

NORTH WEST TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM



Director: Lynn James-Jenkinson



Date of submission:

11th December 2009

Subject:  Update report to Commissioning Group

Executive summary:

The following report is a summary of the activity of the NWTDT in the period September to December 2009 and the actions taken to implement the Business Plan agreed by the Commissioning Group.

Recommendations:

1. That the Commissioning Group accept the contents of this report.
2. Support Charlie's decision to agree to the installation of an adult changing place in our new office/ training room accommodation.
3. Agree the Action Plan arising from the Review of NWTDT
4. Support the development of Conference Friends role and jobs in partnership with Pathways Associates, subject to securing the funding required at a Regional Level.

REFLECTION

The Review helped the team focus positively checking we were doing what people with a learning disability, families and support services needed and wanted us to do and the action plan we are developing to respond positively to the recommendations will ensure this is embedded in our future work.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the questionnaire, we appreciate your ongoing support.

We are really excited about the launch of Valuing Employment Now and more importantly the opportunity to create real jobs and employment opportunities for people. It would be great if every Partnership Board could commit to using the 2 Conference Friends we employ plus 2 local Conference Friends to support 1 event each local to them.



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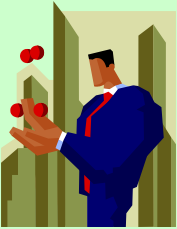


(18)

1. INTRODUCTION

The previous report (17) has been circulated to Self-Advocates, Health and Social Care Lead Officers and the Family Forum. The report is also available on the NWTDT website

2. BUSINESS MANAGEMENT



Lynn



Commissioning Group –

REQUIRED OUTCOMES



- Quarterly report to be submitted against business plan produced by team members.
- Report to be circulated.

Quarterly report circulated and available at www.nwtdt.com

An Annual Report 2008/2009 has been prepared. This is currently being finalised and printed and will be circulated, copies will be available at www.nwtdt.com

Lynn will be representing NW ADASS at the ADASS national Learning Disability Group.



Budget –

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- End the year balancing the budget.

Budget summary will be finalised and presented at the meeting. There are no concerns regarding this at the present time.

We have negotiated a 6 month rent free period to fund our office relocation and are at present working to secure the additional funding required to fit and adult changing place in our new accommodation, we need £6,500. Charlie gave the go ahead outside the meeting to facilitate the move on the basis that it will be cheaper to install the Changing Place whilst building work is being completed rather than have the work done later and with the commitment that the team, collectively, will work ahrd to raise the finance as soon as possible. We would like the Commissioning Group to support this.



Service Level Agreements

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Agreements to be finalised with all Primary Care Trust's, Local Authority's and Care Services Improvement Partnership/ Valuing People

6 Children's services are now subscribing with a seventh considering whether to subscribe or commission work as a non subscriber.



Communication-

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Further develop the website and improve communication with the Region.
- Improve skills within the team in producing more accessible information

Website:

Since the last report progress has been made on the new company website. Most of the generic content has been written to the site. After an initial design had gone out for review changes to the main navigation structure was decided. This has put back the progression by 2 weeks due to a complete re-structure, however we are still confident of a New Year launch, this will be subject to a positive response from Associates to contribute their material by mid December.

Liam is due to start appointments with the Associates soon to collect this information.

Contact Database: As no central database has been implemented before, this has taken some time to implement and get rolling. We are now in a position where we have around 500 different people on our central database. The database is cared for on a daily basis by our team administrator. Currently we are using the system to send out upcoming events and other information via email. the database is also capable of postal mailings. We do not as yet have a complete database, as not all the team have yet to collate their data for import into the database, but this is due to be rectified at the same time as the meeting for the website content.

Flyers: Flyer design has been updated and now looks and feels more like a professional document. We have also used more pages per flyer, this allows us to easily fit more information on each page and to make the initial page more striking and noticeable. Flyer turn around is now much faster than previous. We have also gained a good contact from a printing company which allows us to print our flyers low cost, and in high quality.



Team –

REQUIRED OUTCOMES



- Agreements to be finalised and monitored
- Range and number of Associates to be further developed. Each strategic lead to aim to support 2 new associates to create capacity and sustainability across the region
- Develop agreements with partner organisations working to achieve NWTDT mission.

The number of Associates/ Partner organisations working with the team continues to grow, particularly in relation to new business across Children's Services and also with regard to our growing reputation in relation to research.

Our partnership agreements with our preferred providers e.g. HSA, IC Jason Rhodes will be confirmed during the course of this financial year.

Research Centre



Pam



The Research Centre will find out the best ways to make sure people have good lives. The researchers will talk to people about their lives, things that are good, and things that need to change.

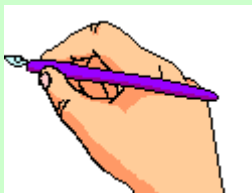
The researchers will also talk to policy makers and managers in North West England about the way they are working, and find out about things that help people to have good lives, as well as things that need to change.



Pam has finished asking people what they think about the work that NWTDT does. People know about training and networking, but not much about research and consultancy. NWTDT needs to have better publicity. It needs to have more people with learning disabilities as associates or other roles.



Pam and Laurence have met with people in Liverpool about how they would like to take short breaks. Some people like the old way of doing things in day centres or respite centres. More people are said they would like to have the money instead so they can use ordinary places instead. But they would need support to organise everything, and want there to be a brokerage service.



To find out how many people are living in areas that may be a long way from family or friends. Pam is hoping to work with Eric Emerson at Lancaster University to do this.



3. **INCLUSION/ SELF-ADVOCATE AND FAMILY LEADERSHIP** **Regional Programme Board**



Lynn

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- To maintain a joint regional force to influence change.
- To make sure Valuing People Now and other relevant national policies are a priority and focus for the NW
- Ensure self-advocates are supported to enable true participation in the group.
- To deliver joint regional action and direction to lead officers and to continue to stimulate innovative across the North West.
- To influence and inform the National Programme Board or other bodies relating to regional priority issues.

Regional Programme Board meetings have been arranged for the year to reflect the priorities from the Regional Self Advocate Conference, Regional Family Forum and Valuing People Now. The Regional Programme Board meeting in November focused on the Business Plan for the remainder of this financial year and next. WE also talked about Relight Our Fire (a regional commissioning standards and principles strategy), the plan to complete and Regional Census this year. A copy of the notes from the day and presentations will be available on the NWTDT website (www.nwttdt.com).

Partnership Board Reviews

- Circulate 'Making your Partnership Board work' book
- Provide support for each Partnership Board to assess current performance with regard to Self- Advocate and Family Forum priorities

Copies of 'Making your Partnership Board work' have been circulated free to each Director of Adult Social Services and Chair of each Partnership Board. Additional copies are available at a cost of £15 to cover printing costs from NWTDT. They were also available at the launch of Valuing People Now. In addition NWTDT have supported many Partnership Boards develop a PATH to assist the review. Information from the recent review of Partnership Boards in the North West will be presented to the next Regional Programme Board in July and made available via the website (www.nwttdt.com).

Self Advocates



Regional task force/ National Regional Forum representatives



Jason



Dene and



Pippa

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- People traditionally excluded will be receiving advocacy support from a range of sources. Learning Disability Partnership Boards aware of and using regional and national self-advocacy leaders who come from their areas and are supporting their leadership skills.



Self Advocacy Reps on the National Forum 2009

Paddy Burke (from Liverpool People First) and Michael Jones (Oldham) are the National Forum representatives.



Regional Task Force representatives 2009

Jackie Hughes - Sefton
Suzanne Marshall – Oldham
Paddy Burke – Liverpool
Derek Russell – Blackpool
Jonathon Hurley – Liverpool
Sean Dempsey – Salford
Michael Jones – Oldham
Karen Flood - Liverpool

CONFERENCE PRIORITIES



Following the conference held in Blackpool the 4 new big issues (two got the same votes) are:-

- We want more money and support for advocacy
- Partnership Boards need to listen to us more and do what we say
- We need more friendships and relationships – sex, contraception and keeping our babies
- We need good reliable transport

As well as the 4 big issues above the other important things identified by the Forum were:-

- Good things to do at evenings and weekends
- We need more help to be and stay healthy
- No more hate crime treat us with respect
- We need support that's person centred
- We want better access on streets and in buildings
- We need good housing that's right for us
- We need to be more of a part of our community
- We don't want people to treat us badly because of our race
- We want a chance to work full or part time if we choose to

Regional Self Advocacy

- Centre Events has requested that the NWTDT facilitates the National Forums Transport Sub Group for the remainder of the financial year. Although the financial remuneration is limited. The NWTDT has decided to put forward a financial proposal to undertake the role to support the development of the National Forum.
- The date and venue for the North West Regional conference has changed to the 8th 9th and 10th of February 2010 the venue is now The Devere Hotel Herons Lodge Blackpool. The event remains within budgetary limits. The change of details is due to the closure of Pontins St Anne's where the North West Regional Self Advocacy conference had been held for several years. Workshops and speakers at the conference include The National Co-Director Scott Watkins, The Chair of The National Forum Richard Blake. Workshops include Relationships and Sexuality, Peer Advocacy, and Hate Crime.

- NWTDT in partnership with public sector agencies are planning to employ Conference friends who help facilitate the conference to support it and its sister company Pathways to better co-ordinate regional and national events
- Contact has been re-established by NWTDT with People First Cumbria our first meeting agreed an aim of holding a one day self advocacy event in Cumbria with the 17 established advocacy groups in Cumbria meeting with the North West Regional and National representatives before the end of this financial year. The purpose of the event will be to promote greater cohesion between all North West Regional groups as well as individual members who currently do not belong to advocacy groups.
- One of the key reasons for Cumbria's recent lack of participation at regional events is self advocates requesting that less of the group's efforts be focused on national and regional issues and more effort be devoted to a planned approach to tackle local issues. However the Co-chairs of Cumbria People First are now keen to get involved in Regional issues as well as local ones again.
- With the recent inclusion of the Cumbrian self Advocacy Groups the North West Self Advocacy movement includes 48 self advocacy groups across all parts of the region.
- The regional representatives have invited NAGLDE to one of its meetings this financial year to progress greater partnership working.
- Pre meetings continue to take place for self advocacy regional representatives of the North West Regional Programme Board one or two weeks before each meeting to prepare for the programme board meeting and ensure optimum involvement.
- Letters have been sent from the conference organiser to all NW Partnership Boards in the region inviting them to attend the 2010 conference to promote greater Partnership involvement with self advocacy. Three Partnership Boards have confirmed they will attend the regional conference in February the NW Valuing People lead has been notified.
- At the last National Self Advocacy forum NWTDT presented to the forum the potential of a CIC's ability to support the continued development of self advocacy. The next national forum meeting is on the 2nd to 4th December
- Questionnaires requesting information concerning self advocate's views and experiences of community involvement and health inequality issues have been requested by the national forum. Regional reps are happy to complete the questionnaires but have requested that feedback is given from the National Forum to them re the benefits and outcomes of them completing the questionnaires



IC Jason Rhodes

- NWTDT continues to support Self Advocacy in the Region by supporting IC Jason Rhodes who leads on organising the annual Advocacy conference at St Anne's

Over this period, IC Jason Rhodes has been supported to continue to promote and develop its business, and NWTDT has been able to signpost this organisation to a number of authorities seeking easy read information, training and the arranging of events.

New work contracts presently in planning include easy read training courses, organising a major conference around self advocacy for a large provider organisation, and a series of day conferences in Salford.

Family Forum



Lynn

REGIONAL FAMILY FORUM BIG ISSUES 2009/2010

- Getting in touch with more families and letting them know what is happening.
- Accountability – turning plans into real action that improves people's lives.
- Real inclusion at all levels including the support to be included not just lip service

2 Representatives continue to attend the National Carers Group in order to inform the Group of developments and achievements in the North West and bring information back from across the country.

The Regional Family Forum meets quarterly to support the representatives and increase the numbers of families we are in touch with. At these meetings we discuss what happened at the previous Regional Programme Board and National Carers Group as well as preparing for the next meetings of these groups. We had 10+ new families represented at the last meeting as a direct result of the road show families have been doing across the region and focused on families supporting families to secure better housing options with the people they support.

Most areas have responded positively to the Family Forums request to hold a regional 'road show' to assist them get in touch with more families. For more information about what is happening about this in your area please contact Lynn James-Jenkinson (lynn.james-jenkinson@nwttdt.com).

Health and Social Care Leads



Lynn

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- To operate and support leads to deliver the Regional Programme Board's direction and action plan.
- To continue to foster joint working across sub regions of the North West for both LA and PCT's.

Regional Health and Social Care Leads meetings have been arranged for the year to reflect the priorities from the Regional Self Advocate Conference and Regional Family Forum.

The Regional Health and Social Care Leads meeting in October focused on Relight Our Fire, some amends were made prior to presentation to the Regional Programme Board for ratification. We also looked at the Census requested through the lead officers group, 4 areas agreed to be involved in the first run to 'test the questions'. This will happen in November with the main Census now in January. A copy of the notes from the day and presentations are available on the NWTDT website (www.nwtdt.com).

Relight My Fire

- Develop a shared commissioning strategy with standards for commissioning across the North West

The final draft was presented to the Lead Officers main group in October prior to presentation at the Regional Programme Board for ratification in November. The Strategy, with some small amends, was accepted and will be distributed in the last quarter of 2009/2010 as a set of shared commissioning principles and standards that the North West will work to.

Providers



Lynn

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Establish and Develop Pathways Associates as a route to support Provider development

Our Partner Organisation now provides a route for Provider Organisations to subscribe to support training and development with a range of subscription options. For more information contact lynn.james-jenkinson@pathwaysassociates.co.uk

Tony McDermott represents the NWTDT Commissioning Group on the Board of Pathways Associates Community Interest Company Ltd.

In addition our partnership with Self Direct and VOICE marketing continues to produce well attended and oversubscribed Provider events.



Joint Improvement Partnership

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Copy quarterly report to JIP representative to report on outcomes.
- Secure Service Level Agreement between NWTDT and JIP/VPST

Lynn and Dave are in the process of agreeing and formalising this.

4. ACTIVITY

Personalisation



Lynn



Step by Step Living Network



Policy developments/ supports in relation to Self Directed Support

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Self-directed support is a national priority, through the individual budgets and direct payments policies and with person centred planning continuing to be at the heart of the delivery of Valuing People.
- Work in partnership with organisations to secure funding to further develop and promote this.
- Promote and develop ways of self directed support being an option for all.

NWTDT integrate Self Directed Support into all aspects of the training and development work we do.

The establishment of Pathways Associates Community Interest Company Ltd assists in securing development monies for the Region through this organisation and others who are members of the consortium which will further promote self directed support.

Person Centred Planning



Pauline



Helen Sanderson



REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Continuation of current programme of work, including website and dissemination of good practice, locally regionally and nationally

- Training and Development Support @ Person Centred thinking/ culture and tools



Pauline

Person centred thinking, more popular than ever.

The effectiveness of good supports continues to help those who work in services to understand what needs to change about how the system works, so this work includes support for service workers and models of leadership. The person centred thinking skills and coaching with co- coordinators will support the plans we have been developing becoming a living document.



Helen Sanderson



Michael Smull held a day with people in October to talk about what we have learned about implementing person centred thinking and planning. These efforts began with training in person centred planning, and in the UK this was encouraged by Valuing People (2000). Since then, developments have included training in person centred thinking, and supporting managers to coach other staff in using the tools. We are seeing the most significant change where this is part of work with leadership teams. In the UK (and Australia) this combination is known as 'Good2Great'. Lancashire was one of these 'Good2Great' sites, and this work has been very successful and is now been used as part of the preferred provider scheme.

Training in person centred planning



Training in person centred thinking



Training + the development and support of coaches



Training and coaches + the sustained engagement of organizational leadership



Training, coaches, organizational leadership + sustained engagement of system leadership

One of the key changes has been through teaching managers and professionals to be coaches in person centred thinking. The immediate goal is to have the person centred thinking skills used in everyday work. That is, to create person centred practices in all aspects of the work. The most effective way to meet this goal is to have managers; person centred planning facilitators and professionals who are able to:

- Demonstrate how to use person centred thinking
- Help others learn the skills and practice them, and
- Reinforce their use until they become habit.

Coaches receive additional training (in how to coach), and supporting materials. If you are interested in learning more the NWTDT is running a day on how to coach using person centred thinking on 18th January. (contact danielle.darby@pathwaysassociates.co.uk).

The course includes a set of person centred thinking coaching cards.

Michael talked about the power of stories, and did an exercise with the group to enable them to practice sharing stories. You can see Michael talking about stories on You Tube. Please search for 'Michael Smull on Stories'. If you want to hear Michael talk about this, you can find a podcast of him on YouTube called 'A rock in the pond – Why training is not enough, and what managers need to do'. Please search for Michael Smull on Person Centred Thinking and Planning.

Workforce Development



Dene

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Trainers Network -Continuation of work programme supporting the Regional Trainers
- GM Joint Training Partnership-Training Partnerships that promote and support self-advocates/families to plan, lead and take part in training.
- NW Sector Skills Productivity Alliance Promotion of strong links with North West Sector Skills Productivity Alliance - Promotion of strong links with National and Regional work in relation to workforce development Network
- Dissemination of Research findings with TUC/ RCN and MMU to celebrate the NW workforce
- Supporting the Social Care and Nurse workforce – raise awareness of the agenda and positive implications for the workforce

Workforce Development

- A Workforce development conference in Partnership with Valuing People, Skills for Care was held by NWTDT in October 2009/10 for key stakeholders in the in North West and Nationally over forty people attended.
- The conference considered the workforce development and training implications of Valuing People Now. Leslie Barcham Workforce Development Lead for Valuing People and Jim Thomas of Skills for Care took part and emphasised for all workforce development t personnel to include people that use services and family carers.
- Leslie Barcham continues as the National Valuing People Workforce Development Lead. Leslie has been seconded from the British Institute of Learning Disabilities
- On Leslies request NWTDT continue to act as a critical friend to support her in her National role.
- Since July 2009 No further information has been made available by Skills for Care re QCF
- Dave Spencer will be putting forward information concerning a whole systems workforce plan at the next Programme Board based on

discussions with various stakeholders including the lead officers group

- A strategic decision has been made to combine Social Care Workforce Development and Health responsibilities in the NWTDT to facilitate greater cohesion.
- The next Health Network will be held in November and will be used to review the Networks current work. Set a schedule of action and events for the remainder of the year and 2010/11 and work out how we can promote senior management and a greater range of health professional's involvement. Dave Spencer and Lynn James-Jenkinson have agreed to take part in the November event.
- Sub regional training groups continue to seek input from NWTDT. In particular the 5 Boroughs Training Partnership who are re launching in January 2010

Other Work

- NWTDT is implementing an early year's workshop for Children Centre Staff and Families utilising its skills in Person Centred Approaches and the Management of Change/Mindfulness initiatives. At the half stage review positive feedback was offered by participants. Further programmes will be planned later in the year.



Breaking the Cycle

Lynn

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Partnership Boards ensure that a 'champion' is identified for 'local services'. This person to lead on producing an agreed local action plan, that promotes development of local services and reduction in out of area placements

Refreshing breaking the cycle including the development of an implementation plan is something that the Health Equalities Sub Group of the Regional Partnership Board has on its agenda for this year.

- The NWTDT, Valuing People Regional Office and the North West NHS Specialist Commissioning Team are implementing a regional project (funded by the specialist commissioning team), to support specialist practitioners and less experienced providers involved in the support of people with challenging behaviour to implement positive approaches to challenging behaviour (PBS).
- The PBS project aims to widen its scope to support the whole workforce community including family carers and people that use services.
- The PBS project includes a regional skills/training audit and training programme scheduled for 2009/10 aimed at improving the ability and capacity (in its first phase) of the independent sector plus family carers who offer support to individuals with challenging behaviour and forensic histories.
- People who have received specialist's services in the past have been commissioned by NWTDT to help deliver the PBS training.
- NWTDT are organising a conferences and events in 2009/10 to support the various challenging behaviour initiatives in the region including supporting people vulnerable to placement break down with the support of the IABA and Gary LaVignia in May 2010. Free places will be available to families
- The Chair of the Greater Manchester Partnership (GMP) has agreed that the remaining GMP monies will be used to support the organisation of Gary LaVignia's event in the North West in May.
- A NWTDT, Valuing People, Specialist commissioning team, PBS/Trainers network event was held in Warrington in September over 70 participants attended. Speakers included Chris Hatton of Lancaster University and the Challenging Behaviour Foundation.
- Skills for Care continue to be informed and invited to events with the aim of combining our resources and identifying the potential for joint working on our shared agendas in 2009/10

Ethnicity and Culture



Nabela

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Continuation of current programme of work, including website and dissemination of good practice.

Valuing People Now says that valuing people will only be successful if it is working for everyone. This means that all the things in Valuing People Now will need to be checked for their Impact on Minority Ethnic Communities.

The NWTDT has linked and worked in partnership with many networks which continue to develop around areas in ethnicity. We have developed programmes, to deliver on specific priorities, which are in line with Valuing People Now.

The NWTDT have put on events this year which have focused on raising awareness for BME communities and sharing best practice. The feedback from the training that we have delivered has been very positive and we have developed a true voice for people from minority communities. Individuals have said that the programmes have provided guidance and practical information and created a real awareness on strategic level and foundation level. The upcoming events which we have developed are all in line with the Valuing People Now ethnicity programme of work, BME work activities that will be delivered as part of Valuing People Now.

NWTDT are continuing to work with the Advisory Group on Ethnicity In supporting to develop a framework for a fairer future. The development of this work has been crucial as ethnicity is not seen as a priority but as an integral part of our work. A framework for ethnicity will be revised and published to get ethnicity back on the authorities' agenda's, something which can often be missed.

At the last NAGLDE meeting on 29th October, Sally Hall-Demir from the Office of the National Directors for Learning Disabilities gave a presentation about the role of NAGLDE. Sally also gave two papers for

the group to look at NAGLDE Commissioning Paper and BME Work Activities as part of VPN.

After Sally's presentation and lots of discussion, NAGLDE agreed in principle to the documents, however, they made it clear that they want to keep the advisory role of the group. NWTDT have been working very hard at making sure that ethnicity has not been lost and will support the delivery of BME work activities along side NAGLDE and Valuing People Now.

The Advisory Group has support from the VPST. The group aims to influence policy nationally and locally. They give advice on plans that affect the lives of people from minority ethnic communities and also carry out surveys and projects. This group also has close links with the ethnicity training networks and other organisations that promote the rights of people with learning disabilities from minority ethnic communities. The role of NAGLDE in the future will be to implement Valuing People Now Ethnicity Programme of Work. NAGLDE will be a forum and an advisory group, and will have strong links to work co-productively with the National Forum and the National Valuing Families Forum.

Our regional network meetings in the North West around Ethnicity continue to be a good forum for authorities in the North West to link with organisations, to share information and learn about government's plans. Our next ethnicity meeting will happen on the 8th February 2010. This will take place in Oldham and will have a strong focus on making partnerships work and making connections with BME communities.

Transitions – all of them!



Pauline

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Extension of the current programme to gain a network covering every local authority in the North West.
- Development agenda @ Early Support, Aiming High for Disabled Children and Extended Schools

- Dissemination of support programme to all NW Directors of Children's Services

Quality Matters in Children's Services

An opportunity to work in partnership with families on developing a family approach to person centred support.

As a consequence of a mother having experienced the journey of many families, the NWTDT has created a programme of working with parents and staff who are part of a service within a children's centre in Sefton.

This opportunity has provided weekly sessions for family and staff from the Children's Centre to work together, learning from each other; and putting what they have learned into practise. The programme has included topics such as, stories from families, skills for self-development, ideas and approaches that are about a way of working known as exchange, linking what families know to how to provide good support.

The feedback so far has surprised and delighted those who are involved in the project. We now hope to capture the best of what has worked and share with other communities towards good practise. The personal moments and stories will be shared with others, encouraging and inspiring capacity building to go and do some more! This will be achieved in a report of our work and a celebration day, when individuals will share the stories.



Transition Network.

The last network meeting in September was focused on transitions working with all communities. This day has certainly raised the awareness of what should be happening in how we provide positive transitions for everyone. There are still many assumptions being made about people from minority communities. There needs to be increased action in how we approach this often-neglected agenda.

Before the next Transition event, an evaluation/ questionnaire will go out to enquire the future possibilities of the network. This will include question to ascertain –

- What have people gained from the events?
- How has it supported transition at a local level?
- What do you not want more of and what would be helpful?



Older People.

In the New Year, we will be presenting 2 days to share and understand how services that support older people are striving to be person centred.

After the 2 workshops, the NWTDT and PATHWAYS will agree a programme of workshops that has older people at its heart and their networks, learning how to improve the circumstances that we know many older people find themselves.



Peer Advocacy Step by Step Living Network/ Dr Laurence Clark

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Produce an accessible brochure for self advocates to walk through the process of obtaining and managing a personalised support package - under an individualised budget or not.
- Promote this around the region
- Identify and train a range of peer mentors to advise and assist individuals to start up and manage their supports.

Self Directed Support Accessible Booklet

All of the photos have now been taken and the material is now with the designer. We hope to get the next draft back from him before Christmas so we can do one final proof reading before it goes to the printers.

Training the Trainers course

Training the trainers course has been completed we just need to write up the evaluations and then produce a flyer to see if the course can be commissioned again somewhere else. Some of the material will be reused for Step-by-Step's brokerage training the trainers course in the new year as there is no point in reinventing the wheel!

Young disabled people's experiences of transition

Research on young disabled people's experiences of transition for Liverpool unfortunately we have been advised that they cannot afford this work out of this year's budget but will look at it again in April.

Liverpool short breaks work

Pam and Laurence will have conducted all of the focus groups by the end of November and the results will be written up in December.

Sefton Young Peoples Work

Pam and Laurence met with Alan Rutherford to develop a staff questionnaire and focus groups with families and young people. Discussions are still underway to find a way forward with this

ULO work

Lynn and Laurence met with Carey Bamber and Karen Saville from NW JIP recently, there is the possibility of further work coming from this. NWTDT now has a place on the ULO steering group which will be attended by either Laurence or Pam.

Health



Dene

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Support the development of Health Checks for people
- Support district activity relating to implementation of independent enquiry recommendations
- Support Valuing People Now health priorities
- Support implications from the Darzi review as they relate to people with a Learning Disability.
- Support activity relating to Health Care Commission audit findings.
- Support SHA Performance Indicator framework development to assist PCT commissioners explicitly consider the needs of people with learning disabilities when commissioning mainstream healthcare.

WHAT WE HAVE DONE

1. We sent feedback to the Care Quality Commission on developing their 5 year plan
2. Contact and individual email support for NW health contacts is ongoing in between events with sharing of important Government documents and national information.

Examples since last report are:

- Swine Flu Information
- Improving Access to Acute Services
- Information on disabled children
- Information on continuing care
- Information on personal health budgets.
- Information on dementia and learning disability

3. Lynn has taken over facilitating the Health Equalities Sub Group of the Regional Programme Board. The Terms of Reference and notes will be available through www.nwtdt.com

WHAT WE ARE DOING RIGHT NOW

We are working with the Strategic Health Authority group to agree a performance framework to help local Partnership Boards know how well they are doing. We hope that our network will be an important part of this.

We have a fully booked November Network meeting at which we will be focusing on reviewing the work done to support the social care and health workforce – paid and unpaid – to advise the development of a plan for the next year.

We will then plan a series of learning events in response to direct feedback at the Network meeting.

Housing



Lynn/ Housing Options

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- A programme in collaboration with a number of stakeholders that supports the development of support and services closer to home, prevents exclusion and inappropriate out of area placements, to include work on commissioning, housing options and regulation.

We have asked Housing Options to develop a self help guide to assist in implementing the commissioning principles and standards outlined in Relight Our Fire. Housing Options will be working with Derek Jones, Sefton MBC, to do this.

Things to do during the day

Getting a Life



Nabela Rahim

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Re-launch of the support to the Regional Network linking to NDT review of Day Service Modernisation and National Getting a Life Project

Our regional network meetings in the North West around Getting A life continue to be a good forum for authorities in the North West to link with organisations, to share information and learn about government's plans. Getting a life network will happen on the 27th January 2010 and this day will focus on individuals in employment who have good supports to stay in employment.

Employment



Lynn



Deborah

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Work with Partner Organisations to secure funding to promote employment as a valued option for people.
- Promote a range of employment options including self-employment.

We co-hosted the NW launch of Valuing Employment Now in partnership with NW PSA16 leads and NW JIP on 26th November 2009. Presentations and workshop notes from the day can be found at www.nwtdt.com.

NWTD/ Pathways Associates are in the process of creating a range of work and real job opportunities through developing the use of conference friends to support our events and also support the region. We are currently seeking the funding to secure this and will report back to the next Commissioning Group on our progress. Initial reaction and support has been very positive.

Publicly Valued, Publicly Employed

We are delighted to report that, to date, this initiative has contributed to 36 people with learning disabilities gaining employment in Public Sector organisations in the North West. That in itself is great, however, what is the key to the approach that we have developed and now refining is that we are developing the capacity of the employers to do more.

To date 30 Public Sector employers have expressed an interest and 16 have progressed to some tangible exploration, 11 to employ people and 9 have sustain those jobs, despite fixed term contracts, pay reviews, recruitment freezes and the, what appears, very debilitating anxieties around future funding cuts.

Recent weeks have seen a significant investment of time and effort from Lynn and the Progress team, in shaping up the next Section 64 application which has now been submitted and we await news from Department of Health as to whether we are through to stage 2. The emphasis of the application is taking this further and embedding deeper.

This is without out doubt a time for celebration and reassurance. The Valuing Employment Now strategy has given us the most explicit template for how things will be in 2011 and beyond. This initiative has allowed us to develop a tool that employers will need as they embrace the expectations of the strategy and start to report on their achievements.

There is no doubt that employers want people with learning disabilities working for them. We just need to keep alongside them, guided by the values and using the approaches developed by Marc Gold and TSI and ensure that the employer's needs are met too.

Sadly this three your funding will end in March 2010 - we need to continue the learning and deliver and hope the Department of Health will agree.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMMISSIONING GROUP

- That the Commissioning Group accept the contents of this report.
- Support Charlie's decision to agree to the installation of an adult changing place in our new office/ training room accommodation.
- Agree the Action Plan arising from the Review of NWTDT
- Support the development of Conference Friends role and jobs in partnership with Pathways Associates, subject to securing the funding required at a Regional Level.

6. CONCLUSION



The Review helped the team focus positively checking we were doing what people with a learning disability, families and support services needed and wanted us to do and the action plan we are developing to respond positively to the recommendations will ensure this is embedded in our future work.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the questionnaire, we appreciate your ongoing support.

We are really excited about the launch of Valuing Employment Now and more importantly the opportunity to create real jobs and employment opportunities for people. It would be great if every Partnership Board could commit to using the 2 Conference Friends we employ plus 2 local Conference Friends to support 1 event each local to them.