

Disabilities Network

Streets Ahead Campaign sub-group

3rd March 2009

NWOD, County Hall, Haverfordwest

Present:

Community Cllr Margaret Baron	De Clare Court Courtiers
Rhyan Berrigan	Disability Wales
Harriet Bowen	Cardiff University Student
Rachel Elliott	Cardiff University Student
Alan Hunt	Pembrokeshire County Council
Anne Isaac	PAVS
Community Cllr Maisie Jakeway	De Clare Court Courtiers
Claire John	Cardiff University Student
Henry Langen	(Meeting Chair) Disability Wales
Fiona Morgan	BSL interpreter
Huw Thomas	School of City & Regional Planning, Cardiff University
County Cllr David Wildman	Pembrokeshire County Council

1. Welcome Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were recorded for:

Islwyn Bevan	Parkinson's Disease Society
Ruth Evans	Help the Aged
Martin Goodall	Haverfordwest Hawkes
Jenny Gough	The Rowan Organisation
David Harries	Hope MS Therapy Centre
Laura Hayden	Cartrefi Cymru
Cllr Sian James	PCC
Tina Mills	Pembs Care & Repair 2000 Ltd
Richard Morgan	Downs Syndrom Society
Pierce Murphy	Pembrokeshire Access Group
Valerie Stevenson	PIPPA
Beryl Thomas-Cleaver	PIPPA
Ian Wilshaw	Mencap Gardens

2. Identify Campaign Participants

2.1 Huw Thomas explained that the purpose of the meeting was to look at practical ways forward for the Streets Ahead campaign – who can do what and when – and

outlined the aim of focussing on what people experience when they use their town centre. This will encompass attitudes, staff training, physical areas within the town centre and the way goods are displayed. For this to happen we need ways of getting information about how people use the town centre – how frustrating or pleasant an experience it is for them. There are a number of ways of achieving this including, but not limited to:

- Focus group/structured discussion,
- Mystery shopping,
- Testing how people with differing ranges of impairments experience a particular task

2.2 Campaign participants should be mindful that confrontation where bad practice was experienced is not within the remit of the campaign, rather both good and bad practice could be reported via the campaign website.

2.3 Alan Hunt suggested that Young Voices for Choices might wish to become involved in the campaign. It was **agreed** to invite them to the next meeting and Alan Hunt agreed to contact the group to see if they would undertake a supermarket lobby survey.

2.4 The deaf community might wish to take part in the campaign – Russel Rainford would be a good contact.

2.5 De Clare Court Courtiers agreed to undertake mystery shopper exercises.

2.6 Cllr David Wildman agreed to contact Ann Edmunds to explore a discussion group linked to the campaign at the forthcoming 50+ conference.

3. Identify premises/places/spaces/services

3.1 Haverfordwest is the focus chosen by Disability Wales but people are encouraged to take part in the campaign wherever they live.

3.2 The custody suite at the police station had been highlighted as a place which is particularly difficult for people with an impairment.

3.3 Huw Thomas reported that although the campaign is not focussing on transport issues, it is interested in how people reach the decision to go out to the high street or not and transport may feature in this decision.

4. Agree Timescales
4.1 Huw Thomas advised that his students are supporting the campaign as part of their part-time study and would need to complete their work by the middle of May (their fieldwork will need to be complete by the end of March). Huw Thomas would provide continuity of support beyond this time. It was agreed that Harriet Bowen, Rachel Elliot and Claire John would draw up a list of the information they would like campaign supporters to gather and will communicate this to Alan Hunt, Margaret Baron and Maisie Jakeway who will then co-ordinate the tasks within their contact groups.
4.2 Anne Isaac agreed to draw up a press release for the campaign.
5. Support from Disability Wales
5.1 Rhyan Berrigan reported that the campaign website should be live within the next week or so.
5.2 Rhyan Berrigan will provide an update every two months on how the campaign is proceeding.
6. Date of next meeting
6.1 Anne Isaac agreed to call another campaign sub-group meeting when requested by Hwy Thomas or Rhyan Berrigan.
6.2 The next Disabilities Network Meeting is scheduled for Monday 11 th May at 10.00 a.m., venue to be advised.