



SABIN Steering Committee - 27 January 2009

Steering Committee Membership

Oliver McGeachy, chief executive of Headway Surrey, has agreed to join the Steering Committee and will be present at the next meeting. The Steering Committee continues to represent all major professional groups within the county but we now lack someone from social services following Sue Cable's retirement. It would be good to have somebody from Surrey County Council on the Steering Committee.

Website

It was agreed that it was difficult to find our website using search engines such as Google. Helen Goatley will investigate if anything can be done to improve this.

Following our networking event in July (see below) we hope to get information about services onto the website for the reference of all members. A suitable data collection form precedent has been located and will be used for this purpose.

2009 Events

As numbers were down on the events put on during 2008 it was agreed that in 2009 we would have three main events. On Wednesday 25 March 2009, 3pm onwards, Headway Surrey are inviting all members of SABIN to come and find out what is going on there. They have set up a befriending scheme, have recruited and funded a brain injury co-ordinator and have many other new initiatives which are exciting.

A major event will be held on Thursday 23 July in the afternoon when all service providers, both in the statutory and private sector, will be invited to come along and present their service to the others present. It is hoped that the turnout to this event will be significant and will mark a turning point in terms of mapping services across the county.

The Christmas social event in 2007 was well attended and enjoyable. In 2008 it had to be cancelled due to lack of interest. It was generally felt that this was because it was too close to Christmas when everybody is so busy. In 2009 we will therefore hold a social event at the end of November when people's diaries may be more free. The winter social will therefore take place on Thursday 26 November from 6pm.

The diary dates will shortly appear on the website.

Surrey PCT

Sue Cable updated the group on the recent redesign of services and explained how Surrey PCT are designing a model service for all neurological rehabilitation in the county, going from post acute through to services in the community.

All were agreed that there were some interesting developments going on in the county, both from the health sector and from social services. It was agreed that the role of SABIN should be to encourage and support "joined up thinking".

Statistics

There was some discussion about the population data available from Alan Tenant's paper (University of Leeds). His figures informed the NSF and it is possible to extrapolate figures for Surrey. It appears to be generally accepted that this is the best data available.

IBIS Files

These were generally considered to be extremely useful. They would be even more useful if funding could be provided to keep the information up to date. If anybody could use an IBIS file (large lever arch folder containing a mass of useful information about Acquired Brain Injury and strokes) then it is believed that there are a number of copies left. In due course it would be good to see some of this information put onto our website.

Update from elsewhere in the UK

There was some discussion about the new Acquired Brain Injury London Forum. Although they cover a much larger geographical area than SABIN, they appear to be following along much the same lines as we have done, setting up membership, focusing on information and networking and setting up a website. We are represented regularly on the UKABIF regional forums group and it is reassuring to see that many more local forums are being set up across the nation.

Communication

It was agreed that a note of the Steering Committee discussion should be circulated amongst the member and comments invited.

Leaflet – "Towards Independence"

A new leaflet has been produced by the Kent Acquired Brain Injury Forum for use by young adults and their carers, covering subjects as varied as Health, Enjoying and Achieving, Staying Safe, Achieving Economic Well-being etc. It is a very practical guide and has much to recommend in it. Copies of the leaflet can be obtained free of charge from Jan Cartmell at the Regard Partnership.