

MINUTES

RAPAR Information Sharing Meeting

Tuesday, 16th December 2003 4.pm – Salford Cathedral

Present

Nilofer Shaikh, SPCT; Tel: 212 4581; email: nilofer.shaikh@salford-pct.nhs.uk (Chair)
Lorraine Hall, Connexions; Tel: 743 0163; email: lorraine.hall@betterchoices.co.uk
Joan Morgan, GMP; Tel: 856 5139; email: Joan.Morgan@GMP.Police.uk
Mike Scantlebury, Salford Community Network; Tel: 707 0507
Claire Beatson, Social Services; Tel: 206 4820
Kay Fairhurst, SCC Community Services; Tel: 789 4097, email: kay.fairhurst@salford.gov.uk
Clair Sacks, Linda Taylor Associates (Minutes)

Apologies

Apologies from Rhetta Moran, Donna Hewitt, Cath Maffia, Mohammad Saeed.
Nilofer explained that the RAPAR team had an emergency to deal with which was why they could not attend the meeting.

1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Item 3. Mike Scantlebury remarked that the date of the press launch of the report on personal safety issued had been changed to Thursday, 11th December and not Monday 15th December as mentioned in the minutes.

Item 3: Lorraine had actually stated that people did not have the information regarding the North West Consortium conference. Anyone who wants further information regarding this should include himself or herself on the GMR Smart Group email list.

Item 4: The deadline for the Administrator post had been extended to 12th December and the advertisement had been sent to everyone on the mailing list. There had been 10 applicants who will be shortlisted in January. Two more people are needed for the interview panel. Salford RAPAR had been asked to supply one of these and Kay Fairhurst has volunteered if Cath Maffia is still unavailable.

Item 7: Nilofer will be negotiating the postal address with Salford RAPAR.

Item 9: Joan Morgan stated that she did not make all the comments that were attributed to her. It was actually a discussion initiated by her.

2. AGM

Nilofer suggested that the AGM and the official launch of the group should be put back until April when the new administrator will be in post as there were too many other commitments in February and March. A tentative date of Friday 2nd April was agreed from 4pm onwards. It was suggested that a guest speaker should be sought to be invited to give a presentation on refugees and asylum seekers issues.

3. TRUSTEE SUPPORT GROUP

Kay Fairhurst volunteered to be a member of the Trustee Support Group. Lorraine apologised, as she cannot now be considered because of other commitments. The existing group at the moment is Mike Scantlebury, Mohammad Saeed and Kay Fairhurst.

4. LAUNCH OF REPORT ON PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM AND THEIR EXPERIENCES OF PERSONAL SAFETY IN SALFORD

The launch of this report jointly produced by Salford Rapar, Revans Institute, Salford Community Network and Salford University was held on 11th December at Salford Civic Centre, not 15th December as previously announced. The booklet, Home & Away, which was produced by Salford RAPAR was launched at the same time. Due to change of date and the press release going out late, the attendance of the launch was disappointing, but was very informative and useful. Councillor Salmon did not attend; in fact no councillors were present. Nilofer said she would ask Claire (Cath Maffia's secretary) to provide Mike with the mailing list for distribution of the report. Nilofer will also supply a mailing list for the Broughton & Blackfriars Health Action Team and Health Improvement Team. Kay will provide the address of the Community Development Team for copies to be sent to them. An electronic copy is not available at present. A further press release has been issued about the event.

5. AOB

It was mentioned that Salford Museum & Art Gallery are commissioning refugees & asylum seekers to work on a six month contract. This is being launched on 17th December, 4pm – 7pm.

Manchester Against Racism. This is specific awareness campaign of what people are getting involved in if they vote for the BNP. It has been established as a broad united campaign to oppose the BNP. They celebrate human diversity and demand equality and respect for all. They oppose all attacks on asylum seekers. There will be an official launch of the group some time in January.

Joan Morgan said translators were needed by GMP to help with refugees and asylum seekers. Could anyone who is interested in becoming a translator please contact Joan Morgan, GMP on 0161 856 5139.

6. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

The following dates were arranged:

20th January 2004 at 10.00am.

17th February 2004 at 4.00pm.

16th March 2004 at 10.00am.

All the above meetings will take place at Salford Cathedral