

MAYOR OF LONDON

Notes from the Deaf and Disabled Stakeholders Group meeting

Friday 20 June 14.00 – 17:00, City Hall, Committee Room 5

Attendees

Terry Day, Manager of Diversity & Social Policy Team, GLA (In the Chair)
Huma Munshi, Senior Policy Officer, Diversity and Social Policy Unit (HM)
Alan Kerr, Greenwich Association of Disabled People CIL/Artsline
Alan Strachan, Bengali Workers Association
Alex Gibbons, Interactive
Anthony Jefferson, NADP
Bob Marsh, Royal Association of Deaf People
Des Blake, Active Plus
Elcena Jeffers, Black Disabled People's Association
Farid Ansari, Iranian Disability Support Association
Jason Carlisle, Mencap
Jodi-Alissa Bickerton, Graeae Theatre Company
Masoud Norian, Iranian Disability Support Association
Robin Bray –Hurren, Graeae Theatre Company
Robin Bray-Hum
Sue Elsegood, Greenwich Association of Disabled People
Tom Hicks, Remploy
Tracey Lazard, Inclusion London

Presenters

Rita Chircop, ESF Manager, European Programme Management Unit (RC)
Michael Heanue, Principal Policy Officer, Economic Business Policy Unit

In attendance

Joyce Harvie, ESF Delivery Unit

Apologies

Graham Welton, British Deaf Association

Item	Minutes	Actions
1	Welcome and Introductions	
	Chair welcomed guests followed by introductions.	
2	Minutes of the last meeting and any arising actions	
	<p><u>Hate crime</u> MOPAC will be undertaking online consultation on their draft hate crime strategy within the next fortnight. A link to this will be sent to the group for input.</p> <p>Royal Association for Deaf People have a reporting centre for Deaf people to report hate crime. This is a pilot scheme running in Essex currently.</p> <p>Greenwich Association of Disabled People has a third party reporting mechanism which is open to all Deaf and disabled people.</p> <p>MPS strategy will be an internal operational document and will not be open to wider consultation.</p> <p>MOPAC Hate Crime Challenge took place on 13 February.</p> <p>Vulnerability Assessment Framework: Awaiting this and will be circulated to the group.</p>	<p>2.1 HM to circulate the link when it is available.</p> <p>2.2 Bob Marsh to send details to HM to send on to MOPAC and MPS for consideration</p> <p>2.3 GLA to seek clarification from MOPAC on the mechanism whereby the MOPAC strategy influences MPS operational strategy</p> <p>2.4 HM to circulate link to the webcast to the event.</p> <p>2.5 HM to circulate the VAF when</p>

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	<p>Initial contact kiosks - brief guide has been sent to the group.</p> <p>An update on the Draft Housing Strategy has been sent to the group</p>	available.
3.	Employment and Skills	
	<p>Michael Heanue from the Economic and Business Policy Unit and Rita Chircop from the European Programme Management Unit gave presentations on the work of the LEP and the European Structural Investment Fund. The following issues were raised by the group:</p> <p><u>Addressing disability discrimination in employment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Critical to address the issue of disability discrimination in employment otherwise disabled people will remain disadvantaged. The group suggested the GLA raise this at the LEP engagement events. <p><u>Targeted interventions and engagement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disabled people experience many barriers to employment and specific support is required for them to overcome this. This was vitally important as often people become disabled during the course of their employment. - Mainstream providers do not always have sufficient knowledge of the barriers disabled people experience in accessing the employment market, nor do they have the necessary reach into the community to engage disabled people. - Inclusion London has undertaken work to get disabled people into work and has had a success rate of 35% sustained employment. - RAD has a small employment programme with a 65% success rate in getting Deaf people into employment. The success of this project, and others like it, demonstrated that specialist support is required by an organisation that is aware of the needs of disabled people. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific engagement is required with disabled people to ensure employment programmes are targeted and appropriate. <p><u>GLA initiatives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The funds available via the Growth Funds and ESIF should be channelled towards specific interventions to support disabled people into work. - Information on the Growth Deal to be circulated to the group. - The GLA should work to raise awareness about reasonable adjustments with employers so they better understand their legal obligations in respect to disabled people and properly support them in their employment. - Joyce Harvie from the ESF Team outlined a project working with learning disabled young people aged 15-24. She was keen to speak to disabled people's organisations on the specification for the project. It was agreed that her contact details would be circulated. - In order to ensure effective targeted interventions, the group suggested employment and skills programme be developed in conjunction with disabled people's organisations, led by specialist providers which utilised existing good practice. - Rita Chircop agreed that she would detail how the GLA intended to engage with disabled people as it developed its proposals for European Structural Investment Fund interventions targeted at disabled people. This would be circulated to the group <p><u>Issues raised re central government</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Job Centre Plus has sent out information which is not always accessible. It was requested that the GLA use their influence to raise this issue. - The group asked about the use of the Flexible Support Fund in supporting disabled people into work. The Chair responded that she understood 	<p>3.1 HM to circulate the link to the Growth Deal</p> <p>3.2 HM to circulate JH's email address (joyce.harvie@london.gov.uk)</p> <p>3.3 RC to provide to the group.</p> <p>3.4 HM to gather concrete examples from members,</p>

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	<p>the funds were used at the discretion of each local Job Centre Plus Divisional Manager.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TD advised that she would raise the issue of the flexible support fund with the Paralympic Legacy Advisory Group when it met to discuss employment. - The government could do some further work to publicise Access to Work wider and speed up the process for agreeing funding. 	<p>then TD to raise with DWP</p> <p>3.5 TD to feedback to the group on her discussions with the PLAG on the Flexible Support Fund.</p>
4.	Chair's Update	
	<p><u>TfL sub-regional fora</u></p> <p>Following a review of the pilot sub regional mobility fora held in the Central and Southern Sub regions. TfL is now in the process of rolling these out to the remaining North, East, West sub region as well as setting up the meeting dates for the next Southern and Central sub regional mobility for a.</p> <p>TfL will be working with their Independent Disability Advisory Group (IDAG) members who will chair the fora and they have identified the relevant officer contacts in the boroughs who TfL work with to nominate up to three older / disabled people from each borough to participate in the fora (two representatives at each forum / a third person will allow for cases where a representative may be unable to attend).</p> <p>TfL are co-ordinating briefing sessions in May for the borough representatives who will nominate people for each of their boroughs.</p> <p>GLA's Strategic Access Panel (SAP)</p> <p>The GLA is in the process of forming a Strategic Access Panel (SAP). This will help to ensure that</p>	

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	<p>inclusive solutions are delivered for large scale strategic regeneration projects within London (GLA funded and non-GLA funded) and larger scale planning applications where there is no borough access group involvement or access officer to advise on the project. In the first instance the GLA is looking to appoint a Chair for the Panel. It is expected that the Chair would have appropriate relevant experience in the field of inclusive design and to be able to support the GLA. The post would be voluntary, but reasonable expenses and a recognition payment for attendance would be paid.</p> <p>Further information is available from our Accessible London web page:</p> <p>www.london.gov.uk/priorities/planning/publications/accessible-london-achieving-an-inclusive-environment</p> <p>For those wishing to apply for the position of Chair or to express your interest to be a member of the SAP please submit a copy of your CV to Neil Smith, Principal Adviser – Access, GLA, City Hall, The Queen’s Walk, London, SE1 2AA or via email to neil.smith@london.gov.uk. The deadline for application is the 11 July 2014.</p> <p>The group asked how the other members of the panel would be selected.</p> <p>GADP advised that they had previously been on the access panel and requested that information on the new structure be sent to previous members.</p> <p>Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance on Accessible London</p> <p>The Mayor has issued for public consultation draft supplementary planning guidance on Accessible London.</p>	<p>4.1 HM to circulate a response from GLA Planning</p> <p>4.2 HM to advise GLA Planning</p>

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	<p>This provides guidance on the implementation of London Plan Policy 7.2 Inclusive Design and of other policies in the Plan with specific reference to inclusive design</p> <p>One of the Mayor's aims for London is that everyone, whether resident, visitor or worker, is able to participate and enjoy all that the city has to offer. To help achieve this aim the London Plan 2011 includes a number of policies which promote an inclusive environment to help ensure that all of London's diverse communities can contribute to London's growing economy and enjoy a high quality of life. The Accessible London SPG provides advice to boroughs, developers, designers and planning applicants on implementing inclusive design principles effectively and on creating an accessible environment in London, with particular emphasis on the access needs of disabled and older people. It does not introduce new policy or add any additional burdens on developers.</p> <p>This SPG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides guidance on the policies contained in the London Plan regarding the creation and promotion of an accessible and inclusive environment. • Gives local planning authorities advice on how to incorporate and implement these policies. • Explains the principles of inclusive design and how these principles should be applied in London. • Gives designers ideas on where to find good technical advice and guidance. • Provides disabled people, older people and others who experience barriers in the built environment with an understanding of what to expect from planning in London. • Identifies legislation and national planning policy guidance relevant to the promotion of an inclusive environment. • Provides signposts to other relevant London 	

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	<p>Plan SPG documents and Implementation Guides which impact on the delivery of an inclusive environment.</p> <p>Accessible London 2014 SPG Draft pdf Accessible London 2014 SPG Draft rtf</p> <p>Responses must be received by 11 July 2014. They should be sent to: Neil Smith (draft SPG Accessible London) Planning Department Greater London Authority Freepost LON15799 London SE1 2BR</p> <p>or email: ALSPG@london.gov.uk</p> <p>Liberty as part of National Paralympic Day</p> <p>The Liberty Festival 2014 is returning to Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park this summer. Backed by the Mayor, this free outdoor event showcases the talents of Deaf and disabled artists, and will this year be held in the south of the park.</p> <p>Liberty Festival is taking place as part of National Paralympic Day, where you can watch world class Paralympic sport and try out a range of free community sports, courtesy of the British Paralympic Association, Motivate East and other partners.</p> <p>Don't miss what's sure to be a fantastic day out in London's top new attraction. For regular updates and information on accessibility in the park, visit the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park website.</p>	
5.	Digital Inclusion, Huma Munshi	

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	<p>Due to limited time, HM advised that she would like to focus on two elements of the digital inclusion agenda. This would be the (i) barriers disabled people face in getting online and (ii) areas where the Mayor can make a difference and increase digital inclusion.</p> <p>The group noted the following key barriers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inaccessible websites. The font and layout needed to be accessible. - The cost of kit and connectivity is prohibitive for many people. - Lack of digital skills. - BSL interpreter on the screen would make getting online easier for Deaf people. - For some people there is a lack of interest in getting online, i.e. with some older people. - People may lack the confidence to get online and require one-to-one support. - The cost of assistive technology is an additional barrier for disabled people to getting online. - It was noted that the government's "digital by default" agenda should be challenged because it may restrict disabled people's access to goods and services. <p>How can the Mayor make a difference in this area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Mayor to lobby the private sector for resources. - To use his influence to source refurbished kit for disabled people and disabled people's organisations. <p>Huma noted that she would be keen to get feedback from the group on any additional barriers and opportunities for the Mayor to influence this agenda and requested that this be sent to her directly.</p>	<p>5.1 Group to send any additional thoughts on directly to HM.</p>
6.	AOB	
	Inclusion London would be setting up a new pan-London Forum to look at issues impacting disabled	

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	<p>people. The first meeting would look at the issue of commissioning.</p> <p>The group asked for an increase in the number of meetings. The chair advised that in line with the other engagement meetings, the Deaf and disabled stakeholder meetings was resourced to take place twice a year.</p>	
	Date of next meeting – TBC	