

Notes from Woking Local Strategic Partnership 24 March 2004

The meeting focussed on the Community Strategy theme 'A community which values personal health and well-being'.

Justin Dix, Director of Mental Health and Children's Services, Woking Area PCT, described how Surrey County Council children's services (care and education) and health services for children are working ever more closely together, in line with the recommendations of "Every Child Matters" and the new Children's Bill.

Colleagues from the Primary Care Trust reported on progress on the Community Strategy Action Plan on health and well-being, public health, health inequalities, health promotion, patient and public involvement and the Local Delivery Plan & Health & Social Care Plan. Judi Linney, Director of Public Health, said that research shows that poverty is a causal factor in health inequalities, and that people from minority ethnic backgrounds have higher incidence of coronary heart disease & diabetes (linked to smoking, healthy eating, and exercise). The LSP decided that for the coming year, its health and well-being priorities would be smoking, healthy eating, exercise, poverty and drug use by schoolchildren. All members will identify how they can contribute and send information to Judi by end April. An action plan will be considered at the May meeting. Woking CRF will be asked if they would agree to be co-opted to advise on this work.

The linked partner event held on 29 January 2004 will be repeated: Chris Holloway and Lesley Kitchen will bring a proposal to the next meeting. Issues raised by linked partners were discussed. Detailed minutes of the LSP will be sent out in addition to this brief note, but meetings will continue to be held in private.

This meeting was also an informal "AGM". Lesley Kitchen (WAVS) was appointed chairman for the coming year, Paul Smith (Police) Vice-chair, and Chris Holloway (Surrey County Council) secretary.

The work on promoting independence for older people was noted.

The main themes for the next meeting on 18 May 2004 will be safety (part of the theme of "A clean, healthy and safe environment") and areas of deprivation (under the theme "Integrated and accessible local facilities and services").

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