

DIRECT PAYMENTS PEER SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

WEDNESDAY 6TH APRIL 216

Lambeth DP rates

Careers or care workers for children working on Lambeth's rates are still only receiving £8.21 per hour. When the rate for PAs working for adult DP users was raised to £9.15 from £8.21 per hour back in December 2015 the rate for carers working for CYPS clients remained at £8.21 per hour.

The Direct Payment's Charter

The Charter was well received; and with the meeting's agreement, Seàn will send it to Jackie Meldrum for Lambeth Council's input.

Actions from previous meeting

- Seàn will contact the Financial Assessment Team and invite someone from the team to a future meeting
- Ian Smith from CYPS has declined an invitation to a meeting of the group
- D and I are going to draw up a draft CYPS consultation document

Feedback from meetings

Colin Slasberg

Colin Slasberg is a Social Care Consultant. Colin has produced a lot of work in the area of *self-directed support*, part of the increasing move towards the personalisation of social care and support.

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Personalisation is a very wide subject, with self-directed support but one aspect. Within the field of self-directed support, there are a whole host of sub-headings. Colin has been working on the 'unmet needs' area of social care and support, and how the Care Act interacts with this.

Colin cannot make Wednesdays, so it was agreed that we hold an extra meeting on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday, depending on Colin's availability.

DBS checks

We have more bad news resulting from the government's austerity programme. Cuts in policing have meant depletion in the number of backroom staff; the very people who allow Bobbies on the beat by carrying out the administrative side of things. DBS checks are part of that administrative work; and since the staff cuts the time taken to carry out DBS checks have slowed considerably.

This could have an adverse effect on our recruitment drives, as it is understandable that prospective PA's and carers cannot wait indefinitely to take up job offers.

Self-Directed Support Forum

Typical forum attendees are those who work in the field of personalisation in addition to service users. Last month's meeting heard the voices of PAs and Employers.

MN, from the DASL Peer Support Group, spoke at the forum; and totally unprompted sang the praises of DASL. A Walthamstow service user spoke of the difficulties he experienced with his social care and support after moving from Camden.

It was reported that Kensington and Chelsea Council gives no support in recruiting for PAs.

New process for DP referrals

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With Lambeth's new process for referring client's to DASL, we come in much later in the process:

1. The social worker (SW) visits client and explain some of the Money Management (MM) Options
2. Once MM option has been made the SW sends off for the Financial Assessment (FA) forms
3. When the FA is complete, at this stage DASL is sent a referral; we then visit the client; and the process is as usual.

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