

## Day Services Co-production Group



**Date : Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022**

**Venue : Heswall Centre**

### **Present:**

Yvonne Nolan	Wirral Councillor - Chair Adult Social Care and Public Health
Jason Oxley	Wirral Council - Assistant Director, Adult Care and Health
Jean Stephens	Wirral Evolutions - Assistant Director, Adult Care and Health
Lorraine Moran	Wirral Evolutions - Head of Quality
J*****	Together All Are Able (TAAA)
V*****	Together All Are Able (TAAA)
K*****	Together All Are Able (TAAA)
R*****	Speak Up Be Heard member - attends Cambridge Road
L*****	Speak Up Be Heard member - attends Dale Farm
S*****	Parent/Carer - son attends Royden Park
E*****	Wirral Evolutions - Manager Eastham/Highcroft
Z*****	Wirral Evolutions - Manager BestBites/Dale Farm
S*****	Wirral Evolutions - Team Leader Eastham
M*****	Wirral Evolutions - Service Co-ordinator Cambridge Road
C*****	Wirral Evolutions - Service Support Dale Farm
R*****	Wirral Evolutions - Volunteer
S*****	Wirral Evolutions - Admin Support Corporate Services

### **Guest:**

D*****	Pathways Associates - Co-founder and Director
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### **Apologies:**

D*****	Speak Up Be Heard Co-chair - attends Eastham
C*****	Parent/Carer - son attends Pensby Wood

## 1) Introductions and Apologies

Councillor Nolan welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

All around the table shared their name and where they are from, including guest D\*\*\*\*\*, Director of Pathways Associates.

D\*\*\*\*\* is part of the North West Training and Development Team and also an advisor for NHS England. He will be joining meetings from today to share his experience with the group and help support our vision for the future.

## 2) Minutes from the last meeting and matters arising

All agreed the minutes from the last meeting are correct.

All action notes have been completed or are in progress :

- Visual chart of everyone in the group - draft produced. Everyone is happy with the design, but some updates will need to be made with membership changes.
- A new contact email has been created just for this group [wedscoprogroup@wirralevolutions.org](mailto:wedscoprogroup@wirralevolutions.org)
- There is now a 'feedback box' at the end of the minutes.



WIRRAL		Wirral Evolutions	
Chair	EDGEM	EDGEM	
 Name Role	 Name Role	 Name Role	 Name Role
WIRRAL EVOLUTIONS STAFF - Working in teams			
WIRRAL EVOLUTIONS VOLUNTEERS			
WIRRAL EVOLUTIONS & EDGEM SUPPORT			



### 3) Transport

R\*\*\*\*\* arrived with M\*\*\*\*\* at 10:50, just in time to present this item.

They were late because they had to make other transport drops on the way. M\*\*\*\*\* also apologised as they would have to leave early at 11:30 for more transport duties.

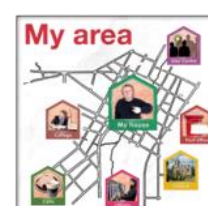
R\*\*\*\*\* said that transport is arriving far too early in the afternoon, sometimes picking people up at 2.30pm, and it is getting ridiculous.

L\*\*\*\*\* said this is often discussed at Speak Up Be Heard. People are not happy about being collected so early. They use the time at the end of the day to mingle with their friends, have a coffee and chat.

Parent/carers also bring this up at their coffee mornings. It has been a problem across all of the centres for a long time.

A lot of concerns were discussed, including:

- People attending/paying for 2 sessions a day are having afternoon sessions cut short - 2.30pm is not a full day.
- Sometimes there is only one person on a bus - why not more?
- People in some areas are spending too long on their bus. Why not have a set bus for each area - not just one that has to go everywhere?



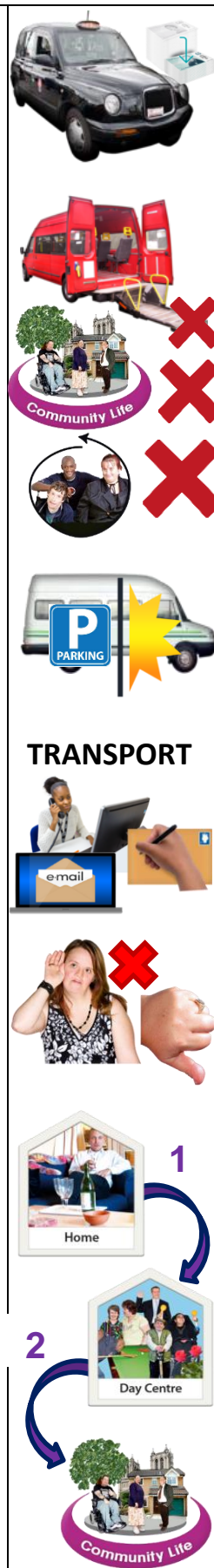
- Lack of buses means some people having to use taxis - this costs more in the long run.
- No buses means not everyone can get to activities or meetings (like today) and some people are missing out.
- Buses with no tail lift means less access to community based activities, which is what we are aiming for - this is not being inclusive and staff feel like they are letting people down.
- More people have noticed that after morning drop-offs, some minibuses are parked up and not used again all day, until the afternoon pick ups.

Centre Managers have been in regular contact with Transport, Karen Smith (Manager over all day centres) has sent emails, and Together All Are Able have written a letter to them in the past.

Everyone has been disappointed by poor response or no response at all.

Jean noted there are 2 different issues to be looked at:

- 1) The 'home to centre' transport commissioned by the Council to get people to and from locations in the mornings and afternoons.
- 2) Transport needs within the day to take people to activities, events and meetings.



**TRANSPORT**

Councillor Nolan explained that home to centre transport is split between Adults and Childrens Social Care with Adults getting the smaller share.

It would be a good to bring the Transport Manager here and discuss how we can work together to solve the issues.

Jason suggested TAAA resend their letter to Transport now and advise that they are bringing them to this group.

**Action : Jean will invite the Transport Manager and Commissioner to the group's next meeting.**

Councillor Nolan advised the group that when Transport Management do come, we don't have to accept whatever they say - do challenge them and speak up if something is not good enough.

TAAA also suggested restarting Travel Training, where people are accompanied to use the bus, helping them to understand timetables and access public transport.

Wirral Mencap did a survey about this but the results are not known. It would be worth seeing if results are available.

**Action : Jean will contact Mencap to get a copy of survey results if possible.**

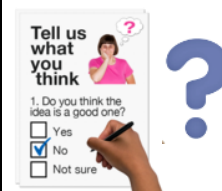
J\*\*\*\*\* suggested that in cases of meetings like today, it might help if Transport could take people directly to the meeting instead of their usual centre - then Wirral Evolutions just needs to return them after the meeting is finished.

Transport during the day will need to be looked at separately.

### TRANSPORT ADULTS / CHILDREN



### MENCAP



Councillor Nolan mentioned that Shaer Halewood (Director of Resources) was arranging a survey about Transport across the whole of Council services.

With everyone working together, hopefully all services needs can be matched with what is available and within budget to get the best outcome for everyone.

This is what this group is about - looking at the vision for the future, what a day should look like - maybe doing different things at different times, making improvements just by doing things a bit differently.

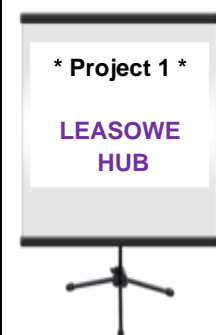
D\*\*\*\*\* said that he is very interested in hearing everyone's views, particularly about the shape of the day, either by chatting after the meeting or later by email.

#### 4) Asset strategy update

Jean explained that the Asset Strategy is the Council's Land and Buildings Plan.

It is about co-location, making best use of spaces by sharing buildings and working together and Jean is part of a new focus group set up by Graham Hodgkinson to look at this.

There has only been 1 meeting so far, but the Terms of Reference have been set and first project agreed - it will be the Leasowe Hub and this co-production group will have a say in how it develops.



Parent/carers recalled how this project had already been started but was stopped by Covid - where is it up to now?

As a shared space and community hub, it needs to be accessible and available to others - these are being identified and how everyone will fit in. By more people coming together, there are more opportunities for capital investment for 'shared spaces.'

K\*\*\*\*\* asked if the plan covered building maintenance?

Maintenance will be added to a future agenda. Councillor Nolan agreed that there is no point having buildings if they are falling down.

11:38 - M\*\*\*\*\* and R\*\*\*\*\* left the meeting as discussed earlier

Eastham was suggested as a prime location for a shared space, but it depends what else there is in the area.

Part of the future vision includes getting services more involved in the community. There are a lot of centres but not all are suitable for community hubs.

J\*\*\*\*\* mentioned discussions from a long time ago about people wanting day services to work with other parts of the Council, especially anything sports related.

The Speak Up Be Heard Group have been crying out for another sports day - now Covid is done, let's make it happen.



Councillor Nolan advised there is also a strategy (plan) for leisure and it is not all just about indoor facilities, but covers everything from a walk to the end of the road to running a marathon.

V\*\*\*\*\* asked if anyone remembered the Transitional Town / Incredible Edible schemes? Volunteer R\*\*\*\*\* remembered Hoylake and West Kirby as 2 of the Transitional Towns.

Eastham Centre confirmed they were a part of the Incredible Edible scheme before Covid, and they still grow vegetables for people to take home.

Councillor Nolan remembered Incredible Edible was a great national scheme - the idea of vegetable gardens accessible to all maybe leading to cookery classes.

E\*\*\*\*\* said daily living skills are actively promoted at Eastham with people cooking 1 or 2 times a week.

Z\*\*\*\*\* said there is evidence of people enjoying services and growing produce at Dale Farm showing improved behaviours. It can be difficult with events in Heswall's local community because people don't know the farm is there.

C\*\*\*\*\* advised she a part of a Community Hub called Earth Moves - they are a permaculture site based in Wallasey offering community meals, belly dancing and other activities.

Day services buildings were used by community groups before, for slimming world, yoga classes, etc - this is limited by being closed at evenings and weekends.





Jason said there are both challenges and opportunities. The Council is moving forward with new energy, with a 'Land and Buildings' team actively looking for people who want to share our spaces.

Jean added that the plan is really about Land and Buildings and people - what most benefits the people we support.

### 5) Any other issues from the group

Nothing else this time.

### 6) Anything else

Parent/carers felt we should do more celebrating of what is good - more marketing to promote services, showing what we do, maybe targeting school leavers.

Councillor Nolan advised there is work going on with Childrens' Services to try and create a seamless journey from school into services into employment. This is an aim of the All Age Disability Service which Jean is now leading.

J\*\*\*\*\* added that the Speak Up Be Heard group is itself a success story worth celebrating. With more people we support wanting to get involved, the last meeting here was packed. L\*\*\*\*\* , present today, is a great example of someone grown in confidence as a result. All agreed.

**Meeting closed at 12:00.**

**Next meeting January 2023 - date to be confirmed.**



\* Speak Up Be Heard \*



**Please use the box below to add any comments about these minutes, or suggestions about items discussed.**

