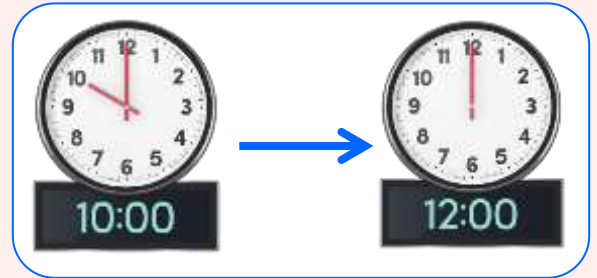




Mid Surrey Valuing People Group Minutes



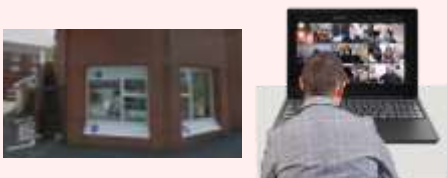
Sally Dubery and Jo Broadhurst-Jones co-chaired the meeting.



Sally Dubery



Jo
Broadhurst -
Jones



The meeting was at The Point, Dorking and on Teams



At the meeting we talked about:



- Safe Places



- Feedback from The Learning Disabilities Partnership Board



- Community Link Officers



- Surrey Downs Presentation



- Review of this meeting

Welcome and Introductions



Sally and Jo welcomed everyone to the meeting.

There were 6 people online and 3 in person.



We had introductions from Caprani Care, Public Health and Mary Frances Trust.

Safe Places



Amanda and Carinder attended a Learning Disability England Webinar online.



At the meeting, there was a discussion about Community Employment. People spoke about how they did not feel safe in their community.



Amanda shared a future directions SPICE (Supporting People into Community Employment) video about Hate Crime Awareness.

Hate Crime Awareness at Future Directions (SP)



The people in the video, got money from the local council to set up their own Safe Place scheme.



In Surrey, there is a Safe Places scheme in Guildford.



Organisations can apply to start their own scheme in an area.



To run a scheme, you need funding to be part of the scheme website and app.



Some places get people with learning disabilities and autism to get involved with it. It is a great employment opportunity for people too.



Amanda felt it was important to raise awareness for this scheme.

Discussion



Sally said they were part of the Mole Valley Safe Space scheme.



But funding was needed to manage this.



Some shops in Dorking were part of it too.



After lockdown, the momentum was lost on this.



Mole Valley council came up with this idea. It would be good to restart this scheme again.



Surrey Choices Longmead in Redhill are interested to get involved with the scheme.



Sally said that Mole Valley and Elmbridge were very up for the scheme many years ago. The links are there to restart this again.



Mary said if we know of the safe places, we can signpost this on the learning disability and autism website.

Feedback from the Partnership Board



Amanda went over the key topics discussed in the September and December meetings.



Liz Williams gave a Health Update from Surrey Heartlands.

She told us about:



The Planning Update



Quality Update



NHS system funded project updates



Clare Matthews spoke to us about the Council's Budget Consultation.



She asked for our thoughts on how the Council Budget should be spent for the coming year

At the December meeting:



Mikaela Wall and Helen Tindall from the TECH team spoke to us about Surrey's TECH strategy.



They spoke about technology and showed us how Tech can support with people's care needs at home. This is not removing social care support but working alongside it.



Marnie spoke about everyday living opportunities. She spoke about how they can provide supported employment, vocational activities and independent travel through Surrey Council.



They hope to get a better offer for people with learning disabilities to help them to do the things they want to do.



The minutes will be on the website very soon.

Community Link Officers



Michelle came to present about Community Link Officer role.



They cover each district and a borough.



They aim to link and engaged with residents in the area.



They try and make things happen in different communities.



Their roles include:

Working closely with County Councillors.



Learn from feedback and problem solve creatively.



Share feedback with internal and external partners.



Focus on the strengths in communities and empower residents.



They engage with people by creating free engagement events for communities.



They each have their own Facebook page.



They create Neighbourhood Plans with residents and partners and ask for feedback.



They work from within the community like local cafés and community buildings.



They link with local partners regularly through forums.



Michelle showed the video about [Community Link Officers](#).



Mary said it is a great video, and it was shared in our provider forum.

Surrey Downs Presentation



Amanda showed members a presentation she put together for Surrey Downs meeting.



This was created from discussions with people who attended the valuing people meeting in September and feedback from Sunnybank.



Amanda talked through people's thoughts about going to hospital.



She shared quotes from people and thoughts about healthcare.



Some of the key points people said needed improving were:

Better medication support



Better support from pharmacists



More information on side effects



We asked people on thoughts to barriers to getting hospital treatment as an inpatient and outpatient.





People said:

Finding easy read information in hospitals was still a big issue.



Better understanding of people's reasonable adjustments.



Good way to move forward is to include people to make those changes.



Speak to your patients directly to understand people's reasonable adjustments.



The Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training is also helping with training staff.

Discussion



Michelle said she was shocked to hear about hospital letters not being in easy read.



Michelle said they always try to make things accessible when they send things out to people.



Amanda said they do try at Surrey Council. But this is still not always the case.



Nina said whether it is possible to use AI versions of an easy read letter template without providing sensitive information.



Jo spoke about her experience going to the hospital when she got lost.



The signage was poor, and no one helped her.



The doctor called them in late as well.



Michelle said some hospitals have volunteers at the entrance that can help guide you to the right place.



Parvin recommended JotForm as a useful platform to create easy read forms.

Review of this meeting

2000



The Valuing people meetings were set up in the early 2000. These meetings covered the 4 areas of Surrey.



These were busy and lots of people use to come.



During covid, they went online. People with learning disabilities were not attending because it is difficult to attend online.



Professionals preferred joining online.



This year, we restarted the meetings in person as well online (hybrid).



Apart from the Surrey Downs Presentation, we not talked about local things.



Not many people have been attending the meetings.



We are now planning to stop the Valuing People Group and have more Surrey People Group meetings.





There are still plenty of ways for people to get involved with their local communities.



We can still send out local information through our networks and latest news.



To run these meetings takes a lot of time, so using this time in a different way such as having more Surrey People's Group meetings may be better.



Big thank you Jo and Sally for being great co-chairs. Sally has been chairing these meetings from the time they started.



Sally said it is right to change things.

She said there is still a huge issue with getting people's voices heard.



She said it would be good to do something once a year to hear people's voices.



This is so we continue to have carers, professionals and people with lived experience under one roof.



Amanda said we are working on two Surrey People Group events for 2025 about the NHS 10 year plan.

They are on:



Friday 24 January 2025 at Woodhatch Place Reigate



Friday 7 February 2025 Emmanuel Church Guildford.



More information will be out soon.



Visit our website for more information about [Surrey People's Group](#).



Please keep us posted about what is going on locally.



We still want to link up with people with lived experience.

Any Other Business



Parvin said Mary Frances Trust are starting an autism and neurodiverse peer support group online in January.



They are starting a career peer support group as well. She will share this information with us.