



Advocacy Action

Developing Advocacy in Wakefield District

Notes of the Committee Meeting

of Friday 17 March 2006

at the Children's Advocacy Service, Castleford

Present:	Maggie Clarke Bev Land Paul Wright	Henry Fisher Maureen Slack
Apologies:	Ben Brown Carol McGrath Glynis Stirling	Jody Gabriel Fatemeh Shabram

Notes of last meeting

These were accepted as a true record.

Matters arising

- Bev asked about the local area agreements (LAAs) as she has recently started sitting on a similar group in Wakefield. Henry said some positive things had happened, in particular 'advocacy' being highlighted as a key element and building block of community leadership. At this stage it appears that the proposals refer to quite a different sort of advocacy from us, and there is a worry that this big project may take over our main aims if we were to get too closely involved.
- The code of practice for advocates hasn't moved on much since the comments came back at the end of January. However we are a step closer to moving that piece of work forward, and when we find the time that we thought we had at the last meeting we'll get on with it.

Coordinator's report

Henry spent some time going through this. There was particular support for the planned peer advocacy pilots, and the links with the previously proposed Community Advocate Scheme were discussed. There was also support for the idea that we could begin to develop alternatives for the recently diminished services to disabled and older people - with proper consultation with DIAL and Age Concern of course.

The agenda item on social enterprise was subsumed into this general discussion, although those present agreed this was a positive development.

AGM

It was agreed to hold the AGM on Tuesday 5 April from 10am-12noon, provisionally at the King Street office.