



The New Slough Learning Disability Partnership Board
Inaugural Meeting - 21st February 2024
Observatory House, Slough



Minutes

Present - the people who were at the meeting

Name of person and initials	Job and organisation
Giuseppe Di Martino (Chair) (GDM)	Commissioner – Slough Borough Council
Victoria Tutty – (VT)	Group Manager (Commissioning) – Slough Borough Council
Ashfaq Hussain – (AH)	Commissioner – Slough Borough Council
Bestina Bukori – (BB)	Co-Production and Engagement Lead – Slough Borough Council
Georgia Brookes-Tombs – (GB)	Resident – Expert by Experience
Sharon Brookes-Tombs – (SB)	Resident – Expert by Experience (carer)
Amanda Kodhani – (AK)	Imperial Breeze Healthcare South-East
Blessing Bame – (BBa)	Imperial Breeze Healthcare South-East
Simon McGurk – (SM)	Community Team for People with Learning Disability - Slough Borough Council
Uma Macarov – (UM)	Community Team for People with Learning Disability - Slough Borough Council
Kulbir Brar – (KB)	Thames Valley Police
Shanaz Uddin – (SU)	Slough Healthwatch
Nassrin Saeedi – (NS)	R.E.A.C.H.

Name of person and initials	Job and organisation
Manuel Karashi – (MK)	Macadamia Support Limited
Pauline Kujinga – (PK)	Macadamia Support Limited
George Howard – (GH)	Slough Community Transport
Jordan Butterfield – (JB)	Co-Production Network
Sandra Reynolds – (SR)	Adviza
Diana Najoli – (DN)	Ability Housing Association
Stewart Holcombe – (SH)	Expert by Experience
Tanya Brookes – (TB)	Expert by Experience
Priscilla White – (PW)	Expert by Experience
Mamour Gueye – (MG)	Ability Housing Association
Haddy Bobb – (HB)	Ability Housing Association
Maurice George – (MG)	Ways Into Work
David Randall – (DR)	Ways Into Work
Lady Eleanor Cryer (EC)	Slough Mencap
Dr. Raj Krishnaiah – (RK)	Uniq Healthcare Berkshire
Bhanu Bhatti – (BBh)	Uniq Healthcare Berkshire
Maulik Patel – (MP)	Uniq Healthcare Berkshire
M.L. – (ML)	Expert by Experience

Apologies - People who were not able to come to the meeting

Name of person and initials	Job and organisation
Shari Bulmer	Slough Advocacy (Matrix)
Karen Evans (co-chair)	Co-Production Network – Expert by Experience
Bernardette Bates (co-chair)	Co-Production Network – Expert by Experience
Zara Hussain	Independent Supported Living and Disabilities and Crowthorne Care Services
Sally Kitson	Partnership Manager – Slough Borough Council

Name of person and initials	Job and organisation
Suzanne Binns	Group Manager (Purchasing) – Adult Social Care - Slough Borough Council
Diana Balsom	Commissioner – Slough Borough Council
Zac Dean	Commissioner – Slough Borough Council
Samina Hayatawan	Expert by Experience (carer)
Sue Benford	Co-Production Network – Expert by Experience
Betty Lynch	Slough Safeguarding Partnership
Ali Lyons	Voyage Care
Caroline Bartos	Slough Borough Council – Housing and Property
Tony Turnbull	Slough Borough Council – Neighborhood Manager
Sameer Maganji	Community Team for People with Learning Disability - Slough Borough Council



Welcome and introductions.

GDM apologised for the slightly late start, issued the other co-chairs’ apologies, and expressed gratitude in seeing several experts by experience present rather than only professionals and remarked that this is a forum for the whole learning disability community and not only for professionals but mostly focused on engaging with the people with learning disability and their carers.

GDM introduced himself and welcomed the new Learning Disability partnership board members before starting with members’ introductions.

Everyone spoke with the person next to them to find out their name, what organisation they might be from, and what they are good at. Members then introduced each other.

There was a good collaborative and cheerful atmosphere during this icebreaker exercise. GB and SB introduction was emotional and moved the entire board which cheered with an applause.



The New Learning Disability Partnership Board – Presentation

- GDM shared a presentation in Power Point to introduce the new Partnership Board scopes and aims to all members clarifying this was just a draft and that the board will come to a final definition for this.
- MG commented the potential need for better wording concerning the definition “*preventing needs to arise...*” which may be misleading because everyone at any point in time may be needing care.
- SB commented that the wording could be more specific and recognise the people with LD, their carers, and some priorities such as housing which appeared to be missing.
- EC echoed that some important key actions did not appear in the presentation, such as housing and transports.
- GDM clarified that the presentation was a short summary and not a fully exhaustive description of scopes and aims which will be included in the Terms of Reference Instead.

Actions: Wording to be reviewed (includes Terms of Reference).



The New Learning Disability Partnership Board – Terms of Reference Exercise

- GDM introduced the first group exercise of the day. This consisted of reading paragraphs from the draft Terms of Reference, which was shared prior to the meeting via email and printed on site, and vote/comment for each paragraph to find agreement on references or amendments needed. The original scope was to do this exercise as a large group with GDM reading and everybody commenting paragraph by paragraph.
- It was pointed out by several members that the printed copies may have not been enough. Therefore, BB and AH promptly printed additional copies for all.
- EC pointed out that the group was too big for a wide discussion on the Terms of Reference and that the group may prefer to break down in smaller units to carry out this discussion and then reconvene all together for restitution. EC also pointed out that the meeting was outrunning, and asked clarification on plans to catch up with schedule.
- GDM did a quick check around the room and, although there was no unanimity, many members seem to prefer the smaller group setting.
- Groups of four were made and 15 minutes were provided for discussion before getting back together for feedback. Unfortunately, as it was pointed out by EC, the document was very big and the time too few for a thorough discussion. Many other participants agreed.
- The group agreed that GDM will send again copy of Terms of Reference to all participants with the minutes and that comments will be provided individually via email or at the next meeting.
- Some of the preliminary feedback provided concerned a clearer definition of who are the stakeholders and who are the beneficiaries, that together with influence decisions there should be a lesson learned approach and review of what has gone wrong in the past, work out strategies to reach all client groups, and look at alternative ways to fund initiatives due to the financial constraints of Slough Borough Council (sponsorship, crowdfunding, etc).
- Although Terms of Reference may need additional work, there is a positive working atmosphere among board members and a good flow of ideas.

Actions: GDM to share the Terms of Reference.

All Members to familiarise with the Terms of Reference and share feedback via email or in person at next meeting.



The New Learning Disability Partnership Board – Tea Break

Tea Break was called at noon and lasted 10 to 15 minutes.



The New Learning Disability Partnership Board – The Learning Disability Strategy 2023-2028 (Presentation)

- GDM shared a presentation concerning the newly approved Learning Disability Strategy 2023-2028. The presentation focused on the vision for Learning Disability, the priorities in the Strategy as informed by engagement with the community including direct feedback. Finally, a brief and non-exhaustive summary of actions was presented on screen.
- Members commented that it would be useful to have a definition of learning disabilities and it was clarified that, although not in the presentation, the Strategy provides a clear definition of learning disability.
- EC, SB, and GB commented that some priorities and actions were too vague and needed to be more specific. Furthermore, EC noted that important priorities and actions concerning housing or transports were not in the presentation.
- GDM clarified that the presentation reported only 6 broader areas for actions rather than specific actions, this is because the scope is for the Group to create specific actions within those areas/priorities. GDM also reassured members that the presentation is a short summary and that the full document of the Strategy, informed by people's feedback, goes into details for each of these priorities. Finally, an action plan is available too at the end of the strategy. The ask for the group is to establish a priority list of what needs to be tackled more urgently, like a priority scale.
- GDM informed all members that, to achieve goals and actions, smaller workgroups will be created among volunteering members of the board. These groups will be time limited and meet more regularly than the full board.

Actions: **GDM to provide clarification for LD definition (in new TOR draft) for the group.**
 GDM to provide list of all actions included in the Learning Disability Strategy to members at next meeting.



The New Learning Disability Partnership Board – Workshop to identify most pressing priorities for actions.

- The second group exercise of the day was introduced by GDM: In groups of four, members have been invited to look at the 6 priority areas for action as illustrated in the presentation to establish the three most pressing issues that will kickstart the activities of the board. 15 minutes were provided for discussion before returning in the wider group.
- EC commented that the time provided may have not been sufficient to establish a list of priorities or to pick only three. Furthermore, what EC and their clients think it is more pressing (transports, housing) did not appear in the presentation.
- A few more members agreed that the time provided was not sufficient and that more time was needed to think about priority actions.
- GDM agreed to extend the feedback and thoughts until next meeting and will distribute a survey online to start collecting some ideas and thoughts from members.
- Some other members felt they were ready to share the feedback from their group and proceeded to do so.
- A few tables seemed to agree that the main priorities would have followed this order: communication, transition health employments.
- RK's group concluded that it is not possible to decide what comes first because these are all elements that contribute to our goals. An example was brought that you cannot choose among your fingers, you need them all to close your fist. This point was welcomed by the whole group.
- Two groups, although distant in the room, came up with a similar idea: approaching this piece of work on establishing priorities by following Maslow pyramid of needs concept. The first to present this idea was MG, immediately followed up by NS, KB, and other members of these two workgroups. The idea was very welcome by the entire board.

Actions: **GDM to add priority questions in feedback form when distributing the minutes.**
 GDM to start circulating list of initial workstream groups to members to gather volunteers.



The New Learning Disability Partnership Board – Any Other Business

- There was no time to touch on AOB due to the meeting being already beyond scheduled time.

Next Meeting

The New Learning Disability Partnership Board will meet again on **16th May 2024 at 10:00 am and until 1:00 pm at Arbour Park, Slough, SL2 5AY.**

