**POPS - Continued**

Lisa Redfern, the Director of Social Care at LBHF also attended, and provided a useful overview of recent changes to adult social care services.  As many of you may know, adult social care has been brought back to H&F as a “sovereign borough” service, with RBKC and City of Westminster continuing to deliver services under a “bi-borough” arrangement.  Two Adult Social Care services remain shared across the three boroughs – the hospital service and the emergency duty social work service.  Children’s social care remains a three-borough service.

Lisa noted that Hammersmith & Fulham Council has restructured, with all commissioning functions now under a central directorate of Public Service Reform.  The Adult Social Care department therefore now primarily consists of Occupational Therapy, social work and safeguarding.  Around 2,500 H&F residents receive home care in some shape of form, and a small minority live in residential and nursing care.

Lisa acknowledged that many organisations will have had good working relationships with individual commissioners, but this is likely to have been disrupted through reorganisation and staff changes.  Lisa agreed to provide Sobus with details of commissioning leads, which we will share in due course.

In terms of ASC priorities, Lisa reported that currently, ASC are focussing on the Administration’s Manifesto.  As always, funding is a key issue to address, as well as continuing to provide high quality social care, home care and health care services.  Lisa reminded the forum that H&F is one of only a few boroughs which do not charge for home care, and also provides a heavily subsidised meals service.   However, Lisa is keen to further improve ASC services, and one key area is to improve the information and advice element of the service.  Many individual ASC staff have a good range of information about local services and organisation to refer clients to, but this is something that needs updating.  Sue noted that Sobus is acutely aware of this and will be prioritising communications and publicity projects throughout the year.

H&F will be establishing an H&F Safeguarding Board, and would welcome a 3rd sector representative at this.  Sobus will take this forward with the Health & Wellbeing Forum to look at how a representative could be identified and supported.