

MINUTES

VISUAL IMPAIRMENT (VIP) ACTION GROUP

MINUTES of meeting 27th November 2009 11am – 1 pm
Venue: Cliffden Hotel, Teignmouth

1	<p><u>Apologies:</u></p> <p>None</p> <p>Present: RS, CL, CW, MT, KH, MB, DA, ML</p>	ACTION
2	<p><u>Points arising last months minutes:</u></p> <p>Carry over points from October meeting</p>	
3	<p><u>Enter and View:</u></p> <p>CL reported concourse still not complete – Lynne Robertson and Kate Fenton visited hospital and were told it would be finished by end Dec</p> <p>E & V Training to take place in January. Date to be confirmed. Proposal to LINK for CL or Kate to train VIP group asap. Response to follow.</p> <p>RS suggested Cliffden Hotel for training due to accessibility, the group agreed.</p> <p>Template of questions required for visit - generic LINK visit questions plus additional tailored questions</p> <p>Possible satellite North Devon E&V group set up due to travel issues. Pam Hogan new CEW for North Devon & Torridge</p> <p>MT visiting RD&E for 30 – 40 min meeting with the board on 9th Dec. Opportunity to answer boards questions on visual impairment and, hopefully, ask some key questions Potential need for someone from VIP group to become aboard member discussed</p> <p>Signage, refresher courses in Disability Awareness, CRB</p>	<p>CL to inform Group of January Training date when finalised</p> <p>CL to finalise questionnaire matrix for visit</p> <p>Mette to meet with Pam Hogan to discuss E&V</p> <p>MT to report back to group</p>

	<p>accessibility discussed as possible topics to be raised by group</p> <p>E&V sub group: KH and MB and DA: support offered from CL. NB: Any room bookings to go through LINK.</p>	<p>KH MB DA – E and V subgroup</p>
4	<p><u>Awareness Event:</u></p> <p>Provisionally booked for the 26th March 2010 in the Cliffden Hotel.</p> <p>Aimed at providers but open to all PCT, Local Authorities, East Devon DC... May include Torbay and North Devon VIP groups</p> <p>Suggested timings: Presentations 10 – 1 Networking Buffet 1 – 3</p> <p>Presentations suggestions: Findings from E&V; E&V guidebook; Biology of the eye by Marion Slyfield followed by experiential presentation by VIP group member; ECLO presentation (formerly POD); Presentation on post diagnosis support (KH)</p> <p>Awareness event sub group: MT, Mette and RS</p> <p>LINK funding available for the day</p> <p>RS suggested organising a mini bus to provide transport from the coach park to the hotel to prevent parking problems on the day</p>	<p>CL & RS to plan and organise</p> <p>CL to finalise the Plan and Budget for approval by SPG</p> <p>CL to line up the presentations and arrange invites</p> <p>MT ML and RS Sub group for event.</p> <p>Group to finalise plans for event at January meeting</p>
5	<p><u>Christmas Lunch:</u></p> <p>Friday 18th December in the Cliffden Hotel</p> <p>Buffet style</p> <p>Invite the Steering Group Committee</p> <p>Expected numbers = 12</p> <p>Budget £10 per head</p>	<p>RS to arrange buffet (incl crackers!) & finalise costings</p> <p>CL to invite SPG</p>
6	<p><u>A.O.B:</u></p>	<p>ML to provide information</p>

	<p>Mette: Make sure all benefit entitlements are applied for now to prevent missing out. DLA will not be touched but other benefits may be affected by recent government changes.</p> <p>Mette: Living Options to focus on Accessibility to Banks. Recent ruling led to Bank of Scotland being forced to make a bank accessible to a local disabled resident. Has set a precedent.</p> <p>Mette: Living Options now part of Fusion. Set up by DCC as part of their Engagement Strategy. Plan to set up a Disability Council with MPs in response to DCC engagement strategy which must be in place by Dec 2010. Will be split into local areas in Devon. Representative must have a manifesto and will stand for election. Fusion to explore all engagement avenues.</p> <p>From January Action for Blind's "Action Co-ordinators" will become Independent Living Co-ordinators for clarity</p> <p>Steering Group now referred to as Strategic Planning Group</p>	<p>on Disability Council as it becomes available</p> <p>CL to liaise with Mette re. placing Fusion info in the Spring N/Letter</p>
7	<p><u>Date & Time of next meeting</u> 18th December at the Cliffden Hotel Extended meeting to allow for Christmas lunch 11am – 3pm</p>	