

MINUTES OF JOINT PARTNERSHIP BOARD (JPB) MEETING

Date: 27 April 2023

Location: Tottenham Town Hall and MS Teams

Time: 13.30 - 15.30

Present

Helena Kania	Co-Chair, JPB (Joint Partnership Board)
Sharon Grant	Chair of Public Voice and Co-Chair of the JPB
Isha Turay	Chair of Carers Reference Group
Vida Black	Chairs of Carers Forum, and SCALD member
Amanda Jacobs	Chair of City of London Access Group and Haringey Resident
Jano Goodchild	Partnerships Manager, Public Voice
Anne Gray	Older People's Reference Group and Haringey over 50s Forum
Lourdes Keever	Member of Older People's Reference Group
Mary Langan	Chair of Severe Complex Autism and Learning Difficulties Reference Group
Paul Allen	Head of Integrated Commissioning (Integrated Care & Frailty)
Phil Stevens	CEO, Disability Action Haringey
Graham Day	Chair of Physical Disability Reference Group
Cathy Stastny	SCALD member
Rachel Sanders (Minutes)	Project Officer, Public Voice

Apologies: Andrea Kelly, Vicky Murphy

1. Last meeting actions:

Action	Assigned to	Deadline
Action 1: The role of the JPB and possible name change to be discussed at the next meeting. Rachel to write to the chairs of the reference groups and ask everyone to think about it and email Rachel with suggestions	RS	See below
Action 5: Beth has reported back what they are using now for weed control and noted that the Parks service are looking at alternatives from Glyphosate. Concern has been raised by members with Beth including Cathy regarding the use of Glyphosate weed killers and the council has stated that they are trialling alternatives as they are committed to looking at viable alternatives.	BW/CS	SG has contacted Director of Public Health Will Maimaris who is looking into this – reply below.

2.New meeting actions:

Action	Assigned to	Deadline
Action 1: JG to resend the Dr Greene report.	JG	June 2023 - complete
Action 2: The JPB to decide on a review when we find out about Gill's replacement from the Council.	JPB	June 2023
Action 3: RS/JG to update the JPB on plans for the LD reference group.	JG/RS	LD RG held on 6 June
Action 4: To set up a meeting with Flo, Paul and Anne to talk about opportunities for volunteers and to help with loneliness.	JG/RS	Arranged for July and is part of the West frailty project
Action 5: Flo to update the JPB in 2-3 months' time.	FA	October 2023
Action 5: JG and RS to develop a hybrid meeting protocol and look at ways in which the technology for hybrid meetings can be improved.	JG/RS	September 2023
Action 6: JPB Co-chairs to write to the Council to ask for an update on actions discussed at the LTN/JPB Accessibility working group and to enquire about the Council's accessibility skills.	SG/HK	Update on LTNs on the agenda

3.Chair's report & last meeting minute actions

Action 3: Emergency planning pack – please let Rachel know if you would like to pick up one or have one sent to you. An email has been sent to all JPB members.

Action 4: Haringey New Deal and Consultations – Jessica Russell, Haringey's Participation Manager will come to the June meeting to update us on the Participation Toolkit. The Head of Consultations from Haringey Council will also come to the June meeting.

Action 5: Weed Control – Sharon has been in touch with the Director of Public Health Will Maimaris and he has asked his team to look into this.
Reply received from Damani Goldstein, Haringey Public Health

Dear Sharon,

Thank you for raising the question with us about the use of glyphosate as a weed control agent, on behalf of the Joint Partnership Board. Apologies for the delay in responding, we wanted to review the evidence and also talk to Council services to understand current use of glyphosate and future plans.

We have looked into the research evidence on glyphosate, focusing on whether there is any evidence to suggest that use of glyphosate may cause autism. We also considered how any evidence would be relevant to the Haringey context and how the Council uses glyphosate to control weeds.

There is limited research on a potential link between glyphosate and autism. Of the 15 articles we found through medical research databases, only two looked at the impact of glyphosate use on humans. None of the studies looked at glyphosate use in Europe. This is important because pesticide exposure levels are higher in the US (where many of the studies were conducted). The articles all look at glyphosate use in agricultural/farming settings, and so many not be applicable to use in locations such as parks or pavements in urban areas. Several of the studies were based on trials with animals, in which the animals drank the glyphosate, as opposed to being in/near a place where this herbicide is used.

The main findings from review of the evidence were:

- A 2014 Environmental Health article (Nevinson, 2014) found that autism diagnoses in the US have increased over the same time period as use of herbicides including glyphosate have increased. It did not say that the increased use of these herbicides was causing the increase in autism diagnoses (there may have been other factors explaining the change in autism diagnoses).
- A 2019 British Medical Journal article (Von Ehreinstein et al, 2019) found that in California's main agricultural region a child's risk of having autism increased if they were exposed to glyphosate during pregnancy.
- There were 5 research papers based on animal trials, looking at the effects of glyphosate on the offspring of mice or rats. In all of these trials, the mice/rats drank the glyphosate, rather than being in/near a place where glyphosate was used to control weeds.

In Haringey, glyphosate-based herbicides are sprayed in parks / shared green spaces near housing and on pavements twice or at most three times per year. The team use a pre-mixed chemical applied by controlled droplet applicators, and staff have to be certified before handling the chemicals and spraying any areas. This approach means for the person spraying the area, there is very limited contact with the chemical and the amount sprayed is limited.

The Council has pledged to eliminate the general use of glyphosate in parks by the end of 2026. The measures and targets are:

- Last year, 27% of Council Parks and Greenspaces were maintained pesticide free.
- With the implementation of a new Foamstream system this year we will increase this percentage to 61%.
- The intention is to get to 98% of Council Parks and Greenspaces maintained pesticide free by the end of 2026.
- There is a likelihood that we could still be using glyphosate in a limited number of specialist areas like tackling invasive species such as Japanese Knot Weed, but our application method is by injecting the stems so it should limit any human contact.
- The second alternative technology we have purchased is called Rootwave and it electrocutes the weeds. We will be trialling this on housing greenspace and also on Japanese Knot Weed to further reduce our use of glyphosate.

Residents are unlikely to come into contact with high levels of glyphosate. There is currently very limited evidence on possible connections between autism and exposure to glyphosate use. Current research is focused on the oral consumption of glyphosate through foodstuffs, or its more

intensive/widespread use in a non-European agricultural setting (e.g. farming areas in California), rather than its use in parks / public spaces or on pavements.

Action 1: JPB Name Change – Jano is discussing this with the Head of Comms in Public Voice to check there are no overlaps with the names of other organisations. There were mixed views about the need for a name change. Some people in the group reflected that the name was fit for purpose and felt that a change of name could cause problems as this is how the group is known.

Mary commented that the need for a name change needs to be discussed further and wanted to know where the idea came from to change the name. The new name proposals reflect a change of function of the JPB and does not represent the function of the JPB as set out in the Terms of Reference. Mary is concerned not to lose the identity and purpose of the JPB and feels it is time for us to a review of the JPB and reference groups before the name is changed and would like to put this on the agenda before any name is changed.

Helena agreed that she is not sure why we need to change the name and suggests a strapline and a review after the summer. Sharon stated that the name change idea came up with discussions from the Council that officers within the council do not know who the JPB is and is similar to other names used in Haringey. Sharon felt that it is positive that the Council wants to interface with us more and make the JPB more representative. People don't understand from our title what we do, and they are not aware of the JPB role. There are also suggestions that we might work towards a more local manifestation of the JPB at a local, neighbourhood level.

The group discussed the origins of the JPB which arose out of the Learning Disability Partnership. Cathy reflected that we would lose the knowledge of the people who have known us since the beginning of the JPB if the name was changed.

Anne reflected that the JPB represents a forum for discussion of the reference groups and an interface with the NHS and Council. Anne asked for an update on the tendering process.

Amanda reported that she understood that there was a review and asked for an update?

Jano discussed the workshop held with the Council last year at which the idea for a name change was raised. We are waiting for a new contact with the Council following Gill's departure.

Helena commented that the workshop was linked to the JPB's development and our relationship with the Council. The idea for the workshop came from Beverley Tarka who attended the JPB in early 2022 after the JPB was not consulted early enough in the LTN consultation. The JPB has been widely consulted on many consultations since the workshop and a new key role has been in drafting the Safeguarding strategy. This has all arisen from a higher profile with the Council.

Lourdes raised the Dr Greene report which initiated the setting up of the JPB which was circulated. Lourdes commented that we haven't achieved what was laid out in that report and we need to go back to this.

Mary – we have reviewed ourselves in the career of the JPB and there is a proforma of this and the membership reflected how well the JPB worked in representing people in the ground and how effective it was in creating change. Mary thought it was built into the ToR and is

essential part of the tendering process and should not be dependent on replacement from the Council but should be a comprehensive review.

Action 1: JG to resend the Dr Greene report.

Action 2: The JPB to decide on a review when we find out about Gill's replacement from the Council.

Mary welcomed Qasim from the LD group. Mary raised from previous minutes over the last 12-18 months the need for a LD reference group and would like a report on who is in the group, who is supporting it and how it is going.

Action 3: RS/JG to update the JPB on plans for the LD reference group.

4. Library update – Flo Armstrong and Brian Mihayo.

(See also slides)

Brian gave an overview of the 9 Haringey libraries.

Flo discussed that to achieve budget savings they are looking to integrate the home library service into the main service. Currently three people are employed full time for the Home library service and they work as a separate team. They plan to integrate them into the main team which will also make the service more sustainable. These are proposals and they are in discussion with the home library team. There are no plans to stop the Home Library service for library users.

Other libraries have employed volunteers to help with this which enables them to spend more time with the person which the council would like to explore.

Amanda raised the issue of safeguarding and DBS concerns for volunteers visiting people at home and the risk of volunteers replacing staff.

Flo provided reassurance that the process for safeguarding and DBS checks and process is paramount. There are no plans to replace the staff with volunteers. The staff from the home library service would still have the contact, choose the books and do some visits. The role of volunteers would be to support the service.

Flo offered to keep the JPB up to date with changes and welcomed help to recruit volunteers.

Cathy raised the refurbishment of Alexandra Park Library which has been very expensive and has heard feedback that this is less user friendly. Flo responded that designers came into redesign the library and they will explore any concerns.

Anne said she is excited about the possibility of volunteers spending more time with lonely people and it ties in with an objective of the Ho50s forum, Haringey Circle and the Ageing well strategy and could help with identifying lonely people and present this service to housebound residents.

Paul also raised opportunities to link with digital inclusion, Ageing Well support, home from hospital and to link with the conversation with Anne and Flo. Also, the need to link into underserved groups.

Action 4: To set up a meeting with Flo, Paul, Caroline O'Sullivan from Haringey Circle and Anne to talk about opportunities for volunteers and to help with loneliness.

Lourdes raised the library service at New Ross, Ireland as a positive example.

<https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/profile/37375>

Isha asked a question regarding how the needs of people with visual impairments and immigrants are being met by the library service.

Brian reported that they have audio books, and they have functions for reading aloud on the PCs in the library and are looking at other options. They also provide reading material on different local languages and run a Ukrainian reading group for children. They do reach out to different communities and have recently reached out to the Somali community.

Flo noted that the leader and senior officers are very committed to libraries and have some of the longest opening hours in London. Over £5m is being spent on investing in libraries for refurbishment with much of this is being spent to improve accessibility.

Action 5: Flo to update the JPB in 2-3 months' time.

SG raised the need for metrics – a baseline to evaluate how services improve.

5. Reference Group Updates:

5.1. OPRG Anne Gray fed back regarding the OPRG. The group met in March and discussed housing issues; Helidon Topulli from Haringey Housing came along to the meeting. Helidon discussed work that is being done to increase community engagement and focus on repairs which are still catching up from Covid delays when they were unable to enter people's homes. A key issue that the group raised was of people being able to offer up their own homes to swap for sheltered housing and this will be discussed at the next meeting in May. As will community safety and transport issues such as problems with dial a ride and the difficulties of crossing the borough on public transport.

Paul offered to meet with Helidon to improve the health offer for people in supported living which he will bring to the OPRG.

5.2 Dementia Reference Group Paul Allen reported back from the last meeting which focussed on safeguarding and domestic violence; colleagues from the Met police, LFB and Safeguarding attended, and the group came up with ideas to improve support. One action was to inform people living with Dementia and their carers are aware that if a person is involved in an incident when calling emergency services, they need to tell the emergency services that they have dementia.

The group recognised a mixed profile of training and support around dementia. The LFB offered to provide all Haringey fire brigade with dementia awareness training.

Following workshops an action plan (you said we did) is made to see what difference we are making.

Isha raised the need to raise dementia awareness with public transport operators and reported an incident of someone who was knocked over when wandering. Paul responded that there is support available and specialised equipment but there was a need to raise awareness. A Dementia co-ordinator has been recruited to increase awareness of dementia in organisations. Amanda suggested that they follow the recommendations in the London Mayor's charter for dementia awareness. Vida asked about trackers. Paul replied that there are a variety of solutions – including mobile phones, apple tags and one of the actions is to increase awareness.

Sharon asked about the Ageing well strategy which expires in 2023 as the reference groups would like to participate in this.

Paul is planning to continue with this for the next year and look to refresh it and it will be co-produced.

5.3 The Carers reference group will meet on 3 May.

5.4 SCALD are meeting on 16 May.

5.5 PDRG are meeting on 17 May.

5.6 Autism –a meeting is planned for 31 May to re-establish the autism reference group following a meeting at the #Autism centre. Andrew Carpenter the former chair is happy to chair this, and Alex Wells is helping to set this up.

5.7 Mental Health reference group. There has been a meeting with two service users and the leader of the Women with a Voice group. They talked about how to raise awareness of mental health in the community. Rachel and Jano have been researching what mental health service user groups exist in the borough and have been attending the Mental Health Co-production working group. Since lockdown lots of different user groups have been set up for mental health and we have been working out where a JPB group could sit and how we could get stakeholder involvement. Jano and Rachel are going to attend a meeting where all mental health groups sit to see where we can add value. This is an ongoing discussion.

The group raised the need to involve Mind in Haringey.

5.8 Transitions. Lourdes, Cathy, Jano and Rachel are meeting with Lizzie who runs the PCF at the Bridge to find out what areas of transition they cover, and JPB transitions reference group is needed.

5.9 Learning Disability reference group – Qasim Qureshi who has been coming to the JPB for the last year has offered to co-chair the group, Debra Ayipeh will be the advocate and the workshop is planned for early June.

Mary raised the need for support and advocates and expressed concern about the length of time it has taken to set up the group. There were 4 advocates in the old group and the group needs to be facilitated and resourced properly.

Amanda raised that there was confusion about where people fit in with the different Reference Groups for example, some people may fit into several groups and the move is towards a more holistic view. Amanda asked for this to be addressed as part of the review. People may have autism, physical disability and learning disability. Amanda also raised technology issues and requested a protocol for hybrid meetings and suggested using a microphone and a brief access break.

Action 5: JG and RS to develop a hybrid meeting protocol and look at ways in which the technology for hybrid meetings can be improved.

6.Sub-group updates

6.1 Safeguarding Sharon updated the group that a workshop was held with JPB members and the Chair of Haringey Adults Safeguarding Board which raised priorities which will feed into the strategy. The consultation is going live in May to gather more feedback. It is expected that the JPB will have regular input.

6.2 LTNs - The group has held a meeting with the Council to make amendments to the individual circumstances exemptions application process to make this more accessible. The Council have raised the issues of taxis with the London Councils, and Hackney are currently doing a pilot on this to see how it will work.

Amanda commented that we have asked for questions to be removed which were highly intrusive but has been frustrated that these questions have not been removed quickly. She also asked for confirmation of when the auto exemption letter has gone out to blue badge holders.

Action 6: JPB Co-chairs to write to the Council to ask for an update on actions discussed at the LTN/JPB Accessibility working group and to enquire about the Council's communication department's accessibility skills.

Phil also echoed the need for quick wins to be implemented as it is causing stress to residents. The process to apply is very cumbersome even for Council staff. There is need to ensure that new policies such as LTNs need to have the appropriate staff, technology and infrastructure in place.

Helena reflected that the role of the JPB is to ensure exemptions work for our members.

Amanda raised the need for a ToR to confirm what our objective is regarding LTNs which is why she wanted to involve Jon Abrams from Inclusion London.

Helena reiterated that the role of the JPB is to make sure that vulnerable groups are not disadvantaged by LTNs and to make sure that the exemptions process is workable.

Cathy raised the need for LTNs to be scrapped and asked for information on pollution levels which we will raise at the next meeting with the Council.

Next meeting 29 June 2023