Forum.</p> <p>As for the year 2013 – 2014 a funding application will have to be made and submitted. David believes there will be some constraints such as funding from £58.000 to £40.000. This will impact on the amount of Forum meetings delivered, Comms Team Meeting, wages Fixed cost, transporting members to and from meetings postage, printing etc</p> <p>We should have some feedback by Christmas</p> <p>Subject to outcome we will have to think about the future options of enabling DBU to become self sustaining or addressing other avenues of funding.</p> <p>John commented on the fact that if there were less forum meetings the meeting would have to last at least three hours.</p>
<p>Centre for Independent Living</p>	<p>Maureen Ford informed Comms Team that she was co Chair on steering group along with John Thornton who represented DBU. CIL's report was embargoed by LBH as they paid for it.</p> <p>Two weeks ago steering group met with LBH and was informed that there was no money aside of the offer of a pop up shop and possible help with admin officer.</p> <p>Caroline Nelson (Choice) offered to incubate work already done and keep it alive?</p> <p>Maureen informed Comms Team that she intended to keep things going and sought</p>

	<p>after the views of members present at the meeting.</p> <p>John expressed his concern as to Maureen’s desire to pick up the poison Chalice. David commented that he was of the opinion that there were funds to do some work, Maureen informed that the fund left over was for consultants fees.</p> <p>Maureen explained that she had spoken with Fiona Bear (the consultant who will build a business plan).</p> <p>Choice is contracted to and will do regular report.</p> <p>Maureen explained that she commit to this for about two years and would keep members updated.</p> <p>David and John again expressed their concerns but asked that – Maureen report back on progress.</p>
<p>Future Forum meetings &amp; Christmas Party</p>	<p>October Forum — Carol informed Comms Team that no action had been taken for the October Forum meeting aside from booking the venue.</p> <p>The topic for the October Forum is Streetscene. Cllr Feryal Demirci is on of the speakers who we have agreed to invite– John felt that we needed someone more senior than Ben Kennedy. John could not recall the person name that he had in mind but said he would get in touch with Carol as soon as he could with the info.</p> <p>November Forum – originally suggested topic was Welfare Benefits in relation to the changes that are taking place.</p> <p>John suggested that we think about our members and their needs. A workshop/presentation would be appropriate.</p> <p>Suggestions to invite the Manager from the CAB to do an overview rather than specific benefits. Maureen informed members that there has been an increase of Appeals for disabled people.</p> <p>Second half of Nov Forum could be Hate Speech/ hate Crime – possibility of speakers</p>

	<p>could include Black Triangle - John MC Cardle</p> <p>PC Crane should be invited – John confirmed with Carol that he had already sent PC Cranes contact details</p>	
	<p>Carol also informed members that she had received an email fro Toby – Diane Abbots PA who wanted to know whether we still wanted to work with Diane Abbott. John informed members that he was waiting to hear from Salbar was supposed to give a list of inaccessible buses and would relay information to Carol</p>	
	<p>Christmas Party – date for party 12/12/12</p> <p>Issue with food last year was a problem – can not be the same this year. John suggested that a better option would be to make sure food was hot.</p> <p>Option of food/budget to be discussed and budget agreed</p> <p>Suggested idea to host party with YPFI</p>	
<p>Newsletter/convening letter for the forum</p>	<p>Due to ill health and summer break – Newsletter will not be ready for post. Suggested plan is to send out convening letter to members informing of scheduled forum which takes place September 26<sup>th</sup></p> <p>John asked members to contribute to the newsletter</p>	
<p>Training opportunities</p>	<p>David informed the Comms Team offered by Deaf &amp; Interpreting Training Nov 20<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Influencing People Training (Date and venue to be confirmed)</p>	
<p>Visit to City Hall for</p>	<p>David informed Comms Team of a photo call with</p>	

Jeanette Arnold language code	Jeanette Arnold to sign the language Code. David suggested that a few members go along to the photo call – see list of people	
AOB	Hackney Unite – Akira (Malcom Cripps) has agreed to be the Hackney Unite rep	
Date of next meeting	November 16 <sup>th</sup>	