

Notes from the Deaf and Disabled Stakeholders Group meeting

Wednesday 23 January 2013, 10:00 – 12:00, City Hall, Committee Room 2

Attendees

TD Terry Day, Manager of Diversity & Social Policy Team, GLA (In the Chair)
RJ Raymond Johnson, People's First Self Advocacy
AL Andrew Lee, People's First Self Advocacy
AG Alex Gibbons, Interactive
PF Peter Fellowes, London Autistic Rights Movement
HD Henrietta Doyle, Inclusion London
TL Tracey Lazard, Inclusion London
JK Joyce Kallevik, People's First Self Advocacy
MR Monica Rivers, Mencap
AM Alan Milner, Mencap
AK Alan Kerr, Greenwich Association of Disabled People CIL/Artsline
CF Colin Finch, Greenwich Association of Disabled People CIL
SK Syed Zafor, Apasenth
FA Farid Ansari, Iranian Disability Support Association

Presenters

SC Simon Cooper, Sports manager
DC Darren Curtis, Metropolitan Police Service
SG Stephen Greenhalgh, Deputy Mayor for Policing

In attendance

DH David Haralambidis, Diversity and Social Policy Officer, GLA
HM Huma Munshi, Senior Diversity and Social Policy Officer, GLA
JF Julie Fleck, Principal Access Officer, GLA
SJ Sue Johnson, Senior Diversity and Social Policy Officer, GLA
NS Nasra Salah, Administrator, GLA
NP Natasha Plummer, Head of Borough Information and Engagement, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime
BO Bennett Obong, Equality and Diversity Officer, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime

Apologies

TH Tom Hicks, Remploy
AM Alice Maynard, Scope

SC Sue Cipin, Jewish Deaf Association
 TF Tara Flood, Alliance for Inclusive Education
 FB Frank Buckley, Down Syndrome Education International
 JP James Partridge, Changing Faces
 PG Philip Glanville, National AIDS Trust (NAT)
 PR Paul Redfern, British Deaf Association
 TH Tony Heaton, Shape
 PB Paul Breckell, Action On Hearing Loss

Item	Minutes	Actions
1	Welcome and Introductions	
	Chair welcomed guests and did general introductions.	
2	Minutes of the last meeting and any arising actions	
	<p>Chair went through the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 July 2012.</p> <p>Transport for London (TfL) – Accessibility Implementation Plan The proposal to have sub-regional mobility forums was welcomed by the attendees. It is expected to run two pilot forums; one in central sub-region and one in southern sub-region starting in spring.</p> <p>Transport for London has published a transport access plan called 'Your Accessible Transport Network'. It deals with their commitments on what they are going to deliver over the next three to four years.</p> <p>There had been no specific feedback from TfL yet on the equality objectives in their Equality Scheme.</p> <p>Liberty Festival 2013 Brian Oakaby, Senior Events Officer, GLA, reports back through the Chair that the Liberty Festival 2013 Planning is still in the early stages, but they will be looking to liaise with SHAPE, Interactive and Artsline. It was suggested that Attitude Is Everything should also be included.</p>	<p>Circulate link to all.</p> <p>DH to chase this up.</p> <p>DH to inform BO</p>

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	<p>West Midlands approach to autistic people West Midlands police have a number of initiatives to improve their services to autistic people including the establishment of an autism forum. Andrew Whyatt of London Autistic Rights Movement (LARM) suggested that the MPS can create a similar forum. A paper summarising the initiatives has been passed to the MPS but there has been no reply about what they intend to do so far.</p>	<p>MPS to provide an update.</p>
3	<p>Evaluation of the GLA Sports Programme and the Mayor's Legacy Fund – Simon Cooper, Sports Manager, GLA and Alex Gibbons, acting Chief Executive, Interactive</p>	
	<p>Simon Cooper, Sport Manager, GLA, presented on the sporting legacy from both the Olympics and Paralympics and the ambition to get more people active. Alex Gibbons, of Interactive summarised the Inclusive and Active 2 strategy.</p> <p>The GLA's own strategy in April 2009 on sporting legacy consisted of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • getting more people active • transforming the sporting infrastructure in London not least in the Olympic Park • to build capacity • skills in London in terms of the people that are going to help deliver the sporting legacy • social benefits • wider social benefits - reduce crime, better social cohesion, improve health <p>The Government's sporting legacy agency, Sport England delivered a programme called 'Places People Play'. The GLA's sporting legacy programme has been aligned with that of Sport England's one.</p> <p>There were two key features of the Legacy Fund:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. tackling inactivity: a minimum of 10% of people in a programme have to be previously 'inactive'; and ii. getting more disabled people to participate 	<p>DH to circulate presentations</p>

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	<p>in sport through adoption of 'Inclusive and Active 2'</p> <p>The Mayor set aside £15.5 million as his contribution to developing a Sports Programme that would help deliver sporting legacy for London. This was divided into this list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £7 million to sports, facilities • £3 million for skills • £5.5 million for sports projects. <p>The GLA managed to attract £25 million of matched funding that is a total funding of £40 million.</p> <p>The impact of this funding so far is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75 sports facilities across London, from 35,000 to 70,000 users a week • 15,000 coaches. 12% are disabled. <p>It also funded 35 projects to raise participation rates in sport and to help get the wider social benefits.</p> <p>A further £7 million has been made available to continue the sporting legacy programme.</p> <p>There was a keen interest from the group members to ensure that the extra funding could target people with learning disabilities wanting to become coaches, improving their access to employment opportunities.</p> <p>The group also showed a great interest in finding out how many projects out of the 35 funded by the Mayor's Legacy Fund, were disability specific. SC stated that there were 3, but the general approach is that all the projects had to be inclusive.</p> <p><u>Alex Gibbons of Interactive</u></p> <p>Inclusive and Active 2 is the strategy to ensure that disabled people have the same opportunities to do sports and physical activity as everybody else. 50% of people are inactive and 75% of those are disabled people. The strategy aims to encourage activity for the long term and not just one off projects or special</p>	<p>DH to send updates to the group on the Sporting Legacy Programme</p>

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	<p>occasions.</p> <p>So far 85 agencies have adopted the strategy and 32 came from projects funded through the Mayor's Office. An estimated 3,720 disabled Londoners have become active.</p> <p>Interactive is looking to partner with more organisations with better expertise and experience in working with disabled people on inclusion.</p> <p>It was pointed out that safety is a big concern for disabled people to come out and get involved in sport. There was also a suggestion that autistic people are included in these projects and AG invited members of the group to participate and welcomed the suggestion to involve autistic people as well.</p>	
4	Disability Hate Crime: Latest figures and action taken by the Metropolitan Police Service – Detective Superintendent Darren Curtis, Metropolitan Police Service	
	<p>Detective Superintendent Darren Curtis (DC) of the Metropolitan Police Service gave a short presentation on some key initiatives of the MPS to reduce hate crime incidents against disabled people. He noted that he is new to the role and he was attending to listen to the group members. He committed that the MPS would attend the next meeting and report back in detail on the initiatives.</p> <p>Points were made by members of the group including:</p> <p>The MPS should have a local named police officer who will be liaising with local self advocacy disabled peoples' organisations to better understand the specific issues for a person with learning difficulties when giving details of a hate crime. People with learning difficulties often have difficulties describing the actual incident and they require an advocate to do this on his/her behalf.</p>	<p>The MPS to attend next meeting in 6 months</p> <p>DC's presentation to be sent out to members</p>

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	<p>The issue of under reporting was a problem and it was suggested by a number of group members that this can be best resolved by the MPS adopting a hate crime strategy focusing on disabled people.</p> <p>At the moment the Police and Crime Plan does not have a detailed response. The report by Equality and Human Rights Commission entitled "In Plain Sight" does have some good recommendations which the MPS can adopt.</p> <p>Another example of a good resource is Mencap's "Stand By Me" campaign which essentially sets out a ten point pledge on fighting hate crime against people with learning difficulties. The MPS can also utilise this and the expertise of other organisations.</p> <p>It was mentioned that it is important for the police to have local relationships with Deaf and disabled people's organisations to better understand the personal safety issues that many disabled people face.</p> <p>One of the reasons of under reporting of hate crime is the long time taken by the Crown Prosecution Service to organise trials. It is important that trials take place within shorter periods than they currently do and that there is an increase in conviction rates.</p> <p>Disabled people may find it challenging to report a crime as there will be fewer police stations in the future.</p> <p>DC welcomed the points made and pledged that the MPS will attend the next meeting to report back on progress made.</p>	
5	The Police and Crime Plan – your views are sought- Stephen Greenhalgh, Deputy Mayor for Policing	
	Stephen Greenhalgh (SG), Deputy Mayor for Policing stated that there is a currently a consultation process on the Police and Crime Plan which will close on 6 of March 2013 in order to raise awareness and deal with the issues correctly once it is reported.	

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	<p>SG mentioned that one of the key aims of the Police and Crime Plan is to develop better practice in dealing with repeated offences.</p> <p>MPS face a reduction in the police grant of around 20%. Budget savings of £500 million need to be found.</p> <p>The Metropolitan Police is to seek a 20% reduction in high impact, high volume, and neighbourhood crimes, many of which will be suffered by disabled Londoners: vandalism, burglary, robbery and violent crimes. The plan proposes to have 2,600 more police officers in Safer Neighbourhoods than in October 2011.</p> <p>The Metropolitan Police has 497 operational buildings and only 136 have public access that cost £203 million a year, they need to save 60 million in the property running costs. In doing that, they need to think about public access, in particular access for disabled people.</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor then invited comments from the floor, which were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need for an effective strategy combating hate crime against disabled people • The strategy could include the recommendations from the Equality and Human Rights Commission's 'Hidden in Plain Sight' report recommendations and MENCAP's "Stand By Me" campaign • The proposed closures of police stations in the plan can pose a number of challenges to disabled people who would like to report a hate crime. • Some disabled people have limited access to the internet or cannot use the phone easily, limiting their ability to access the police • People need to be able to know which stations are open, including those open 24/7 • Police officers need to have better disability 	

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	<p>equality training to assist them in dealing with disabled people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More compliance with sentences and appropriate sentences is required • The Community Safety Unit in Greenwich is committed to addressing disability hate crime and has a good relationship with the Greenwich Association of Disabled People. • Hate crime is increasing as gangs are taking advantage of disabled people to hold drugs in their homes • The MPS could monitor its implementation of the “Stand By Me” recommendations • Disability hate crime incidents often occur where people get on and off transport. • Closing Greenwich Police Station, which is a transport and tourist centre will make it difficult to report crime • More information is needed on the process of selecting the police stations which are going to close. <p>SG noted the important issues raised and suggested they required further discussion and that he would look for alternative options to the closure of the Greenwich police station.</p>	<p>TD to meet with MOPAC and MPS to discuss ways forward on disability hate crimes</p>
6	AOB & GLA updates	
	<p>GLA updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Know Your Rights’ campaign • Accessible London - Evaluation <p>Attendees suggested having 3 monthly meetings and the Chair explained that the current engagement is in line with other engagement that takes place with different community groups and that the GLA does not have the capacity to service more frequent meetings.</p>	<p>DH to circulate GLA updates</p>