

TAMESIDE COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICE PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES OF A PROVIDER GROUP MEETING **HELD ON THURSDAY 2ND JULY 2001**

Present:	Bashir Zaman	-	Exchequer & Customer Services, TMBC
	Pam Tweedie	-	Dial Tameside
	Olivia Murray	-	Bromley Hyde Robinson Solicitors
	Chris Clover	-	Training & Dev Officer, TMBC
	Michelle Brennan	-	Planning & Partnership Consultant, LSC
	Ray Slamon	-	Carers Centre, TMBC
	Roger Thompson	-	Welfare Rights Service, TMBC
	M Goodsell	-	Shelter
	R Goodall	-	Gruber Garratt Solicitors
	Elaine Fireash	-	Child Protection, T&G C&PS Trust
	Steve Moss	-	New Charter Housing Trust
	Gill Williams	-	Tameside County Court
	Sue Sperry	-	Tameside Forum of Disabled People
	Ahmed Ali	-	TREC
	Alan Franco	-	CLS Co-ordinator, TMBC
	Linda Walker	-	Partnership Secretary, TMBC

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the proceedings of the previous meeting held on 27th March 2001 were agreed as a correct record.

2. Active Signposting and Referral Scheme

Provider representatives discussed the progress of the Active Signposting and Referral Scheme Protocol and in particular the number of referrals between agencies. Alan Franco reminded providers that the terms of the protocol required them to refer to another participating agency if they were unable to give advice in a particular subject or did not have the resources to take on the case. It was noted that the number of monitoring forms which had been returned was disappointing and providers stated that a major factor was having the time to complete the forms. Michelle Brennan encouraged providers to look at existing monitoring methods within their organisations to ascertain whether these could be used to provide data for this exercise providing they met the quality standard requirements.

3. Partnership Innovation Budget

Michelle Brennan thanked providers for contributing their ideas for possible bids for the Partnership Innovation Budget. The Steering Group of the partnership would be considering the bids and providing recommendations along with bids from other partnerships in the North West for the Regional Legal Services Committee to consider at its meeting on 10th July 2001. A progress update would be provided at the next meeting.

4. Housing Possession Court Duty Scheme

(a) Local Pilot

Michelle Brennan reported on the local pilot running at Tameside County Court for rent repossessions provided by quality marked providers on a monthly basis. The group responsible for co-ordinating and reviewing this pilot had also been looking to extending this scheme to include mortgage repossession which would require a greater commitment from providers as these were listed on a weekly basis.

(b) LSC County Court Duty Advice Scheme

Further to Minute 5 of the previous meeting it was noted that a tender application had now been submitted and further details would be reported once a decision was known.

5. Consultation – Three Year Draft CLS Strategy

Michelle Brennan and Alan Franco advised providers on arrangements being made to consult on the Tameside CLSPs Draft Strategic Plan during July. He stated that a workshop would be held on 26th July 2001 between 4pm and 6 pm to which suppliers, funders and users would be invited to attend to discuss the Draft Plan, hear a briefing on progress so far.

Network members divided into two groups and were asked to contribute their ideas to developing an action plan for the next period.

6. Citizen 2000 Panel Survey

Alan Franco reported on the headline results from a recent Citizen 2000 Panel consultation survey which had included questions relating to CLS. The Panel helped the CLS Partnership to get an idea for demand for legal services in Tameside by responding to a survey in 1998. The Spring 2001 survey asked questions about more recent experiences. One of the most important messages was that 82% of the Panel said they did not recognize the CLS logo. Providers discussed the results and issues surrounding raising public awareness through publicity and promoting the use of the Tameside CLS website.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Tuesday 2nd October 2001.