

What now for Hackney Disabled People?

Our March Forum will take place on March 25th. Cllr Jonathan McShane will be attending. Jonathan is Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Culture in Hackney, which means that he is accountable for several areas such as sport and leisure, adult social services, supporting people, culture, parks, libraries, adult learning, the voluntary sector, volunteering and health.

Jonathan will talk to members about the future for disabled people in Hackney - including, including the legacy of the 2012 Olympics and how disabled people in Hackney will benefit.

We also have Stella Rafferty and her colleague Amanda Elliot from Hackney Council's User Development Team coming to the March Forum. Stella and Amanda would like to consult with members about two reports: The Local Account Report and Hackney Market Position Statement, which relate to service user satisfaction with Council services.

The outcome of these reports will feed into the production of two important Council documents about adult social care in Hackney with the ultimate aim of improving services.

All service user groups are being consulted and further information will be gathered from the Health & Community Services survey, which must be completed online.

More details about the project can be found on page 3.



Cllr Jonathan McShane

MARCH Forum Meeting

MARCH 25th 2013

Disability Backup Forum

1.30pm – 3.30pm

Speakers

Cllr Jonathan Mc Shane
Cabinet member Hackney Council
&

Stella Rafferty & Amanda Elliot
Hackney Council—User Involvement
Team

Venue

Our Lady and St Joseph Kingsland
Hall

100a Balls Pond Road,
London
N1 4AG

Buses: 30, 38, 56, 277

Help with transport on request for people with mobility difficulties.

DBU in the Next Year

In the coming year there will be changes in how frequently our Forum will be meeting, as we adjust to a much reduced level of funding for the coming year.

We have been successful in winning some funding in the competition for general grants from the Council for the voluntary sector – this is decided by an independent panel with all applications marked and with a voluntary sector representative involved.

However we have been awarded about half what we applied for, which means we will have less time for admin support and fewer resources for expenses like postage, printing, transport and venue hire.

This means it is likely that we will be holding a quarterly meeting of the Forum, with the next one in May. This does not mean we cannot continue to lobby for disabled people's interests or take up any area where our members are seeking information or change, from access to leisure and cultural opportunities or housing to transport.

But it will mean that in between Forums some members meet, as a planning group, perhaps sometimes as a business meeting and sometimes as an open meeting, the dates and times of which can be publicised in the quarterly newsletter.

More information on future plans at the Forum and in the next Newsletter.

Social Care Assessments Survey extended to May 10th

Last month we informed you that we will be having an Adult Social Care event in March. The event has been postponed and rescheduled to take place on May 20th, when we will have the managers of Adult Social Care present to hear the outcome of the Adult Social Care Assessment.

Disability Backup would like to know what your experiences with assessments for social care have been like: good – and bad!

We want to know what your experience of an assessment of your needs by a social worker was like. Please answer the questions asked and give us any other relevant information about problems, if the questions do not uncover them.

The Social Care Assessment Survey will be sent out again to members with a freepost envelope - no stamp needed.

Members are asked to complete the survey and return to us by May 10th allowing sufficient time for us to analyse the results of the survey before the meeting with managers to discuss the results. Some of you will be contacted over the telephone by a Comms Team member to see if you need assistance in completing the survey.

Congratulations to Ron

On Monday, March 4th DBU member Ron Newman had major surgery.

We would like to pass on our best wishes to him and wish him a speedy recovery.

Tackling Key Inequalities - Consultation Event with Hackney Council

Thursday, April 18th, 2013
10:00 am to 12:30 pm
Hackney Carers Centre,
96 - 102 Springfield House,
5 Tyssen Street
Dalston,
London, E8 2LZ

DBU members are urged to attend this event and express their views. The aim of this consultation is to find out what you think about the Council's consultation draft of the Single Equalities Scheme.

Since last March the council has reviewed the shared evidence base which identifies the needs of our communities. They have collated an equalities evidence base and developed a framework for the Single Equalities Scheme. The Single Equalities Scheme will help the Council meet its legal obligations in treating everyone fairly and will be used towards measuring and ensuring that Equality Objectives are delivered.

Want to find out more, book yourself a place <http://tacklingkeyinequalities.eventbrite.com/>

Parks & Gardens

A consultation is coming soon on changing the rules and regulations for Hackney's parks and gardens.

If you have views on what needs to be changed or improved to make sure disabled people can use our parks to the full, please let us know and we will feed them into the consultation, when it begins.

Health and Community Services Survey

Stella Rafferty and her colleague Amanda Elliot from Hackney Council User Development Team have contacted us about their consultation work on two reports which relate to service user satisfaction with Council services.

Stella and her colleague Amanda need your help and are seeking your views to produce two important Council documents: The Local Account Report and Hackney Market position Statement. You are asked to complete a survey on line:

For Hackney's local account of adult social care services 2012-13 the survey would like your views on:

- The type of information that should be included in the next local account and what the local account should look like (what kind of format).

For Hackney's Market Position Statement the survey would like your views on:

- What types of services do disabled people, older people, carers and other service users in Hackney want?
- What do people like about the services they use already

What services do you think are missing or could be improved.

The deadline for completing the survey is 15 April 2013. In order to complete the survey you must log on to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/M68GT37> and follow the instructions.

YPFI Update

Hackney Young People for Inclusion (YPFI) held a launch event at HCVS on March 7th. We are pleased to say that the launch went well with several young people attending.

YPFI member Theo coordinated the event and did an excellent job at promoting YPFI and engaging with the young people.

The session involved talking to young people about their experiences and the way that they are treated. The young people were also encouraged to tell us what they want from the sessions in the future and the changes that they would like to see take place in order to give them a better quality of life.

The aim of YPFI is to introduce and promote opportunities for young disabled people in Hackney. It was really exciting to see young disabled



Disability Backup
c/o Age UK Hackney
22 Dalston Lane, E8 3AZ
E-mail: caroldavis@ageukhackney.org.uk
Web: www.disabilitybackup.org.uk

Tel: 020 7241 5908
Mob: 07779 501178
Text: 07779 501178



Mon: 1.30pm—5.30pm
Wed: 9.30am—5.30pm
Thurs: 9.30am—5.30pm



people taking the lead and making informed choices about their lives and sharing their experiences on the things that they wanted out of YPFI such as better communication, a social life, better housing options, accessible transport etc...

The evening was a success, Patrick Christian a new member of YPFI said, **"I am excited about YPFI coming to Hackney, we really need it"**.

Ron Danson, YPFI Project Coordinator, said he is feeling positive about the future of YPFI in Hackney; the plan is to continue to develop and reach more young disabled people.

If you are a parent, carer or a professional working with young disabled people (aged 13 – 25) and you think that they would benefit from getting involved with YPFI, contact Rob Danson by email: rob@elfridacamden.org.uk or text: 07939 877 745.

