

**NORTH WEST TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM**



**Director:** Lynn James-Jenkinson



**Date of submission:**

19<sup>th</sup> March 2010



**Subject:** Update report to Commissioning Group

**Executive summary:**

The following report is a summary of the activity of the NWTDT in the period January to March 2010 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. Agree that the NWTDT subscriptions for 2010/2011 be frozen

**REFLECTION**

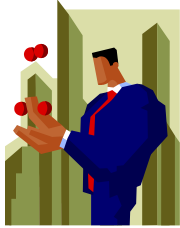
This has been a busy quarter. We are delighted with our new office accommodation and the Regional Forum always sets us off in good stead for the next year.

It is important that we both regionally and nationally respond to the queries raised by self advocates in the Region. I will be circulating this to Lead Officers and wider in the next few days, we will then collate responses and respond to the Regional Forum. Thank you in anticipation of your support with this.



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The previous report (18) 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](http://www.nwtdt.com)

An Annual Report 2009/2010 will be prepared during the next quarter.

Lynn continues to represent 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.



## 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



## Communication-

### REQUIRED OUTCOMES

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

#### Website:

Content continues to be added to the new website which is available to look at via [www.pathwaysassociates.co.uk](http://www.pathwaysassociates.co.uk).

We plan to go live in April.

Contact Database: 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.

On line booking, this has now gone live.



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. Lynn is currently negotiating new contracts with the team based on no annual uplift 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 written a report about what people think about NWTDT. 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 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. Pam is going to talk to people in the tourist industry such as hotels and attractions.



Pam has worked with Eric Emerson at Lancaster University to write questions for councils to answer about how many people are living in areas that may be a long way from family or friends. Councils will need to answer question for us out where people are so better services can be provided.



### **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 February focused on the Business Plan for the remainder of this financial year and next and also the self assessment process for Partnership Boards. A copy of the notes from the day and presentations will be available on the NWTDT website ([www.nwttdt.com](http://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.

## 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 2010

Paddy Burke (from Liverpool People First) and Mark Shackleton (Cumbria) are the National Forum representatives.



Regional Task Force representatives 2010

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



The **key questions** from the conference are listed below;

- How do the police deal with a person with a learning disability when they report a crime?
- Could Doctors, Nurses and the Police have better training/better up to date training of the wider issues relating to learning disabilities, that way this may reduce support at appointments and save money?
- What can you do to ensure that people who have spent a long time with a supported living provider can remain in that service when they get older and need more care and they want to stay if their social worker wants them to move to save money?
- If the National Forum ends how will the government know what people with learning disabilities want and need- what will happen if the forum is not around?
- We hear all the time that the benefit system will change so that people who have learning disabilities can work like everybody else? When will this happen some of us will reach retirement age and will never have given any think back like we want to?
- How do regional forums keep up to date with the current issues of advocacy groups?
- Why do the Government talk and talk about issues important to us, but not put their money where their mouth is? Do they really listen?
- How can we stop bullying on public transport?
- Why only 400 jobs for people with learning disabilities when there are more people than that?
- The Government says it wants to make things better for people with learning disabilities and wants to hear what people think. So why is it so difficult to get money for self advocacy groups?
- What monies will replace LDDF funding?
- How do Police deal with a person with a Learning Disability when they report hate crime?

**At the next Conference Steering Group planning meeting in March the conference will be evaluated by the group based on evaluation forms**

- Pre meetings continue to take place for the 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.
- NWTDT continues to support Self Advocacy in the Region by supporting IC Jason Rhodes who leads on organising the annual Advocacy conference

**A Self Advocacy Health Sub-Group** is in the process of being formed consisting of up to two self advocacy representatives per partnership board the sub-group will provide support to the HEG

**Regional and National Self Advocacy**

- NWTDT continue to act as the regional self advocacy co-ordinator on behalf of Centre Events and The National Learning Disabilities Directors Office .We provide support to the regions two national representatives to promote the regions big issues at the quarterly national forum events and feed back national issues to the region.
- The National Forum has four Sub groups which campaign on four issues that the National Forum members have prioritised. These are: Self Advocacy; Health; Transport; Our Lives; all these issues are seen as big issues by the NW regional self advocates who have also identified sexuality and relationships as a regional issue.
- Centre Events has requested that the NWTDT facilitates the National Forums Transport Sub Group for the remainder of the financial year and 2010/11. The NWTDT has put forward a financial proposal to undertake the role to support the development of the National Forum.
- Mark Shackelton represents the region on the Transport Subgroup and Paddy Burke represents the North West on the Self Advocacy Sub Group. The Health group and Community Lives group report back to the National Forum on a quarterly basis. Mark Shackelton and Paddy Burke are members of the National Forum and I report back findings to the regional forum.
- The NWTDT web site aims to provide a link to the National Forum and its sub group's website.
- The National forum has requested stories of what is going well and what needs to change relating to its four key priorities to its website.

**National Forum** - 2 day event took place in December 2009 the key issues covered were:-

- **The Autism Strategy** presented by Kate Hardy Project Manager who made it clear that funding was not being taken from Valuing People to fund the strategy although progress would be reported to National and Regional Programme Boards.
- **The 2012 Paralympics** Dean Beach from the London region provided a report that was clear that People with learning disabilities will be included in the event
- Sally Hall Demir from the **Office of the National Director** spoke about how the National Forum links into Valuing People Now .
- Sally was clear that at some point the funding for Valuing People will stop. and the Forum needs to think what it would be doing if it wasn't working on Valuing People

**Regional Self Advocacy Leadership Programme** which was launched in the North West at the Regional Self Advocacy Conference will be described later in this report

**The North West Regional Self Advocacy Forum Conference** took place on the 8<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2010 at The Devere Hotel Herons Lodge Blackpool.

- The conference was attended by 109 people each day including 99 conference delegates and 10 day delegates. 72 self advocates and 37 supporters attended
- The number and range of advocacy groups was less than last year due to the venue being smaller. This was because Pontins St Anne's which was originally booked for the 2009/10 conference closed and a venue needed to be found at short notice

The conference offered 6 workshops including

- **Hate Crime and the work of the Crown Prosecution Service**-the workshop resulted in a day being planned with the advocates to develop a training DVD for the Greater Manchester CPS Legal Team that could be disseminated nationally.
- **Peer Advocacy** the workshop resulted in the confirmation that the North West Regional Programme Board should see the development of Peer Advocacy as a key priority to listen and meet the needs of people with complex needs.

- **Jo Jo Mind and Body** - raising issues of health and well being
- **Voice UK** promoting the services to support vulnerable adults through out the criminal justice system
- What life and services are like on the **Isle of Mann**
- A workshop supporting advocates about what they should do **In Case of Emergency**

#### Key Speakers at the conference included

- **The National Director of Learning Disabilities Ann Williams and Co-Director Scott Watkin.** Scott spoke about his life and how he was recruited for his current role. Ann supported by the Regional Valuing People Lead distributed a questionnaire to delegates about what Partnership Boards do and also asked questions about Health Equality and Personalisation. Ann was positive about Health Issues Personalisation and Partnership Boards in the North West but was keen to encourage the advocates to continue to argue for service improvement from their Partnership Boards
- **Richard Blake Co-Chair of the National Forum,** highlighted the National Forums concern about how they and the regional forums would be financially supported after Valuing People. The NW Regional Valuing People Advisor, adve Spencer, and Director of the NWDT, Lynn James-Jenkinson expressed there commitment to supporting the Regional Self Advocacy work and Conference within their respective organisations financial limits.
- **The National Self Advocacy Leadership Project** initiated by the Valuing People Now Office to support Self Advocates improve their leadership skills mentioned how a national audit is being initiated by the National Self Advocacy lead with the support of regional co-ordinators
- **The North West Regional Positive Behavioural Support Network** who approached the conference to help develop a logo for the Network
- **The Regional Self Advocacy reps and National reps** spoke about what they do and where all the self advocates hard work in the region goes
- Conference participants. raised a number of questions for regional officers which the Valuing People Lead and Director of the NWTDT said they would seek answers too and report back to the forum .The National representatives and regional Co-ordinator said they would present the questions to the National Forum and report back their findings to the North West Forum



## **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

This quarter has seen Jason and his team preparing for yet another highly successful regional self advocates conference. There was a challenge when the Steering group learned that Pontins, the favoured haunt of conference, had closed down, but team IC Jason Rhodes found a superb alternative venue and feedback from delegates has been excellent. The newsletter and DVD are in production now.

Elsewhere, within his own business, Jason has begun forging some strong business links with advocacy groups around Lancashire, with Jason co-ordinating preparation for events, and the advocacy groups being paid presenters. This work should compliment the NWTDT initiative to create employed posts for Conference Friends, working through Jason's agency.

His new PA, Michelle, has settled in well, has now been confirmed in post after a successful probationary period, and she brings a range of great skills to the team. As Jason is now living independently from his family, the progress he has made to date in building up his business puts him in good stead, but clearly he still faces a challenge to ensure his business grows sufficiently to meet all outgoings. He had piloted the 2 day easy read training on members of the NWTDT, and this now adds to the range of services he offers. Both his easy read production business and conference and events organising continue to gain momentum.

## **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. In addition we focus on a 'theme' chosen by the group. Last time we had a presentation and discussion about Wills and Trusts.

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](mailto: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 January focused the development of positive approaches to challenging behaviour and the Regional risk share protocols. A copy of the notes from the day and presentations are available on the NWTDT website ([www.nwttdt.com](http://www.nwttdt.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](mailto:lynn.james-jenkinson@pathwaysassociates.co.uk)

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



## 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 also is helping those who work in services to understand what needs to change about how the system works, so this work is including support for service workers and models of leadership. Person centred thinking skills and coaching with co-ordinators will support plans we have been developing become a living document. We are continuing to deliver the thinking skills and approaches training in many local services; however, there has been a steady development of activity in children's services.



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. NWTDT ran a day on how to coach using person centred thinking on 18<sup>th</sup> January.

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 coherent outline Workforce Development Plan has been developed by NWTDT to link Self Advocacy, Family Carer, Health, Training and Social Care and provider workforce development networks together in 2010/11 to promote a more holistic approach to workforce development
- More information is to be made available Nationally and Regionally by Skills for Care re QCF in March 2010
- 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.
- Dave Spencer will be putting forward information concerning a whole systems workforce plan at the Programme Board based on discussions with various stakeholders including the lead officers group

## Greater Manchester Partnership

- The Chair of the Greater Manchester Partnership (GMP) has agreed that the remaining GMP monies will be used to support the organisation of Gary LaVigna's event in the North West in May.

## Trainers Network

- Sub regional training groups continue to seek input from NWTDT. In particular the 5 Boroughs Training Partnership who re- launched the Partnership in January 2010 with the support of NWTDT .It appears that sub regional training Partnerships need to be developed before the regional trainers network becomes effective

## **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. After further evaluation this financial 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 practiners and less experienced providers involved in the support of people with challenging behaviour to implement positive approaches to

challenging behaviour (PBS). This work will be developed further by NWTDT and offered in 2010/11

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 and 2010/11 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 2009/10-2010/11 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. This conference is now full.

A NWTDT, Valuing People, Specialist commissioning team, PBS network event will be held Edge Hill University in September over 70 participants will attend. There are now over 120 members of the Network which is a Network included in the North West Regional Programme Boards 2010/11 Plan.

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.

This is an update about the NWTDT activity around people with learning disabilities and their families from Minority Ethnic Groups.

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.

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.

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 that 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. It is important that to enable us to continue this work, we receive additional support to make this a priority on the work agenda for local authorities. We are holding regional events which will give participants the chance to discover how the policies that will steer learning disability work for the next 2 years can be made to improve services for people from BME communities. Another specific focus will be around BME family carers and how they can be supported to access services and take part in service development and be encouraged to contribute at strategic reviews. Many of our days will have specific focus on various areas in line with the Valuing People Now agenda in making sure that we get it right for BME communities.

NWTDT are continuing to work with the Advisory Group on Ethnicity In supporting to develop a framework for a fairer future. NAGLDE influences government policy that affects the lives of people with learning disabilities from minority ethnic communities. They also carry out surveys and projects that help influence government plans. They communicate with National Learning Disability Programme Board and share information and learning from national and regional good practice .They check whether recommendations made by Government or by the Group are being put into action. NAGLDE works alongside the office of the National Director and Valuing People Now (VPN) Support Team, Equality and Human

Rights Commission, Learning Disability Ethnicity Network (ARC), Ethnicity Training Network and other organisations that promote the rights of people with learning disabilities from minority ethnic communities, and supports the 9 Regions across the country, and through them local Partnership Boards and statutory organisations.

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 which can often be missed. At a recent NAGLDE meeting, 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.

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 and work very closely with the new ethnicity advisor who will be attending some of the planned up coming events for the NWTDT around ethnicity.

Our regional network meetings in the North West around Getting A life And 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. The ethnicity meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2010 which took place in Oldham was well attended. We have taken the meetings to local areas which have proved to be a success .The next meeting will take place in the Wirral on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April .

### 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

The Government wants all children to have the best start in life and the ongoing support that they and their families need to fulfil their potential. Disabled children are less likely to achieve as much in a range of areas as their non-disabled peers. Improving their outcomes, allowing them to benefit from equality of opportunity and increasing their involvement and inclusion in society will help them to achieve more as individuals. It will also reduce social inequality, and allow communities to benefit from the contribution that disabled children and their families can make, harnessing their talent and fostering tolerance and understanding of diversity.

Building on our work with children and families, we are moving towards the second phase of underpinning our work that recognises the importance of early work with families. From our recent activity, we can see the benefits for children and families accessing a wide range of services in a much more positive approach than previously experiences. Our main priorities included

- empowerment;
- responsive services and timely support; and
- improving quality and capacity for inclusive change
- Families co-producing plans with practitioners.

This in reality means the engagement of children and young people with their families at a local level providing more appropriate services of support. Our work helped those working in services to be effective and efficient in their approaches. Some of these stories will be shared at the next IN CONTROL Big Event. Our hope is that the next phase will be as successful at a local feeder school from the first project.



### Transition Network.

We have been supporting the Transition Support Programme to deliver their programme of regional events during this financial year. Details of

these events can be obtained from  
[danielle.darby@pathwaysassociates.co.uk](mailto:danielle.darby@pathwaysassociates.co.uk)



### Older People.

*‘A Sure Start to Later Life Ending Inequalities for Older People’ Older people should be at the centre of active communities*

*We called this report a Sure Start to Later Life for a reason. We think that the approach of Sure Start in galvanising communities and reshaping children’s services can work just as well for older people, including the most excluded Individuals.*

One of our recent developments has been to work with minority communities in understanding the many issues that our elders face in later life. It has become apparent that there is much work to be achieved in helping the workforce to develop knowledge and skills when working with elders from all, communities.

Aspirations of independence, dignity and choice run across government policy, including Opportunity Age and the White Paper on Primary and Community Care. However, we know that this cannot be realised basic standards of health and wealth for excluded older people without support.



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

This is now available for purchase – see [www.nwtdt.com](http://www.nwtdt.com) or contact [lynn.james-jenkinson@nwtdt.com](mailto:lynn.james-jenkinson@nwtdt.com) for more details.

### Liverpool short breaks work

Pam and Laurence have conducted all of the focus groups and have written up the responses. These have been presented to the Steering Group and will be circulated more widely through recall days of the Focus Groups in the next 2 months.

### 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.

- A Health Network Event was held in November and was used to review the Networks current work and 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 Lynn James-Jenkinson and Sandy Bearing took part in the event.
- The **Health Equalities Group programme manager** will be a key member of the network and will be speaking to the Network about of her role in May 2010
- At the next Health Network meeting the networks draft Terms Of Reference will be discussed and a work plan developed. The HEG programme manager was introduced to the 2010 Regional Self Advocacy Conference
- The learning disability nurses network was relaunched in 2009 which will support the direction of the Health Network by allowing nurses a specialist forum like other health professionals and facilitating the Health Network to be more inclusive to managers and other key stakeholders
- NWTDT will be bidding for HEG monies in this financial year under the Health Equalities and innovation agendas to support the introduction of Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction(MBSR) to be offered to people with learning disabilities family carers and other key stakeholders for 2010/11



## 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 are 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 took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2010 focusing 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 26<sup>th</sup> November 2009. Presentations and workshop notes from the day can be found at [www.nwtdt.com](http://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 to this end we have submitted another bid for third sector funding across the North of England, in partnership also with Inclusion North.

## 5. RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMMISSIONING GROUP

- That the Commissioning Group accept the contents of this report.
- Agree that the NWTDT subscriptions for 2010/2011 be frozen

## 6. CONCLUSION



This has been a busy quarter. We are delighted with our new office accommodation and the Regional Forum always sets us off in good stead for the next year.

It is important that we both regionally and nationally respond to the queries raised by self advocates in the Region. I will be circulating this to Lead Officers and wider in the next few days, we will then collate responses and respond to the Regional Forum. Thank you in anticipation of your support with this.