

Comms Team Meeting January 14th 2013

Attendance	Maureen, Karl, Akira, Carol, David	
Agenda	Discussion	Action
	<p>Maureen informed members that she was awaiting clarification as to whether her bid to go on the Fellowship was successful and said that she would let us know as soon as possible.</p> <p>Maureen also raised a concern about our speaker Lee Simpson (at the November Forum). Maureen asked whether it would be possible to write to Lee Simpson as she was not clear on the statistical information given out at the meeting. David said that he could do that.</p>	
DBU 2013 – 2014 – moving forward	<p>Funding ends for DBU on present arrangements at end March 2013. An application under the Hackney Main Grants programme for funding for 2013-2014 was successful – but only for half the funds applied for (which was in itself a cut of about a third from the 2011-12 funding, owing to the maximum limit under this scheme).</p> <p>This will mean a major cut in admin support hours – Carol’s will be reduced from 25 hrs to a maximum of 10 and David’s from 10 to 3.5. A similar cut will be necessary in other spending (on postage, transport, venue hire, printing etc). Contractual outputs will be negotiated with the Council. This level of funding will allow a quarterly full Forum meeting in 2013-14 with a meeting of the Comms Group in months when the full Forum does not meet.</p> <p>Further suggestions include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A change in the name of the Comms group to reflect its changing role; 2. Comms Team meeting could be monthly alternating open meetings (mini-Forums) and business meetings. These 	<p>Planning for 2013 – 2014 will sit on next agenda for discussion and planning.</p>

	would be advertised in the quarterly newsletter well in advance – preferably set a year ahead.	
February Newsletter	Carol and Akira agreed to discuss an article for the Feb Newsletter Carol agreed to contact Gill to discuss	Carol to make arrangements with Akira and Gill.
Adult Social Care Event	In March DBU plans to host an Adult Social Care event. Prior to the event the plan is to have members complete a survey in respect of their experience with a social worker whilst having their needs assessed. David requested assistance from member's present at the meeting to help create the questions for survey.	Carol to sort venue David will liaise with adult social care regarding survey
Speakers for February & March Forum	February forum will be about welfare benefits; some time ago Ron suggested inviting Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson to our forum meeting – Odette Messiah the Information and Advice Team leader at Age UK will speak to members about welfare benefits and the changes about to take place. Akira raised concerns about the future for the most vulnerable Further suggestions were made regarding speakers for the March Forum cabinet ministers (i.e. Guy Nicholson, Jonathan McShane etc).	Carol will get in touch with Ron regarding the outcome of his request to Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson. Carol will confirm with Odette her availability Carol will start planning and contacting speakers for March Forum
Next Forum	Feb 2013 – date and time to be confirmed	