

**Brief notes of the GM Housing and Disability Meeting held on Friday 9 November 1984  
at 1.00 pm in Committee Room 1, County Hall, Piccadilly Gardens, Manchester.**

**Present:**

Chris Haynes	Bolton Housing Department
B Gosschalk	Housing Centre Trust
Peter Norman	Irwell Valley Housing Association
Martin Field	Manchester Disability Forum
S Smith	Lancashire Social Services
R M Southern	South Manchester Housing Association
June MacIzer	GM Coalition of Disabled People
Sarah Taylor	CSV
Dorothy Whitaker	GMCVS
Val Suffolk	Oldham Social Services
Zena Hammond	CSV
Caroline Wells	GMCVS
Chris Drinkwater	Rochdale Housing and Disability Group

**Apologies:**

Susan Kay	Outreach
Don Timpson	Rochdale Housing Department
Louise Silburn	Spastics Society

**1 Minutes of the last meeting**

These were accepted as a correct record.

**2 Matters arising**

2.1 Research Development Worker - amendments agreed upon at the last meeting had now been incorporated in the job description.

2.2 Grant Application for Development Worker - a document requesting £64,000 will soon be circulated.

Dorothy and Peter to act as contact people.

**3**

**Questionnaire/seminar on Housing and Care Support options in GM**

Several amendments were made to June and Ken's original draft questionnaire as edited and compiled by Dorothy (see attached):

**P1**

- (a) the title was abridged and now reads "Questionnaire on Independent Living Schemes within GM".
- (b) the opening section "Apparent Objective and Actual Objectives" was amended to read "Objective: to assess progress in developing Independent Living Schemes in Greater Manchester".
- (c) Q1 was amended and now reads "What Independent Living Schemes are there in the Metropolitan district/are being planned? (Please give details for each scheme on attached sheet). It was felt that this wording would encourage people to be more forthcoming with information.

- (d) it was agreed that some mention should be made of the major new problem of disabled people living with family/friends. Therefore a 5th question was added to the list - it reads "What steps have been taken to identify those disabled people living at home, and to meet their needs for Housing and Care Support?"

## P2

- (a) Q3 was amended and now reads "How were tenants/recipients of care..."

## A HOUSING

- (b) an addition was made to the final sentence in the paragraph "Details required on" - it now reads "Is surrounding.....town centre/local centre?"
- (c) it was agreed that Q5 was superfluous - (the same point being raised in Q6) - it was therefore deleted.
- (d) Q7 was amended to read "Were the dwellings designed/adapted for..."

## B CARE SUPPORT

- (e) an addition was made to Q1 such that it now reads "Who provides the staffing of the care support...?"
- (f) a 6th question was added to the list - it reads "Where do care supporters live?"

Although Bernard expressed some doubt as to the effectiveness of questionnaires, it was finally decided to go ahead with the questionnaire (stating its intended purpose) and to follow up its circulation with visits from Group members - 1 per district.

Members were requested to send any proposed amendments to the document to Dorothy. She agreed to finish off the questionnaire and send out copies to each authority, with the name of the corresponding follow-up person - after a pilot run which June, Roy and Sadie agreed to do.

June suggested that circulation of the questionnaire and its published results be followed up also by the seminar on GM Housing and Care Support Options. The format of this would be discussed at the next meeting.

4

## "Care in the Community"

Dorothy had written to the Personal Social Services Research Unit at Kent University who were monitoring "Care in the Community" pilot projects. They had sent copies of their newsletters and also said that as yet there were no community schemes for physically handicapped people included in the pilot projects - "not for want of a desire to find such a scheme but because no adequate bids were made".

Concern was expressed that the pilot projects tended to cater for groups, whereas physically disabled people requiring Housing and Care Support were usually individuals.

Members discussed whether they should prompt their local authorities into making applications for the next round of funding (April 1985), but it was agreed that the meaning of the word "adequate" needed clarifying before prompting applications was considered. Dorothy agreed to approach the Research Unit for this information prior to the next meeting.

Martin suggested the Group should also be considering whether local joint financing arrangements for Care in the Community could be used for the needs of severely physically disabled people - Roy felt this was highly unlikely as the needs of severely physically disabled people wishing to live independently of hospital environment i.e. young disabled units are different from the needs of mentally handicapped and funding arrangements would need to reflect this.

5

#### **Funding arrangements similar to Hampshire**

Martin reported that some funding for Care Support Schemes (mainly in Hampshire) came direct to the individual from the local authority/through a middle agent. No such schemes are run in Greater Manchester. Martin felt that members should become more aware of this form of funding and be able to advise on it.

However, Martin pointed out that the legality of this type of scheme has not been established. Hampshire Council feels it needs to do a test case.

Martin agreed to obtain further details on this type of funding from Hampshire and it would be considered at the next meeting.

6

#### **Any other business**

There was no other business.

7

#### **Date, time next meeting**

Wednesday 12 December - 1 pm - at the St Thomas Centre, Ardwick Green North, Manchester. Please confirm if you wish to attend by Monday 10 so catering can be arranged accordingly.