



Bristol Ageing Better Programme Board

Tuesday 1st April 2014

Age UK Bristol, Canningford House

Present: Alan Carpenter(Chair), Judith Brown (Deputy Chair), Ruth Richardson, Geraldine Summers, Kay Russell, Robin Means, Mirella Brittan, Mandie Lewis, Richard Jarratt, Brian Richards, Roy Hackett, Keith Sinclair, Guy Robertson, Bob Maggs, Stacey Butterworth

Apologies: Rosa Hui, Heather Wright, Mark Baker

1. Welcome and Introduction

Alan welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave an overview of the agenda, highlighting that point three was the heart of it, as this was the time to look at the proposed projects in detail.

The minutes of meeting held 25th February 2014 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Alan updated on the work that has happened since the last meeting – the conversations project, Guy's visits to Dorset and Manchester, the conversations conference, Big Lottery workshop on the SS Great Britain, the business cases – and expressed appreciation especially to Ruth, Judith and Guy for their work.

The main job of this meeting was to approve each of the cases and the vision and strategy. At the next meeting on 23rd April this will receive final sign off before submission to BLF on 30th April.

2. Key Points from Conversations Conference

Ruth gave a summary of the conference and passed on the feedback that indicated that people felt included in the event and able to give their feedback. The public support of both of the Mayors was very positive and we achieved a good balance of partners and older people.

Recap: Over 2,000 responses have been received and the number is growing, spread out between all postcodes with a good response from our target areas.

Keith spoke about a recent event for volunteer carers where they found that carers were completing forms on behalf of individuals and not to share their own views. They have been encouraged to do both so we can gather opinions from all of them. Alan asked if any key themes had been identified from this and Keith clarified that Dementia was a focus.

Bob expressed his interest in the results of question 1 as presented at the conference as transport commonly comes out as the most popular. Ruth clarified that people could put more than one answer in their response and Robin suggested that people may have interpreted that transport was not an issue being focused on.

Geraldine wanted to clarify what was classed as 'befriending' in the responses and Ruth confirmed that a large amount of people specifically said 'befriending' but some other responses were included in the 'visits at home' category.

Ruth explained that these results have already been sent out to some local organisations that would find it useful and have been made available to all partners.

3. The Final Submission

Guy talked through each of the 14 business cases, in the way that they are arranged in the bid framework, emphasising that these do not get submitted to the Lottery at this stage and it is for our own understanding. There is an issue of scheduling and it is clear that all of these would not all start at the same time, when the funding is received. The key things to be discussed: what do we want to include? Do we want to discard any of the ideas? Do we want to add anything? If anything is taken out, the logic behind it needs to be understood.

There was an opportunity for questions before looking at the plans – Richard made the point that if 'younger' older people are targeted early, they were use the services and reduce the causes of loneliness and isolation before it becomes a problem, helping sustainability of the project. Mirella asked if there is a built-in mechanism for measurement and Robin clarified there will be project outcomes which will be measurable. Guy stressed the importance of evaluation and mystery shopping throughout the project, which will be built in to the commissioning process.

Creating the Conditions

Age Friendly City

Kay made everyone aware that this is a current directive being looked at by the Mayor, as well as a 'resilient city' initiative which includes community resilience. An action was agreed: to meet with Barbara Janke from Bristol City Council before the planned meeting with the Mayor.

Public Information (animation)

It was highlighted that this would be a national resource so there is a hope to look at wider funding from BLF as it is not only focused in Bristol. Kay and Geraldine met with Heather from Aardman Animations recently and wanted to flag up that use of their name and character names are to be signed off by her before submission. Geraldine raised concerns that the bid should be very Bristol focused and wondered if there was another way the national information could be presented. This is an action for Mark to consider.

Asset Based Training

This case is based on the philosophy that older people are not 'needy' and instead viewing the experience and building on this. The result is using their skills and not just 'solving a problem'.

Bob questioned changing the terminology used in this case. Geraldine believed this should be expanded upon to be made more real and passionate. Alan agreed this information could be a strand running through the whole bid. Robin observed that this case links elements together more than some of the other ones so it is critical how it engages. Guy summarised that this case has support in principal but it has to be looked at in more detail before proceeding.

Identifying and Informing

GP Case Finding and Social Prescribing

Guy warned that this is not a strong solution yet but links can be formed with GP's and healthcare professionals to put this in place. Bob challenged this, drawing on previous negative experiences in working with GP's and was unsure of how well supported this would be. He advised we would have to justify what benefit work like this will have to the, specifically in term of time and money.

Brian stated that this is the weakest part of the bid as it is relying on connection that we do not already have. Keith agreed with what had been said but has found that some GP's and healthcare professionals are more responsive than others.

Alan surmised that there is work to be done on this and Guy agreed it is an initiative we should be following. This is something to be looked at in the future but cannot be decided at this meeting. Mandi suggested using resources that are already in place (for example letters that are sent out to older people about flu jabs) to aid this and demonstrate how the workload can be reduced. Robin specified that this area will need to be evidenced really well.

Community Navigators

This is based on the trip to Dorset and the accompanying research, so there we have a lot of information on how this will work. Richard questioned if the figures were over ambitious

and Guy confirmed these need to be re-visited. Geraldine asked if there is enough difference as a volunteer between the role descriptions and it was decided that these will be made clearer when the details are confirmed.

Community Case Finding and Wellbeing

By working with people that are out in the community, lonely and isolated older people can be identified. This targets the serious end of the project as a lot of the people identified will need more than just signposting.

Bob challenged that there is a lot of overlap and the differences need to be clarified. Alan confirmed that this will be more clearly defined to reduce any confusion.

First Contact Checklist

This was generally supported as a good idea but Geraldine raised the issue of whether a centralised co-ordinator should be employed for this? Guy confirmed that the figures do not have to be submitted at this stage but there is room to include this if it is agreed.

Working with Communities

Community Development for Older People (LinkAge)

This especially draws on the findings from the conversations work as activities/social clubs and LinkAge scored very highly. There must be a commissioning process for additional organisations to provide these services. Richard raised concerns that this may be viewed as LinkAge taking over whereas we want people to join LinkAge.

Guy outlined that this needs to be focused on identifying older lonely and isolated people but it also addressed the transportation needs that were voiced in the conversations. There is concern that this required a lot of matched funding but there needs to be a lead neighbourhood with one brand and one specification, to enable this to be rolled out city-wide.

Richard felt the issue lies in how this continues beyond the initial funding and raised concerns that it will exclude certain organisations who are not in the position to make long term financial contributions. Brian had a similar view and is worried that this would come to an end when the funding came to an end as he could not see how this is self-sustaining.

Kay summarised that the involvement of LinkAge is about developing the partnership and not just extending current practice. Robin agreed that there needs to be a 'LinkAge Approach' rolled out across the city.

Schools for all Ages

It is suggested that the focus of this is on supporting lonely and isolated people and their expertise and skills. This is a challenging initiative as we are aiming to focus on an area of people that are hard to engage with. Targeted work will need to be carried out to identify people.

Geraldine questioned if schools in the identified areas have been spoken to yet and Guy said there had not been time to undertake this yet. Mark will have a conversation about this with Claire Campion-Smith from Bristol City Council.

Challenge and Change Fund

This will allow anyone to bid for money but cannot be funded more than once. The name was discussed and 'BAB Community Chest' was decided on.

Community Researchers

Robin spoke about the progress of this project and stressed the importance of this being owned by the whole partnership and being used for full effectiveness. The sustainable nature of this project was discussed and the fact that it may lead to income generation in the future.

Therapeutic Support

Peer Support Groups

Bob felt that preparations for retirement should be a strong focus of this. Mirella feels very strongly about the case as it will have a lasting effect. Judith noted the fact that LGBT/BME and other groups have not been specifically mentioned throughout. Mandi added that people with learning difficulties have also not been specified which is an ageing population in itself. Robin queried the term 'therapeutic' as it has strong medical undertones.

CPCE

This is a truly new initiative that focusses on people who get through Adult Social Care funding. The aim is for increased quality of life and a reduction in health and social care needs. This has links with community development.

Richard raised the point that this is not an easy task and can be expensive and time consuming. Alan agreed this will be looked at in more detail now it has been flagged up.

Vision and Strategy

Robin pointed out that examples of specific target groups should be used throughout and not just mentioned once. Kay focused on the inter-generational activity and stressed that this needs to clearly come across as a two-way initiative. Guy asked everyone to carefully read through this document over the coming days and send any feedback to him directly.

Kay raised a query with section 1.8 and agreed to look at this in detail and offer feedback to Guy. Alan asked if there are any areas the Lottery are looking for that have not been fully explored? Guy picked out that there was not much engagement with the private sector despite having some organisations in the partnership – this will be picked up again.

Richard flagged up that we need to ensure there are links between what is written in this submission and what was included in the expression of interest.

4. Partners Meeting

Ruth spoke about the upcoming partnership meeting where all partners will have the opportunity to be involved through a Q&A session. Alan requested that ideas for this meeting are sent to himself or Ruth. Kay suggested a marketplace style session where people will be able to speak about each specialist area.

5. Evaluation

Alan opened the floor for discussion on the meeting. Mandi flagged up that it would be nice to have NHS involvement in the meeting and Kay praised the level of good discussion that had taken place. Alan stressed that there is only one meeting left and it is likely to be short as it will be near to submission. Everyone was thanked for attending and participating.