

## DISABLED PEOPLE'S DIVERSITY FORUM 18 NOVEMBER 2010

### **Present:**

Councillor Hird (in the Chair)  
Councillors Lowe and Turner

### *Representing Groups:*

Roy Jones	CamTAD
Richard Williams	D.A.B.
Marta Hancock	Derby Access Group
George Sanders	CamTAD
Lynn Gilbey	Derby Homes TRAQ
Judi Bateman	DASG
Janet Warner	DSA
Edith Storer	East Midlands Arthritis Self Help
Liz Freeman	Disability Direct
Kirit Mistry	Derby REC

### *Representing Derby City Council:*

Pam Thompson	Consultation Support Officer
Ann Webster	Equality and Diversity Manager
Mick Watts	Access Officer
Christine Collingwood	Consultation Support Manager
Andrew Beddow	Head of Leisure Facilities
Chris Hegarty	Passenger Transport Coordination and Strategy Team Leader

## 25/10 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barker and Roberts, Andy Findlay, Emma Woodward, Nance Pountain, Pat Fletcher and Noel Walsh.

## 26/10 Introductions

Members of the Forum were welcomed and introduced themselves.

## 27/10 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

## 28/10 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

The Forum thanked the catering staff for their hard work whilst at the Council House.

## 29/10 Notes of the Last Meeting – 9 September 2010

The notes of the previous meeting were agreed as an accurate record, subject to:

“complaint” being substituted with “compliant” in line six of paragraph three, minute 17/10.

## **30/10      Updates on Matters Arising from previous meeting**

### **Review of Funding to Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations**

Ann Webster introduced a report on the review of funding to voluntary and community sector organisations. She reported that Derby City Council would be required to make savings of £30,000,000 by 31 March 2011. She highlighted the Council’s commitment to making funding cuts in an accountable and transparent way, and that Equality Impact Assessments would be done before financial decisions were made, in order to ensure fairness.

**The report was noted.**

### **09/10 Premises in the City Centre and Cathedral Quarter Access**

Mick Watts reported that a local access auditing business had offered to produce access audits for premises in the City Centre, and therefore a decision had been taken to delay a letter from the Chair on the same subject pending the results of audit offer.

Agreed:

- 1. To delay the sending of the letter agreed in minute 09/10 until the results of the access audit offer were known.**
- 2. That the chair would write to disability groups to explain what action had been taken and ask individuals to get involved with the issue.**

## **31/10      Work Programme 2010/11**

It was reported that Item 10 and 12 of the Work Programme would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting, along with any items that had been deferred from this meeting.

## **32/10      Gold Card Concession: Consultation**

Chris Hegarty updated the Forum on a joint consultation taking place with Derbyshire County Council on concessionary fares for elderly and disabled people, young people and Council supported bus services and community transport. This would include the concessions that can be obtained as part of the Gold Card scheme, which Derby City Council pays a third towards in Derbyshire. It was reported that 400 responses had been received so far and that consultation forms were available online, in Libraries, from Neighbourhood Managers and at Neighbourhood Forums. It

was added that the form could be made available in different formats and members of the Forum were asked publicise the consultation amongst the groups they were representing.

The forum expressed concern that the consultation had not received more publicity and noted that this could result in key users of the scheme being excluded from the consultation. Chris Hegarty asked for the Forum's help in ensuring that disabled people were able to participate in the consultation.

**The update was noted**

### **33/10      Question and Answer Session – Mobility Scooters**

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

### **34/10      Muscular Disease**

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

### **35/10      Olympics/Paralympics: Derby's Provisions**

Andrew Beddow, Head of Leisure Facilities, updated the Forum on the current provisions and opportunities for disabled people. These included all leisure facilities having inclusive fitness equipment which could be used by disabled people, Sport ability clubs that had been set up around the city and other clubs run by the voluntary and community sector.

It was reported that future opportunities to raise the profile of disability sport included the recruitment of a Disability Sports Officer in 2012 and that Derby City Council had a sports forum to help plan for 2012. Additionally, it was noted that Derby was hoping to attract the Paralympic Torch as part of the 2012 celebrations and that the planned Velodrome could attract national events to the area. Andrew Beddow also explained that the 2014 Commonwealth Games would provide an opportunity to attract national squads to the area which could help encourage disabled people to participate in sport.

**The update was noted**

### **36/10      International Day of Disabled People – 3 December 2010**

Ann Webster reported that an event was being planned to celebrate the International Day of Disabled People, to take place at Royal Oak House (in the Registry Office), although this would not take place until after 3 December due to the move out of the Council House. She added that the political leadership of the Council had made a commitment in the Council Manifesto to encourage more disabled people to become Councillors and following a previous successful event to encourage more minority ethnic women to become councillors, the leadership felt that this could be repeated

for disabled people. Key organisations, such as CAMTAD and DAB would be invited to demonstrate equipment to help disabled councillors in their work. Ann also reported that the Manifesto had given a commitment to access to services for disabled customers and asked the Forum for some additional key issues that needed addressing.

**Agreed that Ann Webster would report to the political leadership of the council that three key issues that needed addressing were:**

- **Accessibility to Information**
- **A rolling programme of maintenance of induction loops in council buildings**
- **The use and availability of new technology to allow disabled people to participate in Council business.**

## **37/10 Project Group Minutes**

The Forum received the minutes of the Project Group meeting on 18 October 2010.

**The minutes were noted.**

## **38/10 Working for Derby City Council**

A report by Ann Webster detailing the employment statistics for Derby City Council from April 2009 to March 2010 was received by the Forum.

**The report was noted.**

## **39/10 Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that Judi Bateman, Janet Warner and Roy Jones would attend the next pre-meeting on 16 December 2010.

The next meeting of the Forum will be on 20 January 2011.

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