

Kent Acquired Brain Injury Forum

Minutes

Wednesday 9th April 2008 at 3.30 pm

East Kent Hospital School Service, City View, Canterbury, Kent CT2 8PT

In attendance:

Mr Tanesh Bhugobaun	Registered Manager	Raphael Medical Centre
Ms Jan Cartmell	Service Manager	The Regard Partnership
Mrs Sophia Chung	Executive Director	S C Support & Care Services Ltd
Mr John Cotterill	Director of Care Services	Strode Park Foundation
Ms Rita Eagles	Commissioning Manager for Gillingham and Rainham	Medway Primary Care Trust
Ms Jo-Ann Davis	Manager, The Vines	Priory Healthcare
Mrs Ros Eastwood	Head Teacher	East Kent Health Needs Education Service
Dr Gerhard Florschutz	Director	Raphael Medical Centre
Ms Elizabeth Francis	Consultant Clinical Neuropsychologist	Community Brain Injury Team, Medway Maritime Hospital
Ms Rikki Gandolf	South East Regional Co-ordinator	Headway UK
Ms Emily Heath	Occupational Therapist / Care Manager	Physical Disabilities Team, Medway Council
Mr Keith Hutchinson	Centre Manager	Hothfield Manor Centre Acquired Brain Injury Home
Ms Marsha Langley	Home Manager, Egerton Road	Priory Healthcare
Mr Tony Merriman	Solicitor	asb Law
Mrs Pam Munro	Founder and Volunteer	Headway Tunbridge Wells and District
Ms Frances Pierce	Partner (KABIF Chairwoman)	Rix & Kay Solicitors
Ms June Price		
Ms Laura Probert		
Ms Mary Ryan	Vocational Assessment Manager / Occupational Psychologist	Royal British Legion Industries Vocational Assessment Centre
Mr Dennis Smith	President	Headway Tunbridge Wells and District
Miss Sue Ware	Independent Speech & Language Therapist	
Ms Katherine Wilkinson-Carr	Unit Coordinator	Kent & Medway NHS Social Care Partnership Trust
Mr Steve Winter	Operations Director	Titleworth Healthcare Ltd

Apologies:

Ms Frances Beaumont	Independent Occupational Therapist	Occupational Therapy Services
Ms Claire Carter	Occupational Therapist	Strode Park Foundation
Ms Becca Coffey	PA to Frances Pierce	Rix & Kay Solicitors LLP
Ms Sally Collins	Speech & Language Therapist	Strode Park Foundation
Ms Nicky Coffey	Associate Director	South East Coast Specialised Commissioning Group
Ms Delia Elliman	Independent Case Manager	Case Management Services
Mrs Jenny Mazur	Parent of son with ABI	
Ms Denise McKeown	Partner	McMillan-Williams
Mr Chris Merriman	Website Designer	
Ms Mandy O'Brien	Brain Injury Case Manager	
Mr Julien Payne	Managing Director	Titleworth Healthcare Ltd
Ms Patti Simonson	Head of Social Work	Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability
Mrs Jenny Stockley	Consultant Paediatric Neuropsychologist / Director	Jennifer Stockley Limited
Ms Joanne Stovold	Group Care Homes Manager	Priory Neuro-rehabilitation Services
Mr Terry Street	Founder Manager	ABI Support Organisation, Coventry
Mr Richard Tutt	Registered Manager	Everycare Medway/Swale

1. Welcome and Introductions

Minutes of the meeting held on the 6 February 2008 were approved subject to a couple of small amendments mentioned by Dennis Smith.

2. Approval of minutes of meeting held on 6th February 2008

The minutes of the meeting of 6th February 2008 were approved subject to a few minor typographical amendments.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 6th February 2008

Frances indicated that there were still discussions going on about the ABI Co-ordinator's post in Brighton and that there were talks to try and replace Mike Hope in one form or another and that members of SABIF were active in trying to achieve a replacement. Mike had now moved on to pastures new.

Dennis Smith and Frances Pierce had met with Julia Ross about the matters that were mentioned when she attended the KABIF meeting in February. They reported that they had spent some time with her and she indicated how committed she was to following up her comments about setting up a process to coordinate Brain Injury services in Kent and how important she considered KABIF to be to that process. Frances and Dennis had raised six areas of immediate concern: -

1. the lack of information given to families and sufferers of ABI at the point of injury,
2. specialist follow up plus care at the earliest opportunity,
3. the implementation of the NSF through properly costed plans with an appropriate interface with Social Services,

4. the consideration of case management and / or coordination of ABI services through a single body,
5. education of GPs and other frontline workers,
6. maximising the experience of the members of KABIF and those willing to assist and train and / or give time to make a difference to the outcome of care pathways.

Nicky Coffey was now meeting with the PCTs with a view to developing a formal ABI body which should include social services and develop a strategy to make sure rehab was being dealt with properly and in a coordinated way. There is to be a further meeting in May. Frances and Dennis would go to that. Julia Ross was quite keen for KABIF views and was wanting KABIF members to give examples of problems which they could consider when focussing services. She hoped to obtain further information from the result of the critical care audit for head injury in the county and report her findings to a KABIF meeting later on.

Dennis pointed out that Julia Ross was the director of civil engagement and that Bob Dean was the director of the PCT commission. Between them they were trying to make sure that something went into the budget next year to help affect all of this. There was an observation from Headways regional director that it was important that it was both health and social care that were involved so that there was a co-ordinated approach.

Frances Pierce indicated that they had not got to talk to social services yet but that is what Nicky Coffey envisaged. Dennis mentioned that his input was very much from the patient's perspective because that was his background. It was noted that social services were reluctant to send anybody along to the KABIF meetings to join in these discussions. Dennis indicated that Julia Ross was enthusiastic about KABIF and keen to make sure that there was a structure in place back to the point of any injury. He reminded us that there were 6 criteria included in the implementation of NSF. It was clear however that Nicky's concerns at the moment was funding the implementation.

4. Neuro-Rehab Stakeholders Group and NSF Update – Nicky Coffey

Nicky Coffey was on annual leave but had asked Frances to pass on the following: -

Nicky Coffey has met with the three Kent and Medway PCTs and they have a formal agreement to go ahead and establish a Kent-wide neuro rehab steering group. The group will review current service provision and commissioning then will develop a strategy for neuro rehab in Kent. They will focus on removing organisational boundaries and focus on best model.

The first meeting will be in late spring. Nicky Coffey welcomes the opportunity to discuss how KABIF and its relevant members input into the process. She will bring the terms of reference to the next meeting.

She would like an item on the agenda on crucial care / head injury audit for a future meeting. She has a public health consultant who will come with her to talk to it.

5. Websites

It was reported that the website committee had met again and were trying to re-institute putting the information on the where we have a stakeholders database so that we had contact points for each organisation. Tony Merriman was taking on the task of

sorting the remaining information and would as necessary reassemble the mapping committee. The need for up to date and accurate information was emphasised to the membership and any problems should be reported to Chris Merriman whose e-mail could be obtained by clicking on his name on the bottom of the website www.kabif.org.uk.

6. Focus on Younger Adults with ABI

Ros reported again about the leaflet we were producing and explained the background to the leaflet. She handed out a copy of the initial draft and asked for comments such as how it should be produced. She also asked whether it should be illustrated and if so what sort of illustrations should be put in it. Frances conveyed her thanks to Ros and Mary who had been working on the document for some time now.

7. PPI Forum

Dennis Smith reported on the development of the new forum to replace PPI and set out his involvement in the new organisation.

8. Members' Organisations

There then followed a break for tea and coffee and afterwards each of the members spoke briefly setting out a little bit more detail about the work that they were involved in. It is not intended to minute each of those presentations, details of the members involvements can be obtained from the website or from the members directly or from the websites of their organisations.

9. Any Other Business

Frances mentioned her UKABIF meeting on the 20th May. She was going to attend with Jan Cartmell and Pam Munro.

She also mentioned that there will be a restructuring of the steering committee and that there was to be a meeting on the 4 June to discuss that and members were invited. If anyone was interested they should contact Frances Pierce on francespierce@rixandkay.co.uk.

Pam Munro mentioned that there was still a flat vacant at Headway Court and if anybody had any information about individuals that may be suitable to take up residence they should contact Headway (headwaytwells@hotmail.com).

Tony Merriman mentioned the CBIT conference and that a young lady had given a talk at the start of that setting out her experiences about brain injury. One of the emphases of the conference was illustrating how much difference the right sort of family support will make to brain injured victims and how the wrong sort of family support can make matters worse. The conference emphasised the need of professionals to be aware of the support family carers needed but also had other interesting sessions on specific conditions arising from Brain Injury such as tiredness.

Next Meeting

The next KABIF meeting is on 11th June 2008 at 7 pm at the Royal British Legion Industries, Hall Road, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7NL.