

## Northern Acquired Brain Injury Forum (NABIF)

### Minutes of the Meeting held at Walkergate Park International Centre for Neurological Rehabilitation on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2007

#### In Attendance

Professor Michael Barnes (Chairman), John Walker, Alistair McDonald, Des O'Meara, Simon Easton, Viv Watson, Paul Tasker, Alistair Berry, Steven McAleese, Judith Morrison, Alison Langthorne, Helen Spellman, Amjed Malik, Anne Hunter, Boda Gallon, Ben Townsend, Paul Saxon, Vicki Gilman, Helen Atkin, Mark Tempest, Jan Waddington.

Many thanks to Dr Willy Barker for being very entertaining, interesting and informative, whilst providing us with an insight into Neuropsychiatry.

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Alistair White, Helen Hastie, Simon Garlick, Janice Thompson, Jenny Locke, Heather Batey, Helen McConville.

#### 2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes approved.

No matters arising (not dealt with elsewhere).

#### 3. Service Mapping

Simon Easton brought us up to date with the service mapping project.

The aim is to develop a directory of services for adults and children, which will be made available for service users, carers/families and professionals.

A sub-group, consisting of Simon Easton, John Walker, Steven McAleese, Alistair Berry, Neil Brownlee and Helen Aitken is directing the project. **However, amongst that group there is a lack of expertise in children's services, and a volunteer with that expertise would be welcome.**

The first stage is to gather information on all services available under the following headings:

- Neurological centres , A & E and District General Hospitals.
- Post-acute hospital rehabilitation (in-patient, out-patient and out-reach).
- Non-residential/community based rehabilitation.
- Supported living/residential.
- Vocation services.

An information gathering exercise was carried out at the meeting, but further responses, particularly for the Cumbria, County Durham and Teesside areas will be most welcome.

Information should be sent to: [simon.easton@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:simon.easton@ntw.nhs.uk).

#### 4. Website

Update from Paul Saxon. The website is up and running and provides brief information about NABIF, together with copies of Minutes of previous meetings, the Agenda for forthcoming meetings and information about other forthcoming events.

The plan is to develop the website so that it will provide:

- i. A database of those who provide services to people with a ABI, their carers and families. It was agreed that (following the model that UKABIF have used previously) individuals and organisations will be invited to add their details to the database, but there will be no vetting and no approval (or otherwise) of those on the database. A disclaimer will therefore need to be used with the database. It was agreed by those present that commercial organisations wishing to add their details to the database with a direct link to their own web-site would pay a fee of £50.00, which will be used to fund the website.
- ii. An area for use by the service mapping team, which should allow information to be gathered as well as for information to be provided.

#### 5. Training Day

John Walker provided an update. Approximately 128 people have been e-mailed with a questionnaire about a future training day. There is sufficient interest to justify proceeding.

A provisional date of 13<sup>th</sup> November 2007 has been set. The likely venue is Walkergate Park. Further details will be provided once a preliminary programme has been put together.

#### 6. Protocol for Medico-Legal Work

Mark Tempest suggested creating a protocol for the provision of rehabilitation in a medico-legal context. The aim is to ensure co-operation and maximise the use of services and resources between the legal, independent and statutory sectors.

A sub-group was set out to progress matters, consisting of Mark Tempest, Ben Townsend, Anne Hunter and Vicki Gilman.

## 7. Any Other Business

- i. Cumbria ABI services: Jan Waddington indicated that funding has now been secured from Cumbria and Lancashire PCT's to create a team providing ABI services in Cumbria. Teams will be based in the North and South of the Region. They will shortly be advertising for Neuropsychologists.
- ii. Paul Tasker drew our attention to the report of the Picker Institute on the difficulties people have accessing information about health and social care services. A copy of the report is available at [www.pickereurope.org](http://www.pickereurope.org).
- iii. Anne Aitken brought to our attention the DOH call for examples of good practice from services supporting the implementation of the NSF. There is a submission date of 31<sup>st</sup> July 2007.

Information on how to submit examples can be found at [www.dh.gov.uk/en/policyandguidance/healthandsocialcaretopics/longtermconditions/bestpractice/DH4105454](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/policyandguidance/healthandsocialcaretopics/longtermconditions/bestpractice/DH4105454).

Examples can be sent to: [long-term-conditions-nsf@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:long-term-conditions-nsf@dh.gsi.gov.uk).

## 8. CBIT

CBIT: Vicki Gilman indicated that CBIT have recruited a project worker for their Child and Family Support Programme. Julie Young will start on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007 and be based at Northern Counties School.

In addition CBIT are holding a conference on 24<sup>th</sup> October titled Memory Day at the Centre for Life, Newcastle Upon Tyne. Further information can be obtained from Vicki or from [www.cbituk.org](http://www.cbituk.org) or by e-mail to [info@cbituk.org](mailto:info@cbituk.org).

## 9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at 12 noon – 2pm.

The venue will be St James's Parish Centre, St James Road, CARLISLE CA2 5PD.