Meeting Notes - Darlington Organisation (DOT)

Thursday 16th June 2022 10am – 12:00noon

Zoom Meeting

**Present**: Sebastian Day Access Outreach Team

Kathryn Hardwick Alzheimer’s Society

Gemma Cordey Family Help

Andrew West Darlington Carers Support

Avril Charlton Macmillan Support

Chris McEwan Primary Care Network & Haughton Matters

Danielle Ripley Primary Care Network

Ethna Park Primary Care Network

Gary Doran Morrisons Trust

Laura Oselton NECA

Lynn Walton Changing Lives Step Forward Tees Valley

Martin Webster DBC Workforce Development

Philip Kerr Independent Complaints Advocacy

**Apologies:**  Mary Hall DBC

Carole Sobkowiak Darlington Soroptimist

Zoe Gray Morrison Trust

Rosemary Berks DAD

Sarah Gouldsbrough Head of Steam

Deborah Robinson St Teresa’s Hospice

Stefan Klidzia Cruse Bereavement

Rob Dent DBC Livingwell Directory

Andrew Poinen Kooth plc

Gill Cree Alzheimer’s Society

Rita Lawson Tees Valley Rural Action

J. Dennison Durham Deafened Support

**In Attendance:** Michelle ThompsonHealthwatch Darlington

Diane Lax Healthwatch Darlington

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|  | **Action By** | **Target Date** |
| **1. Welcome and Introductions**  MT welcomed all to the meeting and introductions followed.  1.1 DL advised due to broken wrist, notes this time will be brief Everyone agreed to send a paragraph through for updates if need be. |  |  |
| **2. Attendance/Apologies**  2.1As noted above |  |  |
| **3. Notes from the last meeting**.  3.1 Notes from March 2022 meeting were agreed as true reflection. |  |  |
| **4. Guest Speakers**  4.1 **INDEPENDENT COMPLAINTS ADVOCACY (ICA)** – Philip Kerr Carers Federation - Philip gave an overview of the current services provided by ICA, gave updates about each local authority now commissioning the service individually. ICA work closely with Healthwatch as well as other organisations. They deal with NHS complaints no matter where the treatment was given. The only criteria is that the person is a Darlington resident. For more information please see  the presentation. |  |  |
| **5. Around the Room Updates**  5.1 **Darlington Carers Support –** Andrew is new in post advised that they have an office in the St Teresa’s hub. The Carers Week at the Cornmill was well attended.  5.2 **Macmillan Support** - Avril is new in post and is working out of the Macmillan Centre located in Darlington Memorial Hospital providing information and advice.  5.3 **Primary Care Network** - Living Well Strategy - a number of social prescribers helping people get the support they need to manage conditions through prevention/intervention for more information visit the website: -  <https://bit.ly/LivingWell_Darlo>  5.4 **Morrisons Trust** – Have courses for all levels to help get individuals back into work. Courses can be adapted to cater for the individual from building up confidence to interview skills. [Morrison Trust](https://www.morrisontrust.org.uk/)  5.5 **Family Help –** They are continuing to fundraise to provide an new play area and equipment for the centre. Cummins and Darlington Building Society staff have been providing volunteer hours to the organisation which has included tidying the ground. They will be attending Pride Weekend and the Darlington Carnival. For more information contact Gemma Cordey [community@familyhelp.org.uk](mailto:community@familyhelp.org.uk)  5.6 **NECA Gambling Services** – Providing services for anyone experiencing gambling problems, offers 1-1 peer support and group sessions. Ffor more information visit the website. [Gambling Advice & Services - NECA 1](https://www.neca.co.uk/gambling-advice/)  5.7 **Changing Lives Step Froward Tees Valley** – Lynn is new in post. Her role is to work with participants who are not quite at the work ready stage but would like to volunteer to maybe gain some skills or build confidence. Working with lots of organisations and business with opportunities to suit participants needs such as DBC, Scope, Far-Place, Dogs trust and many more. They check in weekly with participants to continue with a positive relationship.  They support them for 12 weeks paying expenses and can also support with expenses if specific uniform or outfit is required for their role up to £30. Once the 12 weeks support has ended it would be the responsibility of the organisation to reimburse out of pocket expenses i.e. travel.  5.8 DBC Care Collective – Darlington Xtra is a collaborative partnership interactive, supporting organisations in succession planning, offering training across sectors, sharing recourses.  [Darlington Borough Council Social Care Recruitment -](https://microsites.darlington.gov.uk/darlington-xtra/)  5.9 **Access Team –** Based at Tubwell Row provide a substance misuse service, new funding has been received allowing the service to run till March 2025. Service has just recruited a new person who will be starting in July. Service works with other organisations closely having a multi-disciplinary hub. The service helps anyone using drugs for more information about the service contact: -  [Sebastian.Day@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:Sebastian.Day@darlington.gov.uk)  5.10 **Alzheimer’s Society –** Providing dementia services around the town, from the Dementia café held at Age UK to singing for the brain held at the St Teresa’s wellbeing hub.  <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk>  Dementia friends newsletter can be viewed following the link [Healthwatch Darlington Newsletter (mailchi.mp)](https://mailchi.mp/26d7275401ef/healthwatch-darlington-newsletter-8665021?e=b5b23f8ce4) |  |  |
| **5. Healthwatch Darlington Update**  5.1 MT gave an update of activities including –   * Pandemic report has now gone to commissioners and providers for comment. Once information is received this will be published. * Sensory Impairment- as above * Dentistry continues to be of concern the report has been shared with commissioners and raised with NHS England HWD will continue to gather people’s views. [HWD Dentistry Report 2022](https://www.healthwatchdarlington.co.uk/report/2022-02-25/healthwatch-darlington-dentistry-report-2022). * Annual Report is being produced and will be published by 30th June. * We currently have Board member vacancies anyone interested please see our website for more information. * Job vacancy for part time Communications and Volunteer Officer closing date 30th June 5pm. * E-bulletin anyone wishing to promote/share any events/information they are holding then please send narrative/information to   [info@healthwatchdarlington.co.uk](mailto:info@healthwatchdarlington.co.uk) |  |  |
| **7. Any Other Business**  **7.1** The meeting created a lot of networking opportunities enabling organisations present to share information and organise some collaborative working between themselves.  **7.2** No other business - meeting closed. |  |  |

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

**Thursday 15th September 2022**

**Time 10am - 12:00pm,**

**Zoom**

**Future dates**

**Thursday 8th December 2022**