



Platform 1, Great Malvern Station,
Station Approach, Malvern, Worcestershire WR14 3AU

Tel: 01684 575545 Email: wavoccadmin@btconnect.com

Website: www.wavocc.org.uk

Report from April 2009, Sally Ellison

At the latest **Health & Social Care Partnership Board** (HSCP) meeting members discussed the National Dementia Strategy and the need for the local strategy to contain more detail and a 10 year plan. The need for 'Good Quality early diagnosis and intervention for all' is a first priority and the importance of training for all sectors was stressed. It was recognised that the VCS has more significant contributions to offer than it currently makes, and wants to be involved and there was a need for agencies to ensure the involvement of the VCS. We also discussed the National Carers Strategy and locally work is ongoing to align the new Worcestershire Carers Strategy against the 5 National Carers Objectives. An update report on the new strategy will be presented at the next meeting. The establishment of the Joint Commissioning Unit was discussed and Peter Arch, the newly appointed Head of the Unit, will be presenting a work plan for the coming year at the next meeting.

As a means of ensuring that the Consultative Groups, (which were established to enable and ensure that the voice and concerns of users, carers and the VCS, were heard by commissioners), had the opportunity to receive feedback from the meeting in October, another joint meeting was held recently which gave each group the chance to hear of progress with their particular issues and another opportunity to raise additional issues and areas of activity for development. WAVOCC believes these meetings are an important opportunity to ensure that users, carers and the VCS have the opportunity to talk directly to those individuals who hold budgets and make decisions!!!