

**DISABLED PEOPLE'S DIVERSITY FORUM
1 JULY 2010**

Present:

Councillors Roberts, Chera, Turner, Barker and Lowe

Representing Groups:

Judi Bateman	Derbyshire Autism Services Group (Chair)
Andy Findlay	Muscular Dystrophy Campaign
Roy Jones	CamTAD
Nancy Pountain	Derby Access Group
Janet Warner	Derby Shopmobility
Richard Williams	DAB
Lynn Gilbey	Derby Homes Traq

Representing Derby City Council:

Pam Thompson	Consultation Support Officer
Ann Webster	Equality and Diversity Manager
Mick Watts	Access Officer
Gavin Thompson	Head of Policy, Research and Engagement
Maggie Fennell	Change Manager

In attendance:

Councillor Poulter, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods
Councillor Ingall, Cabinet Member for Housing and Advice
Paul Riley, Streetpride
Tony Gascoigne, Derby City Council
Melanie Allen, City Centre Manager
John Emery, Sign Language Interpreter
Mary Walters, Sign Language Interpreter

01/10 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Hird, George Sanders, Edith Storer and Margaret Reeve

02/10 Election of Vice-Chair

Judi Bateman was appointed Vice-Chair for the 2010/11 Municipal Year.

03/10 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

Equality and Human Rights Commission Formal Inquiry into Disability Hate Crime

Ann Webster reported that following well publicised cases of bullying and harassment of disabled people, the Equality and Human Rights Commission is launching a consultation to gather disabled people's experiences of interactions with public authorities and transport operators. It was agreed that a sub-group should meet to collate these experiences and submit them by the deadline of 10 September 2010.

Agreed:

- 1. That Ann Webster would establish a sub-group in late August to collate the Forum's experiences and submit them to the EHRC.**
- 2. That members of the sub-group are to include Andy Findlay, Janet Warner, Nancy Pountain, Judi Bateman, Maggie Fennell and Councillor Ingall.**

04/10 Minutes of the previous meeting – 22 April 2010

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 April 2010 were agreed as a correct record, subject to:

Minute 71/09 Resolution 2 reading "Mick Watts to organise the Project Group to discuss Royal Hospital related issues with a representative from the Hospital"

05/10 Updates on matters arising from previous meeting

20/09 – Signage for Cyclists in pedestrianised areas

Councillor Poulter reported that the Council is to launch a two week campaign on 2 August 2010 to prevent cyclists from cycling on pedestrianised areas. As part of this, temporary signs will be erected. Other aspects of the campaign are to include determining the best locations for signs, doing a survey amongst cyclist and pedestrians before and after the campaign, understanding why cyclists use pedestrianised areas and educating cyclists.

It was reported that the Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership is to fund the Police to help with enforcement towards the end of the campaign. The Forum expressed a preference for permanent signs and stronger enforcement after the campaign finishes, however Councillor Poulter responded that temporary signs should be used at first whilst it was determined where the

most effective positions are. Ann Webster requested to see any publicity, such as posters or flyers before they were issued and the Forum supported this.

71/09 – Royal Hospital Accessibility Issues

Mick Watts reported that the Project Group had convened to discuss accessibility issues at the Royal Hospital however the hospital did not send a representative to the discussions. The Forum expressed its disappointment at this and requested that the Chief Executive of Derby City Council write a letter to the Royal Hospital to communicate this.

Agreed:

To request that the Chief Executive of Derby City Council write to the Chief Executive of the Royal Hospital to:

- a) express the Forum's disappointment that the Hospital failed to send a representative to the Project Group to discuss accessibility issues.**
- b) request that a representative of the Royal Hospital attends the next meeting of the Project Group**

72/09 – DPDF Involvement in development of the Bus Station

Mick Watts thanked those who helped with the equality impact assessment of the Bus Station, stating that following this an action list had been produced indentifying 41 adjustments as necessary. It was reported that Mick Watts would now work together with the bus station management to action these and report back to the DPDF at a future meeting.

Concern was raised that some Bus Drivers were using the public disabled people's toilets when at the Bus Station and that non disabled members of staff were using the staff disabled people's toilets. Mick Watts and Ann Webster reported that they had raised this with the Bus Operators, who had sent memos to Drivers and that the matter had been included in the Audit of the Bus Station. The Bus Station Management was also reminded that the large sign on the public disabled people's toilet saying that this was available for parents with children needed to state that priority must be given to disabled people. Members felt this action was needed urgently.

73/09 – Review of Loop Systems

Roy Jones reported that he had visited the Derby Theatre and found their infrared system to not be working. This issue was resolved, however on future visits to see performances the system was again not working. He also raised concerns that during

meetings with the Theatre the management said they would be proactive in improving signage but no action had been taken.

Ann Webster reported that she would bring a review of the work done on the Equality and Diversity Plan to the next meeting and ask members if there were any other access to service issues they wanted included. It was suggested that the loop system problems could be included in this. The plan was produced following the Leadership manifesto commitment to 'offer support for disabled people across all council provisions and services along with working in partnership when forming policy'. It also stressed encouragement and help to disabled people in becoming councillors.

Agreed:

To contact the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture (Councillor Grimadell) for help in resolving the sound enhancement issues at Derby Live Venues

75/09 - Primary Care Trust

Andy Findley reported that following at meeting with the PCT, the PCT had undertaken to examine various provisions for people with muscular conditions including outpatient care.

06/10 Work Programme 2009/10

Pam Thompson updated the Forum on the Work Programme. It was reported that items 17, 18 and 19 would be deferred to the next meeting of the Forum. It was also suggested that a meeting day be arranged to discuss the next 2010/11 Work Programme.

Agreed:

Pam Thompson to contact Forum member regarding a meeting to discuss the 2010/11 Work Programme.

07/10 Project Group Minutes

The Forum noted the minutes from the project group.

08/10 Question and Answer Session

No questions were received.

09/10 Premises in the City Centre and Cathedral Quarter access

Melanie Allen reported to the Forum on access to premises in the City Centre and Cathedral Quarter, adding that a newsletter has been circulated to City Centre businesses highlighting disabled people's access issues. It was reported that whilst the Cathedral Quarter was generally proactive about access for disabled people, a recent inspection of 52 city centre businesses showed that 35 were not fully accessible. The Forum expressed disappointment at this and suggested that the Derby Access Group would be able to provide an important input on improvements. Ann Webster added that a list of adjustments considered relatively easy to provide (such as installing doorbells) has been drawn up and is to be circulated to City Centre businesses. It was noted that along with these adjustments, staff would need to be trained in the use and maintenance of such equipment.

Agreed:

Melanie Allen to circulate letter concerning adjustments for disabled access to city centre property owners in the Cathedral Quarter

10/10 Council House

The Forum received a presentation from Maggie Fennell, Change Manager, on the delivery of council services from temporary accommodation. Members of the Forum were invited to make suggestions on venues for future meetings following the decant as they felt Heritage gate was not appropriate due to difficulty getting there.

Agreed:

Forum members to submit suggested venues for future meetings.

11/10 Schedule of Future Meetings

The forum noted the schedule of future meetings.

12/10 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on 9 September 2010 at 18.30.

It was agreed that Nance Pountain, Judi Bateman and Janet Warner would attend the next pre-meeting (Time and Date TBA)

MINUTES END