

Children's Integrated Disability Service Reference Group

Wednesday 29th April 2009.

1. Present: TB-L, PB, BB, JG-S, SL, HM, JM-C, CP, JT.

Apologies: GA, EB, SD, AF, HL, ML.

2. Welcome and Introductions.

3. Small Grants Fund Applications- JG-S.

- ACTION- JT to pass Small Grants Fund Report to the Parent and Family Forum and on to the PPP website.
- Cool Blue Swimming in Plympton has applied for the grant as they would like to develop their capacity.
- Short Breaks- should be meaningful for young people. Should enhance the child's life rather than just baby sitting. Should be in an environment which will help them to gain skills.
- JGS is monitoring how people who have already received the grant are spending their money through updates from the different organisations.
- The group was asked whether they are happy to be guided or whether they have any ideas.
- It was fed back to JGS and HM that some respite services are not actually fulfilling their respite roles. A lot of them the parent has to be involved.
- Respite means different things to different people- it is good to have a cross section.
- The balance between respite that involves the parents/carers and respite which is just the child should be kept an eye on.
- Suggested that at meetings and events there could be a feedback form for parents/carers to sign as they leave.
- Cool Blue Swimming- Plympton.
 - Do not have a bank account.
 - Leisure cannot fund them for the coming year, the Small Grant Fund would be able to fund them.
 - Linked with Downham.
 - No insurance forms to fill out.
 - The lifeguards are trained with autistic children.
 - Leisure can train parents to be lifeguards or swimming teachers.
 - Leisure need to formally write down offers for parents to be involved as lifeguards or teachers.
 - Leisure are now included in all discussions about children with disabilities.
- Plymouth Multi Sensory Impairment Unit Equipment Library.
 - The equipment would be kept in the main store but would not be available to everybody. However they would benefit from

maintenance. Safeguarded to make sure that the equipment is looked after.

- Equipment would not be insured for loss or theft, only for if the machine malfunctioning hurt someone.
- JGS would like to come back to the group sooner if the grant application comes in for the summer holidays.
- JGS and HM to email to JT.

4. Disabled Children's Services Indicators N154.

- Children with disabilities already a priority so are not listed.
- JT has the list of Plymouth indicators.
- National indicators- Ministers are very concerned with making sure that issues to do with disabilities are actioned not just talked about.
- Targeting school aged children.

5. AHDC Parent Participation Grant

- £10,000 bid.
- 15 more parents to do Parent Participation.
- Laptop to cost £500. Video conferencing, webcam costs £5 if parents don't have one. Increases parent participation.
- Parents on the Plaza- to be held during Parents Week (October 25th). Looking at holding it over two days, no major cost involved. £1,000 for an extra day. One of the days to be focused on parents of children with disabilities. Flexible as long as it can be proven that a meeting has taken place to discuss.
- Face 2 Face- training for parents and professionals on how to do it wrong and how to do it right when working with parents. Ten to twenty parents can be involved. Advertise 6-7 months in advance. £350 for training, up to £550 because of venue. Oct/Nov possibly.
- Paying parents for meetings through vouchers.
- £440 over a year to pay approximately 15 parents.
- Does not limit the amount of parents if money is kept aside.
- Discussion around payment for attending meetings, pros and cons. Suggested that the number of parents who consistently attend could be an average for the number of people who would need paying.
- An idea would be to pay parents initially £2 for attending a meeting and then more when they have actually provided feedback.
- It was suggested that paying parents with the grant would not work because you would be giving them something and then taking it away.
- CHIDS to look at Lay people document.
- BB has made it very clear that the payment would only be for a year. Used as a 'pilot'.
- BB will not send the application off until everyone is happy with it.
- Cornwall are making a DVD on how to involve parents. PPP to buy copies of it.

- A parent conference would cost £5,000-£6,000. Possibly come out of Aiming High budget for information.
- Leaflets- there are lots of national publications, local ones are needed. Once done they are easily updated- sustainable.
- Everyone is happy with the proposed budget.
- Parent Carer Council- becoming a registered charity in Cornwall. Manage PP for Cornwall. Started off as a group like CHIDs. Is held up as a very good model nationally. Parent Partnership in Cornwall is seen as independent although it is run by the LEA because it is impartial.
- Discussion over P&FF. More parents are needed to represent their views.
- BB will investigate the terms of reference for PPP and Parent Carers Forum and email to everyone.