



OLDER PEOPLE'S PROVIDERS NETWORK

Wednesday 10 March 2021
1:00pm – 2.30pm

Virtual meeting via Zoom

Chair: Zara Ghods, Chief Executive, Kensington and Chelsea Over 50s Forum
Minutes taken by: Zina Serageldin, KCSC

Item	Notes	Action
1	<p>Welcome from new Chair, Zara and introductions.</p> <p><u>Agenda</u></p> <p>Dhani Dhanoa (DD) introduced the new Chair of the Older People's Providers Network, Zara Ghods (ZG).</p> <p>ZG introduced herself and thanked everyone for attending. She asked all present to complete the evaluation form at the end of the session to enable planning for future meetings.</p> <p>All participants briefly introduced themselves and their organisations.</p>	
2	<p>Liz Dunsford, Senior Public Health Strategist – Adult Social Care, to give an update on situation with Covid-19 and the vaccine in both boroughs. Any questions for Liz?.</p> <p><u>Presentation</u></p> <p>Liz Dunsford provided borough updates on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Epidemiology Currently cases are low mainly to lockdown. Easing of restrictions A four-step roadmap has been introduced. Return to school has started and care home visits have also started. Roadmap assets: https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/spring-response/resources/ Vaccinations Group 8 have now been invited to book vaccinations. There is an undertaking to improve vaccine take up through training of Community Champions and those seen as trusted to ask residents to take the vaccine. Training is in place to get the voluntary sector to reach residents with this information. As with flu, where a new shot is given each year to account for changes in circulating flu viruses, something similar could happen for coronavirus shots. Testing information: https://www.westminster.gov.uk/testing https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/council-services-and-disruption-updates/covid-19-testing-and-tracing 	

	<p>Results are achieved straight away from Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing.</p> <p>Key discussion points following on from the presentation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently the voluntary sector are not on the priority vaccination list. Age group vaccination will be launched soon. While waiting for vaccination people must maintain Covid-19 secure working and get LFD testing twice a week. • Pfizer and Astra Zenica vaccines have been found to work on original Covid-19 strain and Kent variant. They are not as effective against the Brazilian strain. Work will continue to adapt vaccines. • Vaccines are 80% effective but do not prevent transmission. • Engagement work is being done to work with communities that have concerns. The lack of technical access is also being looked at. 	
3	<p>Breakout rooms to discuss this winter and what lockdown meant for older people's services – What worked? What didn't? What can be done to improve things? What was learnt from this lockdown?</p>	
	<p>Feedback was given following the breakout session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calls were very much appreciated by service users. Most people had been inundated with surveys and messages and wanted to speak to someone. Isolation and language barriers as well as dementia have had an impact. • The expansion of online and phone groups had provided more opportunities for housebound and less mobile service users who had once been excluded. • Positive feedback was received from unpaid carers who had not had to travel long distances and were able to fit classes/sessions around their other responsibilities. There is a strong desire for services to remain in place as it works so much better for them. • Attendance for online services has however been lower than face to face. Online services should not be a replacement but run alongside face to face services. • Even though digital interaction worked well for some it also proved a barrier for others. There was an impact on those that had sensory loss. • Those already isolated are becoming even more isolated. The impact is worse on those suffering with mental health already. • The divide has been heightened for those who are reticent to engage with technology. People not benefiting from the digital revolution are more isolated now than they should be. • Simple technology such as KOMP which Age UK have provided has helped to breach the divide. • Some people have been over connected with contact from organisations while others who have not require as much support from services have fallen through the gap with infrequent contact. This group will require support especially as lockdown ends, as they do not have any other family or networks. • Support is needed for people as they come out of doors again, not just emotional support but physical support is needed. • The long dark nights were found to have an impact on mobility and mental health. • An important area of homecare staff consistency needs to be looked at. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is hoped that the use of PPE and testing will allow for face to face conversations in people's homes. The RBKC hub worked well at referring people to hot food delivery services, foodbanks and prescription collection referrals. Certain isolated members were reached that had not been reached previously. Schemes such as telephone befriending had also resulted in more frequent contact than previous in person visits. 	
4	Evaluation Form	
	All those present were asked to complete the evaluation to indicate topics they would like discussed at future meetings.	

ATTENDANCE LIST

	Name	Organisation
	Anna Porta	Westway CT
	Carolina Castilla	Green Doctors
	Caroline	RBKC
	Deirlen Cano	One You Westminster
	Dhani Dhanoa	KCSC
	Elizabeth Dunsford	Public Health, Westminster
	Emma Cohen	Open Age
	Everine Shand	RBKC
	Francis Ngale	Carers Network
	Jackie Rosenberg	One Westminster
	Jenny Greenfield	KCSC
	John Fryer	Kensington and Chelsea Foundation
	Julia Linfoot	Harrison Housing
	Julie Foord	Resonate Arts
	Justin Gaffney	MSH at Home CIC
	Justine Dornan	RBKC and Green Doctors
	Lesley Derry	Public Health, WCC

	Purvita Bhatt	Westway CT
	Bupinder Verdi	RBKC
	Sandy Roberts	Carers Network
	Sara Murphy	KCSC
	Sharon Hobbs	Salvation Army
	Suresh Gupta	India Welfare Society
	Tasio Cabello	Age UK Kensington and Chelsea
	Teresa Meekings	Community Massage London CIC
	Tessa Jelen	Breathe Easy Westminster
	Vanessa Farrow	Chelsea Theatre
	Zara Ghods	Kensington and Chelsea Over 50s Forum

The information above will appear in minutes for this meeting which will be made available to all the attendees and published on KCSC's website.