

Actions from previous meeting:

There are new organisations now operating in the Borders – Cornerstone and Tomorrow's People – and it was agreed that they should be invited to join the Forum. Macmillan welfare benefits project also to be invited. Action: Kathleen to invite these organisations to attend a meeting/join BAASF. **Cornerstone and Tomorrow's People have expressed an interest in attending meetings. Tomorrow's People agreed to give an update at the February meeting, now cancelled, so hopefully can attend in March. Cornerstone were unable to attend the February meeting but hope to be at the next one. Macmillan still to be contacted.**

Physical disability – following the closure of the Borders Disability Forum, the funders have now come up with a proposal for a new type of user led forum. **Work on this is now in progress with a group comprising NHS Borders, SBC and third sector representatives. An application for match funding has gone to the Strengthening Disabled People's User-Led Organisations Programme (DPUL), for the co-production of a new group.**

Patient Advisory and Support Service - It had been agreed earlier in the year that BAASF would act as a PASS review group but this had not happened. Action: Kathleen to check with Stephen how PASS is being reviewed if not via BAASF. **This is now being dealt with internally with support from the Scottish Health Council.**

Impact Assessments - there was discussion about who is contacted when Scottish Borders Council go out to consultation. It seems that various parts of SBC hold different information about third sector organisations in the Borders. Action: Kathleen to contact Clare Malster to discuss. **Clare has explained that in her new role as Strategic Community Engagement Officer she will be working to ensure that we have a joined up process not just across the council but across the community planning partnership.**

Tendering - The need for service users to be involved in the tendering process was discussed. Recent tenders for drug and alcohol services and homelessness services have gone out but there is no indication of any service users being involved in the panels. There was discussion about the need to have a service user on tendering panels. Action: Kathleen to talk to procurement at SBC about user involvement and feed back. According to SBC procurement manager – **"In general terms the Council follows the best practice guidance through the Scottish Government - The Procurement of Care and Support Services. More specifically the Alcohol and Drug Partnership service was a redesign that had service users input to investment process which directly influenced the design of the new model. The tenders were based on the new model. A tender for the Housing Support has had service user involvement from beginning right through the process and as you note the advocacy project has a service user involved and part of the board and will be involved in the tender process."**

Disclosure requirements for people employed as part of SDS: Action: Kathleen to follow up – **still outstanding.**

Adult Protection awareness sessions: Action: Kathleen and Mary to follow up – **still outstanding**

LGBT group – Kathleen has contacted them but no response yet. Action: Kathleen to follow up – **still no response, so suggest we take this off the agenda for now.**