

# *years ahead- north east forum on ageing*

## Partnership Board

### Minutes of the Partnership Board Meeting held on 23 September 2008, at the IAH, Newcastle upon Tyne

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**1. Apologies for absence:** Nicholas Baumfield, Bob Bell, Michelle Cadby, Pamela Denham, Norman Jemison, Bob Pinkerton, Alex Pirrie, Neil Sashoua, Jan Slade, Debbie Smith

**Present:** Jim Edwardson, Ken Brown, Kasia Kurowska, Alice Thwaite, Audrey Lax, Elsie Richardson, Steve Martin, Lynne Corner, Sam Tannahill

JE apologised for the short notice of the change of venue.

#### **2. Minutes of the last meeting**

Minutes of the last meeting had been pre-circulated.

#### **3. Matters Arising**

**ANEC Representation:** Jim Edwardson said that he hoped a representative from ADASS will be introduced at the next Board meeting. Kasia Kurowska to discuss with Rob Mitchell at ANEC and send contact details of ADASS representative to LC.

**Regional Dementia Strategy Group:** CSIP is funding Years Ahead to co-organise this group which will contribute to development and implementation of the National Dementia Strategy (due to be published in November 08) at regional level. Dr Louise Robinson is chairing the group, which has met once and agreed terms of reference. Six meetings will be held and the Group will launch its recommendations at an event in March 09.

**Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership (RIEP)** – LC to meet with Julie Brown, Programme lead for Adult Services, to discuss how Years Ahead can support RIEP in terms of engagement with Older People throughout region. LC to circulate RIEP newsletter to Board members with minutes of the meeting.

**ACTION: LC**

#### **4. Memorandum of Understanding between Institute for Ageing and Health (IAH), Newcastle University and *Years Ahead***

A draft Memorandum of Understanding had been pre-circulated. JE outlined the purpose of the document to Board members. It was stressed that this is a statement of intent to collaborate and work together and not a legal contract. At a Planning Group meeting Pamela Denham had indicated several changes that needed to be made (e.g. changing the word 'shall' to 'will' throughout the document). JE has raised this with Newcastle University. The Board unanimously agreed the Memorandum of Understanding subject to the proposed changes.

#### **5. Outline Proposal for Regional Research and Engagement Panel**

A paper on this proposal had been pre-circulated. A key recommendation of the Years Ahead Task Group on 'Research and Older People' was that a Regional Research Panel be established. Public Engagement is now a key priority for Newcastle and other NE universities, who are seeking greater engagement with local communities. The Institute for Ageing and Health at Newcastle University has agreed to fund Years Ahead to establish and run a joint Regional Research and Engagement Panel.

Years Ahead has a major need to secure core funding. Support is currently from ONE North East via the Equalities Coalition and the CADE project. However, this funding is likely to decrease further for 09/10. The proposed University support for the Regional Research and Engagement Panel represents an opportunity to increase Years Ahead's core activities and to lead on public engagement for older people in the region. The Regional Research and Engagement panel will consist of a demographically and geographically representative sample of people (n= 2000) from across the North East.

JE proposed that Lynne Corner be seconded from Years Ahead to IAH, to lead on Public Engagement. LC would have responsibility for public engagement at IAH and continue to oversee regional co-ordination of Years Ahead. The funding from CADE will be used to employ another person to ensure the CADE outputs are met on time and to budget.

JE stressed that Years Ahead still needs to consider core funding. Neil Shashoua is meeting with Jo Whaley, Equalities Coalition and Robin Beveridge, ONE North East to discuss funding for 09/10 and beyond.

LC to meet with Neil Shashoua, Age Concern to discuss.

#### **ACTION LC/NS.**

JE also gave Board members details of the 'Beacons of Public Engagement' award to Newcastle and Durham Universities. This is a major project promoting public engagement, with ageing and health as a key theme. The Beacon project has agreed to second a member of the Beacon team to Years Ahead/ IAH for one year to undertake work on public engagement and older people and to support the establishment of the Regional Research and Engagement panel. The IAH and Beacon are also funding secretarial support for the Panel.

The Board unanimously supported the proposal for the Regional Research and Engagement Panel, including the secondment of LC to this role.

## **6. Years Ahead Budget**

**VAT** – Age Concern Support Services (North East Region) currently handle the core funding from CADE for Years Ahead. ACSS(NER) have again expressed concern that they may be liable for payment of VAT and have halted the payment of invoices on all expenditure for Years Ahead (including salaries) until the matter is resolved. JE has received an email from the University VAT officer saying that VAT should not be payable. JE is now seeking written confirmation from the University Finance Officer that ACSS (NER) will not be pursued for any payment of VAT for Years Ahead services if this advice is over-ruled by HMCR, and is currently awaiting a response.

**DC Noise** – Years Ahead organised a visit from a team from a European project - DC Noise in June 08. The invoice has not yet been paid. LC and finance department are chasing up.

## **ACTION LC**

**Foresight** – the Foresight Mental Capital report is published in October 08. LC/ Years Ahead undertook some work for Foresight on well-being for older people. Foresight have been invoiced for this work.

## **7. Public Health Regional Strategy**

The Chair for the Regional Advisory Group (RAG) for Later Life is Professor Oliver James, the theme lead is Debbie Smith. Several members of the Years Ahead Board and Health Task Group have been invited to join this group. JE has also written to Keith Aungiers in the Public Health team about Years Ahead representation on other Regional Advisory Groups, including 'A Good Death', 'Prevention, early and Fair Treatment' and 'Mental Health, Happiness and Wellbeing'. LC to circulate a list of chairs of other RAGs with the Board minutes. LC to liaise with Steve Martin, Job Centre Plus about representation of over 50's on mature and Working Life Group.

## **ACTION: LC/SM**

## **8. Governance Arrangements – advert for chair**

Shelagh Marshall, Chair of Future Years has agreed to chair the interview panel in November. The advert for chair of Years Ahead will be circulated to Board members later on 24<sup>th</sup> September 08 with a deadline for applications at the end of October.

## **9. Feedback on Years Ahead/ IAH visit to Kaiser supermarkets, Germany**

JE reported on a successful visit and the considerable publicity the visit generated for Years Ahead. An excellent report which Bob Weiner has written for the Elders Council Newcastle was circulated. Sharon Kusenoff is writing the final report for the group. JE has been approached by the Association of Convenience stores about the visit and is following up this enquiry.

## **10. Years Ahead Task groups**

- a. *Implications of Demographic Change in the North East* - this report is intended to be a background paper to go with launch of the Strategic Plan. The strategic Plan now needs updating. LC/JE to discuss.
- b. 'Productive Ageing/ Employability in the 50+ Age Group' - a joint event with NIACE/ LSC is planned for February/ March 09. The event will focus on employment and health. LC to meet with Pat Whaley, NIACE; Simon Lindsay, LSC and Steve Martin/ Tim Bird, Job Centre Plus to discuss.
- c. Arts and Older People – Lord Putnam will attend the launch, scheduled for Thursday 19 March 09. It was suggested that a workshop with the Universities North East 'Cultural Committee' and provider organisations might be run in the afternoon, to look at ways to build on the recommendations of the task group report.
- d. Task Group on Health - the group held its final meeting. Recommendations from the group will be given to the RAG for 'Later Life'.
- e. Regional Strategic Coordination – An event on Social Care Transformation provisionally scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> October 08, has been cancelled. The group is meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
- f. Access and Transport Task Group – this group has not yet been convened. A Newcastle university press release concerning work from Dr. Jenny Brake who was the proposed chair for the group was pre- circulated.

## **11. Date of next meeting**

The next Partnership Board meeting will be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2008, 10.30 – 1pm. Venue to be confirmed.