

Hammersmith & Fulham Disabled People's Commission (DPC)

Meeting minutes – 20th October 2016

Who was at the meeting?

Members of the commission:

Tara Flood (Chair)

Jane Wilmot

Patricia Quigley

Mike Gannon

David Isaac

Kate Betteridge

Martin Doyle

Victoria Brignell

Ramona Williams

Also at the meeting:

Councillor Vivienne Lukey

Kevin Caulfield

For support:

Chris Blewitt (p.a.)

Georgina Martin (p.a.)

Peter Smith (LBHF)

Fawad Bhatti (LBHF)

Apologies to the commission:

Rosemary Edwards

- Rosemary has said that she cannot be part of the commission because of other time commitments.

Councillor Stephen Cowan

Councillor Sue Fennimore

Introductions and news



Tara told the group that she is still looking for 2 new people to join the DPC:

- A deaf person
- A young disabled person (speaking to Safety Net Youth about this)

Tara was very happy to tell the group that Kevin Caulfield has been given the job of policy and research support.

Kevin will start next week and will work for 18 hours each week.

Discussion: How will we know if the DPC has been successful?



Victoria suggested doing a survey of disabled people now and then again in 2 years.

This would help the DPC see if they had made a change in people's lives.

Tara and others in the group thought this was a good idea. The group agreed that the survey should be short and that Kevin and Tara would come up with some questions.

It was suggested that a couple of events would help get people involved, too.





Councillor Lukey thought that a survey for councillors and senior managers at the council could also be a good idea. This survey would also be to see how the DPC has changed things – but this survey would look at the way it has changed things for staff and professionals.



Tara explained that she thinks the DPC group is very diverse and involves lots of different people. But, Tara wants to make sure the DPC still talks to lots of different disabled people in H&F.



The group talked about whether the survey should ask about carers or even involve carers. It was agreed that this was not the reason for starting the DPC.



Dave did say that we need to think about how we ask the questions. A lot of people worry about being polite or causing a stir – this means they will not always answer questions fully.



Tara explained that she would like the commission to come up with a 'checklist' or 'toolkit' for co-production.



People thought this was a good way of making sure the DPC's work has an impact and lasts into the future.



Ramona also explained that every time a policy is looked at or changed, there needs to be a disabled person involved.

Kate explained that staff training is very important, in her opinion.

She suggested that the DPC could help employers by sharing ideas for good practice when working with disabled people.

This would be another thing the DPC could do as well as making the 'checklist or 'toolkit'.



Discussion: Council Decisions and Actions List

Jane asked what the council does to get people in H&F involved in council decisions.

Peter explained that there are 5 groups for doing this at the moment:

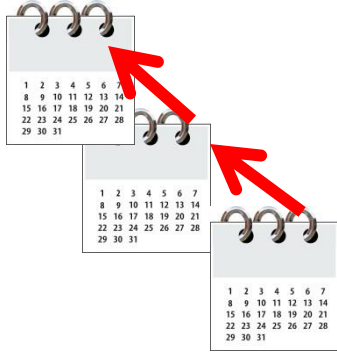
- The Heathrow Commission
- The Air Quality Commission
- The Poverty and Worklessness Commission
- The Business Commission

And, us! The Disabled People's Commission.

The DPC works with Health, Adult Social Care and Social Inclusion too – looking at policies being made.

An idea was suggested that the DPC worked with the Poverty and Worklessness Commission, too.





Peter explained when important decisions are being made, the council cabinet puts the information out 3 months in advance.



Mike explained that the Housing for Disabled People report was coming up on 12th December.

Councillor Lukey explained that this was a chance for a discussion – the decision won't be made on the 12th.

The DPC could invite relevant people into the next meeting to talk about this housing report.



Patricia explained that the Sports and Leisure Strategy was being looked at on 16th November.

Fawad said he would try and find out more about this from officers at the council.

Ramona pointed out that she agreed that this was important because of her own problems with a gym not having a disability policy for people who are visually impaired.



Tara explained that she wanted to speak to Councillor Sue Fennimore about the Social Inclusion Forum and how the DPC could work with that Forum.



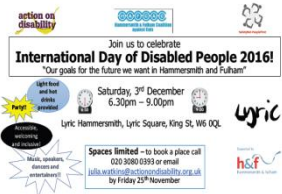
Councillor Lukey said that the council wanted to make sure they had one policy to follow for making sure things are accessible.



Dave, Jane and Ramona all explained an interest in the Future Waste and Street Cleansing Service item that will be looked at in January.

Dave, Jane and Ramona all explained how important clear streets and clean streets are for people who are visually impaired, or people who may use a wheelchair or have physical access issues.

Any other business and the next meetings



On Saturday 3rd December there is an event at the Lyric in Hammersmith celebrating International Day of Disabled People.

Ramona offered to represent the DPC at the event.



Jane, Dave and Martin explained that they thought this room at Dawes Road Hub was more accessible than the Town Hall.

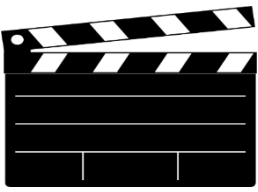
Ramona suggested changing the room layout at the Town Hall.



The next meeting is at 5pm on Monday 21st November.

It will be in the Courtyard Room at Hammersmith Town Hall.





Actions:

Tara and Kevin to draft a short survey and share questions.

Tara and Kevin to draft a short survey for councillors and senior council staff.

Kevin to look at results of consultation on the Procurement Strategy.

Tara and Kevin to prepare a list of proposed success measures for the next meeting.

Commissioners to think about the focus of a joint meeting with the Poverty and Worklessness Commission.

Councillor Lukey to share new priorities from the council with the DPC once they have been agreed.





Peter to discuss Housing report with relevant officer and invite them to the next meeting.

They will also organise a prep meeting with Tara and Mike.

Councillor Lukey will also talk to the right person in the group of councillors.



Fawad to talk to Sports Development staff about the Sports and Leisure Strategy.



Tara to discuss DPC relationship with the Social Inclusion Forum, with Councillor Fennimore.



Peter to discuss the Future Waste and Street Cleansing report with the right person at the council.

Hammersmith & Fulham Disabled People Commission – Nothing About Us Without Us Work Plan:
October 2016 – February 2018

Tara, Kevin and Peter to meet and develop the draft work plan.

| Actions/ Priority | What will we do? | Why we are doing this? | Who and when? | Who else could help? |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
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| | | | | |
| | | | | help? |

Ramona to speak about the DPC at the International Day of Disabled People on Saturday 3rd December.