

Notes on Meeting to discuss Housing & Care Support Provision in Greater Manchester for Physically Disabled People held on Wednesday 19 October 1983 in The St Thomas Centre, Ardwick Green North, Manchester.

Present: Peter Norman, Irwell Valley Housing Association (in the Chair)
Margaret Bone, Tameside
Dorothy Whitaker, Greater Manchester CVS
Chris Drinkwater, Rochdale Housing & Disability Group
Roy Southern, South Manchester Health Authority
Louise Silburn, The Spastics Society
Jennifer Graham, Greater Manchester CVS

Apologies: Bernard Gosschalk, Housing Centre Trust
Sadie Smith, Lancashire Social Services
Roger Phillips, North British Housing Association
Jack Chadwick, Oldham Social Services
William Gamage, Oldham Social Services
June Maelzer, Access Committee (Manchester)
Ken Lumb, UPIAS
Mrs A Shepherdson, Lancashire Social Services

Dorothy said she had sent a 'Get Well' card to Bernard from the Group and he had replied saying he thought recovery was going to be a long process.

The Chairman welcomed Louise Silburn who said she would be attending meetings on behalf of The Spastics Society in place of Nigel Smith.

1. **Notes of Previous Meeting**

Action

1.1 The notes were approved as a correct record of the meeting.
1.2 Roy said he was no longer a member of STAPH.

2. **Matters Arising**

2.1 Proposals for Accommodation Register

2.1.1 Roy wished to register his concern about the fact that Granada Television had produced a programme in the series "This is Your Right" on the topic of Housing for Disabled People without proper knowledge of the subject. He felt their approach was naive. The Chairman informed Roy that Roy Murphy of Shelter had been invited to join the Group and so combine our resources (Shelter had been involved in the programme).

2.2 Video Circulation

2.2.1 Dorothy reported that Manchester Social Services Training Unit was organising two sessions based on the video. June and Chris would accompany the video on the first occasion, Roy and Peter on the second. A social worker from Manchester Social Services had asked Dorothy if speakers accompanying the video would mention the existence of money in the South Manchester Area to provide support to families. He thinks few Social Workers in South Manchester know about this money and as a result it is not being utilised.

2.2.2 Dorothy said that no other district councils had contacted her since the previous meeting and so the sheet circulated at the last meeting still showed the current position. The Chairman asked that a second letter be sent in his name to both Social Services and Housing Departments which had not responded. He would ask Don Simpson to raise the subject at the next meeting of Greater Manchester Group of Housing Authorities.

2.2.3 Many journals had already been circulated but at least one copy of the video was booked out almost solidly up to Christmas, therefore the other journals would be contacted in December.

2.2.4 It was felt we should defer contacting Health Authorities in the area until after Christmas.

3. Research/Development Worker

3.1 A draft Job Description was tabled.

3.2 It was felt the section on Evaluation/Action Research should be strengthened to improve our chances of funding from Gulbenkian. This should be section 3 on the paper.

3.3 The Chairman said he would write the section on Research expanding it to give more detail. This section should be number 1 on the paper.

3.4 Item number 2 under Development "Identifying and establishing contact with Statutory and Voluntary agencies concerned with service provision" should be added to number 2 Evaluation/Action Research "Identification of agencies willing to provide support services in 1 above."

3.5 Salary - should be in the range £7,500/£8,500 AP 4/5.

3.6 Greater Manchester Housing & Disability Group will provide a Steering Group for the project.

3.7 It was decided to leave the problem of accommodation for the worker until later. The Chairman said it might be possible for either Irwell valley Housing Association or North British Housing Association to provide a space with telephone and a typist for the worker. Chris raised the question of who would service the GM Housing & Disability Group if the worker was not at Greater Manchester CVS - this would be considered at a future meeting.

3.8 The Chairman had already written to Rowntree Memorial Trust and sent a copy of the conference report. Mr Dennis who is involved with Cheshire Foundation Housing Association's Family Support Scheme replied on behalf of Rowntrees. He seemed to think that the Family Support Scheme was developing along the same lines but members of the group said this scheme was similar to Crossroads Care Attendant Scheme - it gave support to the carers not to physically disabled people. The Cheshire Housing Association is part of Leonard Cheshire Homes. The Chairman said he would call in and speak to Mr Dennis the next time he was in York. He thought we should ask Rowntrees what percentage of the total cost they would be prepared to contribute but maybe they would donate one third of the costs.

4. June Maelzer's Meeting to discuss Alternative Care Support Schemes

4.1 Both Roy and Dorothy planned to attend this meeting and the Chairman asked that they keep the Group informed of any relevant decisions taken.

5. Centre on Environment for the Handicapped

5.1 The Chairman reported that Paul Crowther, North British Housing Association and June Maelzer were speaking at a seminar on Centres for Independent Living organised by CEH to be held on 28 November.

		Action
6.	New Representatives on the Group	
6.1	Oldham Disability Alliance have asked if a representative might attend our meetings. This was agreed. Dorothy will inform them.	DW
6.2	Social Services Representation:- Still no word from Manchester, possible confusion with request to show video. The Chairman said Irwell Valley Housing Association were building three bungalows in Bury and he would try and get a representative from Bury Social Services to attend our meetings.	PN
7.	Tameside - Care Support Problem	
7.1	Chris outlined a particular Care Support problem he had been involved with in Tameside and he was asked to get CSV's current view on this and report to the next meeting before we took action.	
8.	Date of Next Meeting	
8.1	Thursday 17 November at 11.00 am in the Main Hall, The St Thomas Centre, Ardwick Green North.	

