

BIRMINGHAM LINKS – WOMEN’S HEALTH & MATERNITY ACTION GROUP

Minutes from meeting held on Tuesday 26th October 2010

**at Balsall Heath Childrens Centre, 10 Malvern Street, Off Clifton Road, Balsall Heath
Birmingham, B121 8NN**

PRESENT:

- Elsie Gayle (EG) (Chair)
- Joyce Edwards (JE)
- Michelle Chan (MC)
- Kafilla Noorin (KN)

FACILITATORS PRESENT:

- Nahida Kausar (NK) – Gateway Family Services
- Linda Onerhime (LO) - Gateway Family Services
- Siobhan Garrattley (SG) - Gateway Family Services (Minute Taker)

APOLOGIES RECEIVED:

- Tom Howell
- Helen Oxten
- Menez Akhtar
- Sarah Francis
- Marie Humphries
- Emma Borg
- Shakeela Rashid

1. INTRODUCTIONS

EG welcome the group and introduced NK as the new facilitator. NK briefly informed the group of which Action Groups she would be facilitating.

2. MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD THURSDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER 2010

EG briefly explained that the group has 2 different meetings, WHAMG Group and PND Event Meetings, which the minutes of both groups seem to get mixed up.

Minutes from 23rd September 2010 meeting were approved by group and will be uploaded onto the LINK’s website shortly.

Actions:

- Host to upload minutes from September meeting to website

3. CHAIR’S UPDATE

EG circulated her Report Back Sheet to the group and briefly explained that each group is required to produce a Report Back Sheet for any events they attend. This was circulated to CORE Group and CLOG EG said.

Birmingham LINK is leading on the consultation and funding has yet to be decided. Group has been approved to half fund the project at Good Hope/Heartlands and Solihull. Solihull Link are unsure about the money they are being asked to pay. The Core Group Chair has been working with EG on this and it has been approved by the Admin & Finance Group.

EG asked group to think about volunteering to be trained to enable them to go into hospitals and interview patients, looking at sensitive issue for women. Natalie Lynch had prepared training before she left EG commented

EG explained regarding the MSLC (Maternity Service Liaison Committee) which is a statutory user led community and every provider service ought to have one. EG commented that is may be useful for us to see how Women’s Hospital run their MSLC.

EG mentioned that we have a seat on BEN as a co-chair.

EG explained that Solihull are having a reconfiguration of services, consultation has started and we have been asked to take part in it by taking consultation papers out if we are in the City. EG raised concern about the size of the consultation and asked group if anyone had received papers. NK commented that we had 1 paper copy so we would require more copies. NK said that this would be sent out to our database by SM.

Actions:

- Host to send out consultation paper to all on database

Heartlands Survey

NK mentioned that 1 ward has been completed but there are 2 more to be done. Need members to go back in, report to be completed by Christmas NK mentioned. KN said happy to be involved and JE mentioned she would be happy to support and be involved in events.

MHC Pathway

EG commented she had attended 1 event, good networking.

4. POST NATAL DEPRESSION DAY - UPDATE

LO circulated copies of the PND Event Evaluation to group and the feedback sheets. She explained how the evaluation form looked and how responses were collated into the graph. Received 37 back.

EG commented that the ratings seemed to fall into fair, good and excellent rather than the other way which was good. LO thanked the whole team for working together and for their support. EG commented that this was the first time for such an event.

EG asked group members for their perception and view of the event: The main points that people felt were:

Presentations/Activities

Slightly too much information and a break needed. OHP was not very visible

Entertainment

Very good but Bollywood dancer didn't come across as it was during the lunch and PA system was not brilliant.

Lunch

Food wasn't ready on time, possibly should have been in one place rather than split.

Venue:

Layout of room was not great, it was felt workshops were too far away. Better signposting required.

Speakers/Panel

Speakers and the panel were received very well. JE felt that both the DR and Ambrose were very good. EG suggested the group consider a payment being made to Ambrose as he dealt with all the technical issues throughout the day and would ask CORE/Admin & Finance to approve this. The group agreed that this should be done.

Suggested improvements for future events:

- Larger venue
- More signposting and more people support on the day from LINKs staff or volunteers
- Information in morning and then entertainment in afternoon
- Community languages, possible interpreters and sign language

EG commented that she would hand write thank you letters to everyone who took part. EG said such a lot of effort from everyone involved. EG mentioned that unfortunately 2 communities were not present, Chinese and refugees??. Have to engage more with them. NK suggested that presentations be emailed to all. EG to ask presenters if they are happy for t his to be done

Actions:

- EG to speak with presenter to confirm if happy for presentation to be sent out

LO to write a report, EG commented that she was conscious of missing voices i.e. Chinese/Refugee community. MC commented that she was disappointed that Chinese community did not attend. MC briefly explained about Amy Choo at the Chinese Community Centre, offered to get in touch with her and will email EG the details of what they have going on in the future. Suggested trying to arrange meeting with them in January to engage with them.

Actions:

- LO to write report on PND Event
- MC to make contact with Amy Choo at CCC and try and arrange a meeting in January possibly. Details of activities to be passed to EG.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 7th December 2010