



BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes

Title of Meeting	Older People's Partnership Board	
Date/Time	Friday 19 May 2023 @ 1:00pm	
Venue	In person – Committee Room 1, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford	
No	Item	Action
1	Welcome	
2	<p>Minutes of last meeting held on 10 February 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Following the last meeting and request for health representatives to attend future meetings, MH advised that he has made contact with health colleagues following apologies received and has requested for future attendance.- The Co Chair commented that he believes the importance of the board seems to lacking in comparison to previous years. It was commented further that he and MH may need to discuss how we can raise the profile of the board going forward.- The Co Chair also asked if the portfolio holder for adults would be attending going forward. MH advised that due to the change in Mayor and administration of the Council, there is a new portfolio holder for Adults Services – Cllr Robert Rigby. The new Mayor is Tom Wootton. MH advised further that there is a new Finance Portfolio Holder also in place, Cllr Graeme Coombes. Action: MH confirmed that he will be speaking with the new portfolio holder for Adults' Services, inviting him to attend future board meetings.- At the last meeting, there was a request for Lee Phanco (Chief Officer for Assessment, Application & Business Support) to review the wording in communications from financial assessments. Lee has offered the following response: 'The Service has been undergoing a review and restructuring over the last few months as part of the Council's Operating Model review. This has taken priority and consequently there has not been a resource available to review document templates. The review will be progressed as soon as possible dependent upon resources and priorities for the service.' Action: MH will ask for Lee to keep the board updated at the next meeting and going forward on this matter.	<div>MH</div> <div>MH</div>
3	<p>Publication of Board minutes to Council Website</p> <p>MH advised the board that there has been a large amount of work undertaken on the Adults Services pages on the Council's website. In light of this, the minutes of the Adults' Services Partnership Board meetings will be available on the Council's website going forward.</p>	
4	Current issues and/or concerns	

	<p>The following issues were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attendance from professionals to be improved. - Need to improve input and attendance from invitees. MH commented that there could be an opportunity to look at producing a potential video in relation to the board, in order to promote attendance or membership, following grants received in this area. - A representative from BRCC asked about the boards function and what happens following what is discussed. MH said previously there was a formal agenda, with lengthy presenters, however it wasn't seen as productive. MH said the board has a broad spectrum – from roads, river festival, bus station, transport, health, whereby any issues can be raised and discussed. - Comments were made regarding online facilities and difficulties in accessing these, due to not having the right equipment to do so. MH said in terms of the board, we have made a commitment for the board meeting's to take place in person going forward to avoid any technical issues. A representative from BRCC said there is a 'you can do it' offer in libraries, which includes an officer of a device, support in IT and knowledge, and increasing IT confidence. An attendee said the computers in libraries are sometimes broken. There is also no town centre presence for this support from these groups. There are two schemes in place at present, one on Harrowden Road and the other near Woodside. BRCC representative said conversations are happening in the voluntary sector about how we can replace the offer that was previously in place at Guild House. - MH asked in terms of promoting the board, if BRCC and carers in beds would be happy to receive some leaflets about the board to promote these in libraries or group settings that are arranged. BRCC and Carers in Beds both agreed to this proposal. Action: MH to arrange for some leaflets promoting the board to be passed to BRCC and Carers in Beds. - A representative from CVS said it would be good to speak with ICS to see who is best to link in and attend the board meetings going forward. Also raised the impact of post pandemic social isolation and conversation needed around social interaction levels, as well as opportunities for older people to network and talk to each other. Action: MH to discuss with relevant colleagues. <p>Developing focus points for next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a need for an ICS representative to attend future meetings. - Isolation to be discussed at a future meeting and engagement with local providers attending to discuss what their offer is, alongside the cost of living crisis, fuel and food poverty. - Household support fund - Confirmation of attendance by all members of the OPPB, including members of the public and professionals. - An attendee raised access to GP's and doctors appointments and believes there should be a section on OPPB on access to doctors/health. A representative from BRCC said from April this year NHSE have revised the GP contracts, which is system-wide across the UK. NHSE are looking at how some capacity can be built in. The attendee commented further that this is for the ICS to attend and answer these queries and how this can be managed and improved. PCN's would be interested to know what's going on. - Further comments were made around no engagement in between meetings, with professionals wanting to discuss specific issues in separate meetings in between board meeting dates. 	<p>MH</p> <p>MH</p>
5	<p>Future agenda items</p> <p>As above.</p>	

	<p>MH advised that the ICB were invited to attend the board, however we did not receive apologies or attendance at today's meeting. Action: MH will be flagging this with the Director of Adults' Services and will be requesting future attendance to discuss the issues raised above.</p> <p>MH proposed that the next meeting is held with the purpose to have an engagement session with all parties and professionals.</p>	MH
6	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An attendee raised that she had received a series of scam calls she had received from an '020' number. She is aware that they are scam calls and has not been answering them. MH said the board could look at the possibility to discuss telephone scams and preference service at a future meeting. - Household Support Fund – A representative from BRCC asked if Bedford Borough are going to launch phase 4 of the fund. MH said this wouldn't fall under Adults Services directly, however he would look into this and come back to BRCC. Following the meeting, MH forwarded an internal contact to BRCC in respect of this piece of work. - A representative from Beds Fire and Rescue Service said that the Fire Service are actively encouraging home fire safety, particularly for service users. The representative also advised that this week is dementia awareness week and asked if Bedford Borough are doing anything in relation to this. The Fire Service are aware of the ageing well exhibition, which takes place later in the year on an annual basis. MH said he is happy to use this forum to advertise events if necessary. - A representative from CVS highlighted that CVS have tried to establish a food providers network, trying to get them to liaise a bit more and connect. The representative from the Fire Service asked if he could discuss a few matters with CVS following the meeting in this regard, particularly around potentially linking delivery of food packages with fire safety checks in homes. - MH advised that Healthwatch were unable to attend today's meeting, however have provided their GP access survey, for attendees to complete if they would like to, which is live for a further five weeks: https://engagingcommunities.welcomesyourfeedback.net/s/vdtnv2 There are paper copies available, should anyone rather complete a hard copy. They can be accessed via Healthwatch's Outreach Lead, who will send them out if members contact: enquiries@healthwatchbedfordborough.co.uk 	
7	Date of next meeting – August/September 2023 – To be confirmed	