



Equality Forum

Agenda and Reports

For consideration on

Thursday, 5th July 2012

In the Lancastrian, Town Hall, Chorley

At 6.30 pm

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Dear Councillor

26 June 2012

EQUALITY FORUM - THURSDAY, 5TH JULY 2012

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Equality Forum to be held in the Lancasterian, Town Hall, Chorley on Thursday, 5th July 2012 commencing at 6.30 pm. Light refreshments will be available on arrival.

AGENDA

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair will welcome everyone to the meeting.

2. **Apologies for absence**

3. **Minutes (Pages 1 - 12)**

To confirm the minutes of the last meeting of the Equality Forum held on 12 April 2012.

4. **Interactive Session**

The Chair of the Equality Forum, Councillor Hasina Khan, will introduce this item.

Members of the Forum will be asked to split in to small groups to discuss the following questions:

1. What are the key equality issues?
2. What can members do as organisations and individuals to address issues identified?
3. How can the Equality Forum help to reach the outcome?

There will be a short feedback session after each question.

5. **Networking break**

6. **Hate Crime**

Jeanette Hickey from Lancashire Police will present this item which includes a short DVD..

What is the purpose of this item?

To raise awareness of the different types of Hate Incidents/Crimes and to increase reporting

Questions to the Forum?

Questions would be are there any groups who would benefit from a more comprehensive input of approximately 2 and half hours.

What will be the outcome of the session?

The outcome should be that members of the Forum are more able to recognise and report hate incidents/crimes.

Jeanette Hickey can be contacted on the following email address:

jeanette.hickey@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

7. **Social Inclusion Task and Finish Group (Pages 13 - 16)**

The enclosed report provides Members of the Equality Forum with a summary of the findings and next steps of the Social Inclusion Task and Finish Group.

This report is for information only and there will be no additional presentation with for this item. For a copy of the full report once approved by the Social Inclusion Task and Finish Group or if you have any questions please contact Victoria Willets on email: victoria.willett@chorley.gov.uk

8. **Open Forum to discuss any issues for each equality strand**

a) Age

DEFINITION: Where this is referred to, it refers to a person belonging to a particular age (e.g. 32 year olds) or range of ages (e.g. 18 - 30 year olds).

b) Disability

DEFINITION: A person has a disability if s/he has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

c) Gender Reassignment

DEFINITION: The process of transitioning from one gender to another.

d) Pregnancy and Maternity

DEFINITION: Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth, and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.

e) Race

DEFINITION: Refers to the protected characteristic of Race. It refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.

f) Religion and Belief

DEFINITION: Religion has the meaning usually given to it but belief includes religious and philosophical beliefs including lack of belief (e.g. Atheism). Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live for it to be included in the definition.

g) Rurality

DEFINITION: Members of a rural population.

h) Sex

DEFINITION: A man or a woman

i) Sexual Orientation

DEFINITION: Whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or to both sexes.

9. **Notices / Feedback / Publicity**

Members of the Forum are welcome to inform other members of upcoming event, give feedback or notices.

10. **Any other item(s) that the Chair decides is/are urgent**

11. **Dates of Future Meetings**

The next meeting of the Equality Forum will be held on 9 October 2012 at 6.30pm in the Lancastrian Room, Town Hall, Chorley.

Future meetings of the Equality Forum will be held on the following dates:

- 21 January 2013
- 18 April 2013 (this was previously scheduled for 16 April)

All meetings will commence at 6.30pm and be held in the Lancastrian Room, Town Hall, Chorley unless otherwise stated on the agenda.

Yours sincerely



Gary Hall
Chief Executive

Cathryn Filbin
Democratic and Member Services Officer
E-mail: cathryn.filbin@chorley.gov.uk
Tel: (01257) 515123
Fax: (01257) 515150

Distribution

1. Agenda and reports to all Members of the Equality Forum Councillor Hasina Khan (Chair), and Councillors Jean Cronshaw, Alison Hansford, Steve Holgate, Steve Murfitt and Rosie Russell for attendance.
2. Agenda and reports to Chris Sinnott (Head of Policy and Communications), Victoria Willett (Partnership Officer (maternity cover)), Cathryn Filbin (Democratic and Member Services Officer), Val Hall (BSL Interpreter), Tracy Gibson (BSL Interpreter), Gary Hall (Chief Executive) and Catherine Moxon (BSL Interpreter) for attendance.
3. Agenda and reports to Members of the Equality Forum for attendance.

This information can be made available to you in larger print or on audio tape, or translated into your own language. Please telephone 01257 515118 to access this service.

આ માહિતીનો અનુવાદ આપની પોતાની ભાષામાં કરી શકાય છે. આ સેવા સરળતાથી મેળવવા માટે કૃપા કરી, આ નંબર પર ફોન કરો: 01257 515822

ان معلومات کا ترجمہ آپ کی اپنی زبان میں بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ یہ خدمت استعمال کرنے کیلئے براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر ٹیلیفون

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Equality Forum

Thursday, 12 April 2012

Present: Councillor Greg Morgan (Chair), Councillor David Dickinson (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Alison Hansford, Hasina Khan and Steve Murfitt

Officers: Lesley-Ann Fenton (Director of Partnerships and Planning), Chris Sinnott (Head of Policy and Communications), Michael Coogan (Strategic Housing Officer) and Cathryn Filbin (Democratic and Member Services Officer)

Partner officers: Alan Capstick (Lancashire County Council), Heather Corson (Chorley/South Ribble Borough Council), Jeanette Hickey (Lancashire Constabulary), Stephanie Iaconianni (Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust), Bob Minto (NHS Central Lancashire) and John Cairns (Lancashire Fire and Rescue)

Also in attendance: Jean Cronshaw (Chorley Older Peoples Forum), Diane Gradwell (Citizens Advice Bureau), Suzie Jones (Chorley & South Ribble Disability Forum Coordinator), Anne Jones (Lip speaker), Maureen Kay (Deaf Forum), Ronnie Kay (Deaf Forum), Barry Moss, Paul Higson (Lancashire Link), Jeannie Stirling (Homestart), Marilyn Porter (Crossroads) and Marel Urry (Hoghton Parish Council)

12.EF.24 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked those on the top table to introduce themselves. Attendees were reminded to introduce themselves, state the organisation they represented, if applicable, and to use the microphone when addressing the meeting.

12.EF.25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of David Brown (Chorley Pensioners Association), Dawn Clarke (Central Lancashire PCT), Peter Cogley (Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service), Brian and Yvonne Curwen (Walking for Health), Judy Daniels (Disability Forum), Matthew and Victoria Hansford and members of the Youth Council, Deanna Hartley Davies (Runshaw College), Albert and Rita Jeffrey (Deaf Forum),

Caroline Linfitt (Chorley Churches Together), John Miller (LGBT community), Geraldine Moore (Age UK Lancashire), Alison Rigby (Holly Cross) and Victoria Willett (Partnership Officer).

12.EF.26 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2012 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

12.EF.27 LANCASHIRE TEACHING HOSPITALS - OUR APPROACH TO EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

Members of the Forum received a presentation on the approach to equality, diversity and involvement by Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust by Stephanie Iaconianni.

Members of the Forum raised a number of questions which included:

- Did Chorley and Preston Hospitals have a policy for sending patients home at night?
- Why had some dental patients been transferred from West Bank dental surgery to a dental surgery in Ashton, Preston?
- Was there a policy of double booking appointments at the dental surgery in Ashton, Preston?
- What consultation took place, and who was consulted on the price increase for car parking at Chorley hospital?
- What was the total number of disabled parking bays at Chorley hospital?

Stephanie agreed to investigate these issues and a response would be sent to the individuals concerned. A response to all the questions would be included in the Q&A to be sent out with the agenda for the next meeting.

Following concerns raised by members of the Forum, Stephanie offered to meet with Maureen Kay and Suzie Jones to discuss possible improvements in the facilities for deaf people who present themselves at the Accident and Emergency Departments.

For more information Stephanie can be contacted on email Stephanie.IACONIAQNNI@lthr.nhs.uk. Stephanie's presentation can be viewed on Chorley Council's website.

12.EF.28 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Heather Corson, Community Safety Officer for Chorley and South Ribble Councils gave a presentation which raised awareness of the impact domestic abuse had within diverse groups and provided information to helplines and specialist agencies.

Following comments raised by Suzie Jones, Heather acknowledged that facilities for people with disabilities leaving violent relationships needed to be improved and encouraged people from all nine of the equality strands to feedback any suggested improvements.

For more information Heather can be contacted on 01772 625577 or email HCorson@southribble.gov.uk. Heather's presentation can be viewed on Chorley Council's website.

12.EF.29 RURAL HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY - RESULTS

Members of the Forum received a presentation from Mick Coogan, the Strategic Housing Officer for Chorley Council on the results of the Rural Housing Needs Study.

The main findings in the report included the lack of affordable homes for new households wishing to remain in their current parish, and the lack of suitable homes for older people.

The recommendations which had been approved at Chorley Council's Executive Cabinet on 20 October 2011 included:

- The report be used to inform the Council on new rural residential developments
- Priority be given to people who had local connection to the parish
- Appropriate intermediate home ownership models be considered
- Developers be encouraged to include 2/3 bed bungalows in new rural developments.

A copy of the Rural Housing Needs Study report can be viewed by clicking on the link below:

<http://www.chorley.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=4497&p=0>

Mick can be contacted on 01257 515552 or email mick.coogan@chorley.gov.uk. Mick's presentation can be viewed on Chorley Council's website.

12.EF.30 DRAFT PREVENTION OF HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY

Lesley-Ann Fenton, Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy advised that a consultation was underway with key stakeholders and housing associations on the joint Chorley and South Ribble Councils' Draft Prevention of Homelessness Strategy.

The Strategy which replaced previous strategies was in line with existing statutory requirements placed on local Housing Authorities by the Homelessness Act 2002.

The three key priorities of the strategy were:

- Improving the services for customers
- Reducing the use of temporary accommodation
- Increasing the prevention of homelessness

The Strategy was approved for consultation at the Executive Cabinet held on 29 March 2012.

Members of the Forum discussed various aspects of the strategy and of the homelessness situation in the borough of Chorley. In response to Councillor Murfitt's concerns, Lesley-Ann acknowledged that the majority of services provided were situated in the town centre. However, an outreach service was now operating at Clayton Brook.

The draft Strategy which could be viewed on Chorley Council's website or by clicking the following link:

<http://www.chorley.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=4661&p=0>.

Comments on the Strategy should be submitted to Zoe Whiteside via email zoe.whiteside@chorley.gov.uk before Friday, 29 June 2012 when the consultation closes. Should you require further information contact Zoe at the same email address.

12.EF.31 SOCIAL ISOLATION TASK AND FINISH GROUP

Chris Sinnott, Head of Policy and Communications for Chorley Council provided an update for Members of the Forum on the Social Isolation Task and Finish Group.

The first meeting had taken place on 1 March 2012, and included representatives from Lancashire County Council - Social Care, Chorley Council, representatives from the VCFS sector and the Equality Forum. At the meeting key questions and outcomes were discussed which included how available provision could be connected to individuals.

In response to Councillor Alison Hansford's concern that there appeared to be no young people on the Task and Finish Group, Chris Sinnott confirmed that the Youth Council had been approached to take part in the Task and Finish Group but at that time, had not responded.

The next steps for the Task and Finish Group included the development of a profile for social isolation in Chorley, investigation of wider data sources and the development of a plan which detailed the approach to be used to tackle this issue for Chorley.

The date of the next meeting had been confirmed as Tuesday, 22 May, 2012 anyone who wished to get involved in the Task Group would be welcomed.

For further information contact Vicky Willett on 01257 515348 or email vicky.willett@chorley.gov.uk. Chris's presentation can be viewed on Chorley Council website.

12.EF.32 UPDATE ON EQUALITY OBJECTIVES

Chris Sinnott updated members of the Forum on Chorley Council's Equality Objectives 2012-2016.

The Equality Act 2010 required Councils to publish a list of equalities objectives. The purpose of which was to strengthen the Council performance of the general equality duty, through providing focus on achieving specific outcomes.

A list of the Chorley Council's equality objectives and the approached used to identify those objectives can be found on the Council's website or by clicking the link <http://www.chorley.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=4644&p=0>.

For further information contact Vicky Willett on 01257 515348 or email vicky.willett@chorley.gov.uk.

12.EF.33 OPEN FORUM TO DISCUSS ANY ISSUES FOR EACH EQUALITY STRAND

(a) Age

No issues were raised.

(b) Disability

Suzie Jones provided details of a meeting for REACH 2012, see minute number 12.EF.34 Notices/Feedback/Publicity for further information.

(c) Gender Reassignment

No issues were raised.

(d) Pregnancy and Maternity

No issues were raised.

(e) Race

No issues were raised.

(f) Religion and Belief

No issues were raised.

(g) Rurality

No issues were raised.

(h) Sex

No issues were raised.

(i) Sexual Orientation

Following concerns raised by Julia Berry about the lack of issues raised under this and the sex equality strand Members of the Forum were informed that the Council held meetings outside the Equality Forum with people who represented the two equality strands.

The Chair supported the proposal from Stephanie Iaconianni that a representative from the Gender Reassignment Unit be a guest speaker at a future meeting of the Forum.

12.EF.34 NOTICES / FEEDBACK / PUBLICITY**REACH 2012 Planning Meeting – 19 April 2012**

Suzie Jones invited anyone who wished to get involved in REACH 2012 to attend a planning meeting on Thursday, 19 April 2012 at 2pm in the Civic Centre, Leyland, PR25 1DH.

The purpose of the meeting was to agree the date, time, and locations for the events taking place in Chorley and South Ribble during the month August.

Preston Health Mela – 21 April 2012

Stephanie Iaconianni reported that Preston Health Mela would take place on 21 April 2012 at the Guild Hall in Preston, between the hours of 10am and 5pm, and would provide those who attended the opportunity to receive a free health MOT check up. The event would also include entertainment and stalls from different health organisations. The event was open to all members of the public regardless of background or age.

Free parking on Preston bus station car park was available to those who attended the Mela.

12.EF.35 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Members of the Forum noted dates of future meetings:

- Thursday, 5 July 2012
- Tuesday, 9 October 2012
- Monday, 21 January 2013
- Tuesday, 16 April 2013

All meetings would take place at 6.30pm in the Lancastrian Room, Town Hall, Chorley unless advised otherwise.

12.EF.36 NETWORKING BREAK

At the conclusion of the meeting, members of the Forum were encouraged to take part in the networking session.

Chair

**Equality Forum
12 April 2012**

Q & A

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals - Feedback

1. Julian Berry (Heapey Parish Council) asked:

- a. Did Chorley and Preston Hospitals have a policy for sending patients home at night?**

At Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust all staff should be working within the boundaries of the Discharge policy and procedure which applies at all times of the day and night. As part of that policy, staff are required to complete a discharge checklist to ensure that all aspects of clinical and social safety have been considered and where necessary, addressed.

- b. What consultation (and who was consulted) on the increase price of car parking charges?**

Please see the letter attached as a response to this issue.

2. Barry Moss asked:

- a. Why some patients were no longer able to attend West Bank dental surgery, but instead had been transferred to a surgery in Ashton?**

That was a Primary Care Trust decision to re provide the care at Ashton rather than Westbank.

- b. Was there a policy of double booking appointments at the dental surgery at Ashton?**

The Consultant for Special Care Dentistry is to contact Mr Moss personally as she requires some clarification.

3. **Marel Urry (Hoghton Parish Council) enquired on the number of disabled parking spaces since the parking review had taken place?**

In response Stephanie Iaconianni has advised that there are 46 disabled car parking spaces on the Chorley Hospital site. To use these people should display a 'Blue Badge'. There is also a car parking presence with attendants walking around the hospital site. These people can provide assistance in finding appropriate parking.

4. In addition to the above, Stephanie Iaconianni has contacted Suzie Jones and Maureen Kay to arrange a meeting to discuss possible improvements in the facilities for deaf people who present themselves at the Accident and Emergency Departments (Minute No. 12.EF.27).

Tel:
Fax:
Email:

Royal Preston Hospital
Sharoe Green Lane
Fulwood
PRESTON
PR2 9HT

Ref:

Address

Dear

INCREASE IN CAR PARKING CHARGES

Thank you for your letter in which you raise concerns regarding the recent increase in car parking charges at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals. Please find below details regarding the changes that were introduced across the Trust in early January this year.

Whilst the cost of maintaining and operating the car parks has increased year on year, charges have not increased since 2004. However, following a review of car parking charges, and after very careful consideration, the Trust decided to increase visitor car parking charges to £3.00 per day from January 2012.

The Trust strongly believes that the car parks should be self-financing, and be operated and maintained without subsidy from patient care budgets. The additional income the increase will generate will be used to improve car parking facilities, such as access for disabled drivers, new security cameras, and improving drop-off points at entrances for the public and ambulances. Any surplus will be reinvested in patient care.

The Trust wishes to emphasise that no patient or visitor will be charged more than £3.00 per day to park, even if they visit the hospital twice in one day. Patients and visitors making a return visit within 24 hours are requested to advise/inform the Car Parking Control Room when leaving the first time of their intention to return later. There is no limit to the number of return visits within any 24 hour period. Further information along with other exemptions and concessionary information is displayed at each car park pay station at our hospital sites and is included in the patient appointment letters and supporting access web sites for the disabled i.e. DisabledGo which can be accessed by visiting <http://www.disabledgo.com/en/org/lancashire-teaching-hospitals>.

All wards and departments are being reminded of the exemption and concessionary rates and the process for Ward staff, patients and visitors to apply when they meet such criteria i.e. free parking for registered disabled drivers, free parking for patients who require regular or long-term care, including cancer, kidney dialysis, critical care patients, and parents of neo-natal patients, and to provide a discounted £10 weekly ticket for regular patients and visitors who do not meet the exemption criteria.

As part of the programme to introduce the charges the Trust recognised the need to inform users of the pending increase. To facilitate this, information relating to the increase was published on the Trust's website before Christmas, but we acknowledge that not all of our patients and visitors

would have seen this notice. Advice was also displayed on the digital car parking signage at the entrance to our hospital sites.

In relation to information being published in appointment letters, the Trust schedules many appointments weeks and months in advance and to advise each patient individually that the car parking charges would be increasing in January would have incurred significant costs.

The current policy is that visitors are exempt from charges if they are in the hospitals for less than 15 minutes and confirmation is publicised to that effect. However, a number of similar comments have been made and consideration is to be given to increase the length of time for free car parking. This will be looked at over the next few months as we need to understand what changes are required to the car park equipment.

We understand that hospital car park charges may be unpopular but we hope the above information has given you an insight into why we have increased the charges. I hope I have answered your questions and responded to your comments. However, should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact Miles Timperley, Director of Facilities and Services, on 01772 522782, who will be able to respond to your queries.

Yours sincerely



Chief Executive	Meeting	Date
	Equality Forum	5 July 2012

UPDATE ON SOCIAL ISOLATION TASK AND FINISH GROUP

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To update the Equality Forum on the progress of the Social Isolation Task and Finish Group

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- The Forum is asked to note the contents of this report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

- This project was suggested at the workshop for Councillors held in 2010 as well as being raised as an important issue by the Equality Forum. A task and finish group was established with cross cutting representation of local groups, meeting in March and May 2012. Meetings followed an open discussion format, raising questions and establishing key issues which have been translated into recommendations and an action plan. The final report will be made available following the approval of the task and finish group members.

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No
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CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Strong Family Support	X	Education and Jobs	
Being Healthy	X	Pride in Quality Homes and Clean Neighbourhoods	
Safe Communities	Respectful X	Quality Community Services and Spaces	X
Vibrant Local Economy		Thriving Town Centre, Local Attractions and Villages	X
A Council that is a consistently Top Performing Organisation			

and Delivers Excellent Value for Money	
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BACKGROUND

5. Social isolation was identified as a key issue at the workshop for Councillors held in 2010 as well as being raised by the Equality Forum with a focus on the following broad objectives:
 1. To establish the reasons for social isolation in Chorley
 2. To map the current provision to alleviate social isolation in Chorley
 3. To identify gaps in provision for social isolation
 4. To look at publicity of current provision
 5. To draft an action plan

FORMAT OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP

6. An open invitation was given for participants of the task and finish group which included representation from Age UK, Lancashire County Council Adult Services Commissioning, LGBT groups, Cross Roads Care, Lancashire Fire and Rescue, Disability Equality North West, local Parish Council's. The Youth Council also provided feedback.
7. Meetings took place in March and May 2012, following an open discussion format, raising questions and establishing key issues which have been translated into recommendations and an action plan.
8. An initial profile of social isolation in Chorley was also created as part of this project including maps and population profiling which helped to identify key issues, 'at risk' groups and target geographical areas. This information has informed the findings of the project and can be made available as a separate report on request.

FINDINGS

9. Findings suggested that older people, vulnerable families, members of an equality group and carer's are considered to be most at risk of social isolation and whilst there is currently a good provision of services, the key issue was considered to be identifying those who may be at risk and linking them with appropriate services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

10. Recommendations from the project are as follows:

1. Communicate findings with key partners to raise awareness and further develop local insight
2. Coordinate community activity, outreach and volunteering work to target those at risk of social isolation
3. Work with partners to develop a more joined up approach including a single point of contact
4. Influence future service commissioning and design to take a preventative approach
5. Develop a package of future work on vulnerable families to identify and better understand the economic causes of social isolation and assess support.

11. An action plan has been developed based on the recommendations.

12. The final report and associated action plan will be made available following approval by the task and finish group members

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

13. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors’ comments are included:

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	x
Legal		Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area		Policy and Communications	x

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

14. No comment.

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

15. No comment.

GARY HALL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Vicky Willett	5348	5.7.2012	Equality Forum Social Isolation Update