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| <p><u>NORTH WEST TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM</u></p>  | <p>Director: Lynn James-Jenkinson</p>  |
| <p>Date of submission:</p> <p>20th March 2009</p> | <p>Subject:  Update report to Commissioning Group</p> |
| <p>Executive summary:</p> <p>The following report is a summary of the activity of the NWTDT in the period November to March and the actions taken to implement the Business Plan agreed by the Commissioning Group.</p> | |
| <p>Recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Commissioning Group accept the contents of this report. 2. Agree to the recommendations within the Finance Report 3. Agree to the annual uplift to subscriptions. 4. Approve appointments | |

REFLECTION

2008/ 2009 has been an eventful year seeing the development of

- Pathways Associates Community Interest to further support our work and as a potential route to securing additional development monies
- Our Children's subscription programme and growing number of skilled associates in this field
- Our Research Centre to back up and evaluate our work and attract research money to the region whilst providing an invaluable resource of superb academics in the North West
- The resolution of the financial pressures the NWTDT faced
- An ever growing number of valuable and valued associates and associate organisations.
- Improved links to Regional and National groups including ADASS and VPST.
- More self advocate groups than ever at our Regional Forum
- More families in touch with the team talking to each other and sharing good stories.

We have no doubt that 2009/ 2010 will be just as busy with just as many positive outcomes for people with a learning disability and their families in the North West.



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1. INTRODUCTION

The previous report (14) 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.

Report circulated and available at www.nwtdt.com

An Annual Report 2007/2008 has been produced and circulated, copies available at www.nwtdt.com

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

Lynn will rewrite the current job description for the Director NWTDT and Office Manager post to reflect the additional responsibility we would want whoever in those role to have in terms of linking with Pathways Associates CIC to ensure both organisations are integrated.



Budget –

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- End the year balancing the budget.

Budget projections are currently in line with the NWTDT financial plan so that we will be in a position to have a balanced budget, inclusive of carried forward overspend, by year end.

Please see attached Finance Report with regard to particular financial recommendations.



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

Service Level Agreements have been prepared to reflect the subscription programme with Children's Services across the North West and a programme of work is being developed. The number of Children's Services wishing to subscribe has increased by 100% in the last quarter from 3 to 6.



Communication-

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

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

Recruitment has taken place as requested to the posts of:

1. Communications Officer incorporating website maintenance and development.
2. Administration Support – responsible for ensuring the smooth running of the office/ training room environment, including typing.
3. Events manager, to oversee all aspects of NWTDT events.

Appointments are subject to the approval at the Commissioning Group.



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.

Agreements will be finalised for the financial year 2009/2010 following the approval at the Commissioning Group to the recommendations outlined in the Finance Paper (attached).

Again the number of Associates/ Partner organisations working with the team continues to grow, particularly in relation to new business across Children's Services.

Our partnership agreement with In Control and with Pathways Associates Community Interest Company will be confirmed during the course of this financial year.

Research Centre



Pam



REQUIRED OUTCOME

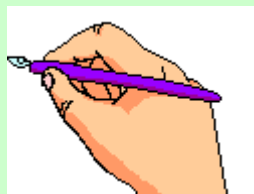
- To set up a Research Centre which will find out the best ways to make sure people have good lives.
- The researchers will talk to people about their lives and things that are happening that are good, and things that need to change.
- The researchers will also talk to policy makers and managers in North 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.
- Reports will be written which can be used to help policy makers and managers to change the way they do things to make sure people have good lives.



Pam is finding out from people what they think about the NWTDT and will do a report for the Commissioning Group.



Pam and Duncan have met to talk about getting money to do a big piece of research with Universities and community groups. They will be meeting again about where the money might come from.



Pam has done some research for Bury Council and PCT about person centred approaches. A report will be published following this about the things we have learned about Person Centred Planning – what works and what doesn't and how we can make it available to everyone and mean something.



3. **INCLUSION/ SELF-ADVOCATE AND FAMILY LEADERSHIP** **Regional Task Force**



Lynn

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- To maintain a joint regional force to influence change.
- To make sure Valuing People and the new white paper agenda is 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 task force or other bodies relating to regional priority issues.

Regional Task Force meetings have been arranged for the year to reflect the priorities from the Regional Self Advocate Conference and Regional Family Forum.

The Regional Task Force meeting in February focused on the theme of Health. A copy of the notes from the day and presentations will be available on the NWTDT website (www.nwtdt.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.

Thanks to Allan Hurst, Rebecca Ferguson, Ibrar Riaz and Carol Rogers who stood down as Regional Task Force representatives this year and to Mark Shackleton who stood down as one of the National representatives.



Self Advocacy Reps on the National Forum 2009

Paddy Burke (from Liverpool People First) and Michael Jones (Oldham) were elected to be 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

- Centrevents has won the contract for facilitating the National and Regional advocacy events for the next three years. October 2008 to October 2011
- NWTDT, Valuing People Support Team and the Regional group will be discussing how the North West Region can facilitate greater self advocacy involvement across the region in a meeting in the New Year.
- NWTDT continues to support the Steering Group and IC Jason Rhodes who is organised the annual Advocacy conference at St Anne's in February 2009.
- NWTDT acts as the regional self advocacy co-ordinator and continues to provide support to the regions two national representatives to promote the regions work at the quarterly national forum events.

- The National Co-chair and Centre Events Director congratulated the organisers and NWTDT on the 2009 conferences success.
- Over 30 self advocacy groups were represented at the conference a figure higher than the majority of other regions are able to reach.
- NWTDT will be facilitating one of the National Self Advocacy sub groups responsible for reporting to the National Learning Disabilities Directors office on one of Valuing People Now key objectives in 2009/10.
- NWTDT were able to successfully facilitate the regions No Secrets Consultation in 2008/09 at short notice for CSIP.
- The NWTDT have been asked and agreed to facilitate a consultation event in the region before the close of the financial year for DoH for the Valuing People employment lead.



IC Jason Rhodes

Jason move through some really significant steps of working towards longer term sustainability including:-

Taking the risk of a job share around Access to Work in order to create opportunities for promotion of a current worker and to create capacity to grow the business and is exploring and now taking steps to incorporate the business to commercial and social ends.

This has been another great year for IC Jason Rhodes with more to come.

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

The group agreed that 2 Representatives will attend the National Carers Group this year in order to inform the Group of developments and achievements in the North West and bring information back from across the country.

Health and Social Care Leads



Lynn

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- To operate and support leads to deliver the Regional task force 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 on the theme of Positive Approaches to Physical Intervention. It has been agreed that a regional view will be developed which details standards expected in this area and which will incorporate the views of people with a learning disability and families. 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

An additional Lead Officers meeting on 24th September has led to the emergence of a regional agreement in relation to responsible commissioning in the North West. A clear pathway for commissioning will be developed and agreed by the group. A small group of lead officers continue to work on this and will represent it back to the Leads group at the next meeting.

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 continues to produce well attended and oversubscribed Provider events.



Care Services Improvement Partnership

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

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

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

4. ACTIVITY

Personalisation



Lynn



Step by Step Living Network



Care Services Improvement Partnership **CSIP**

VALUING PEOPLE
Support Team

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.

Lynn continues to provide support to the North West In Control Network.

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 will assist 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

The new Valuing People three-year strategy highlights the importance of developing locally and regionally. Over the past year, the team has continued to deliver what it does best, working with local partners in developing plans and actions to full citizenship.

The team will continue to support the development of workforce skills in person centred planning and approaches to transitions.

There have been three local authorities who have commissioned person centred thinking skills and person centred approaches for the workforce. We believe this will continue to increase. This has included direct support / managers / and care managers, across different services.

Citizenship and personalisation.

We have been working locally with older carers and young people to develop real plans with circles of support. One of the approaches that has been successful in planning with people to get a better life has been to facilitate live support planning events - moving from planning to implementation.

The team hope to assist more local organisations to develop some of these approaches. Planning live cuts right through to; putting people first and supporting them to be in control with positive relationships and better resources, i.e. paid and natural support. This only happens when people are committed to working together.

There needs to opportunity to focus on,
People with complex needs
People from diverse communities
People who are at risk of entering forensic services or are already there.

Working with families will be key in consultation and participation in how we achieve this.

The NWTDT will be hosting a number of workshops that will focus on social capital and community connecting / family mentoring.

What will we need to do more of next year? Building on our skills and learning.

In relation to the Aiming High, for disabled children strategy, we hope to support local areas to improve transition support programmes to improve arrangements across child health and social care.

We hope to work within local communities in consulting and taking action that is bold and essential in changing what currently happens for many young people.



Helen Sanderson



The themes of the NWTDT person centred planning forum were focussed on practical ways that we can deliver the personalisation agenda laid out in 'Valuing People Now'.

In July we held a meeting on 'Best Practice in PCP', which was led by Helen Sanderson and Max Neill, exploring the learning being done in local areas about what makes Good Practice in PCP, and sharing Helen's work on Good Practice.

In September we looked at how Day Services can meet the aim of prioritising Person Centred Planning, laid out in Valuing People Now. We explored a variety of examples of recent good work, with workers from Day Services in Lancashire, Tameside and Wales talking about using one page profiles in innovative ways, transforming Day Services record keeping and paperwork using person centred thinking tools, and how day services in Arfon developed a district strategy using information from people about their preferred activities, past, present and future to think about how to ensure more people found interesting and productive things to do with their days.

In November Michael Smull spoke on delivering a Person Centred Culture. He shared a variety of tools that could be used to measure the current quality of an organisation's culture, and a technique that teams could use to agree their own ground rules for a more productive, respectful and accountable culture.

In January 2009 we looked at issues for people involved in the commissioning and contracting of services, including the recent training being delivered to CSCI inspectors in the North West of England by HSA, and at a method being piloted in Lancashire, of enabling information from person centred reviews to inform strategic decision making.

In February John O'Brien will be looking at

- Listening for capacity
- Finding places in the community where a person's gifts and skills are welcome
 - Enabling contribution, particularly paid work
 - Enabling choice making
 - Using creative approaches to overcome barriers

And in March we will be exploring what quality is in person centred approaches, and at how we measure it, achieving a balanced set of measures, covering quantitative, qualitative, personal and service outcomes. We'll also be looking at how we can use a person centred approach to record, celebrate and learn from people's achievements, big and small.

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

Dave Spencer Valuing People Support Team Lead supported by relevant information from Skills for Care will be speaking with the Trainers Network at their final meeting of the year about the implications of Valuing People Now on Training and Workforce Development, which will help set the Networks agenda for 2009/10

A Workforce development conference in Partnership with Valuing People, Skills for Care and Bild is being organised by NWTDT in 2009/10 for key stakeholders in the in North West and Nationally to consider the workforce development and training implications of Valuing People Now

Leslie Barcham continues as the National Valuing People Workforce Development Lead. Leslie has been seconded from the British Institute of Learning Disabilities

Leslie outlined current and future national workforce development initiatives and challenges relating to Valuing People Now with members of the Regional Trainers Network meeting on two occasions in 2008/09. One of her main messages was that the term workforce should encompass family carers and community stake holders but there is still a place for formal training and education for the paid and wider workforce

On Leslies request NWTDT are acting as a critical friend to support her in her National role.

The trainers Network submitted a comprehensive consultation response to the Valuing People Now Consultation document

The NWTDT, Valuing People Task Force and Specialist Commissioning Team plus Edgehill University fed back their progress at the Regional Trainers Network event in September, concerning 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 implement positive approaches to challenging behaviour

The project will later widen its scope to support the whole workforce community including family carers and people that use services.

The 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.

Members of the group presented their initiative to the Regional Commissioners meeting in January 2009.

Central Lancashire Learning Disability Services are working closely with NWTDT with this initiative

A regional PI standards initiative is now being developed supported by North West Lead Officers that will be completed in 2009/10. Supported by an advisory group of people who use services

NWTDT aims to organise a conference early in 2009/10 involving Professor Mansell to support the various challenging behaviour initiatives in the region including supporting people vulnerable to placement break down

Other work linked to positive approaches to challenging behaviour includes a completed Physical Intervention Audit of Wirral Services and the development of a North West Regional Group to develop quality standards and training for challenging behaviour and forensic services.

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 2008/09

Greater Manchester Training Partnership

The Greater Manchester Training Partnership held a major event in May 2009 to relaunch the Partnership.

A final conference with the Partnerships allocated finance is to be held in 2009/10 to look at improving services vulnerable to placement breakdown

Regional Developments NToW

Individualised budgets awareness raising continue to take place across the region funded by Skills for Care and supported by NWTDT

NWTDT sponsored a regional event in May 08 involving Michael Smull to raise awareness and improve competence in relation to individualised budgets and workforce development attended by over thirty participants nationally mostly from the independent sector

Workforce Development Research

The NWTDT, NW ADASS, CSIP, TUC and RCN commissioned/ supported research by Professor Duncan Mitchell of Manchester PCT and Manchester Metropolitan University the North West workforce involved in the Hospital Closures within the framework of The Model District Service called "They Said it Would Never Happen", the research has been completed .published and distributed. Copies available through NWTDT.

The above work has been financially supported by the TUC and NWTDT. The RCN has been involved in monitoring the researches progress.

Organisational Transformation

NWTDT continue to offer change management and organisational transformation support and advice to Local Authorities and PCT's as the impact of individualised budgets and organisational restructure continues.

Work includes one and two day practical action orientated service specific workshops for staff teams and their managers



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

NW Managed Network.

Ethnicity and Culture



Nabela

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

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

There have been a lot of positive things that have happened in the past 12 months through the work which NWTDT has been involved in.

The Race Relations Amendment Act States that all public bodies have a legal responsibility to assess and consult on how their policies, service delivery and functions affect different racial groups, and to monitor any possible negative impact on Race, Age, Disability, Gender, Sexual orientation, Religion and Belief.

This is an update about the NWTDT activity around people with learning disabilities and their families from Minority Ethnic Groups. People from ethnic minorities are still not getting as good a service as other people.

It is important that we learn from each other about how to make things better. There are lots of new groups residing in the country and a lot more people with disabilities from minority ethnic groups.

Valuing People Now Says that valuing people will only be successful if it is working for everyone. All services must do what the Race Relations Amendment Act says. 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 with many networks where we continue to develop our programme of support around areas relating to ethnicity. We are doing this through developing programmes, bespoke pieces of work and supporting individuals to deliver on specific priorities, which are in line with Valuing People NOW. We have held events on Equality Impact Assessments, a day on developing Good Practice in Learning Disability Services When Working with People from Minority Communities and Raising Awareness of Learning Disability & Ethnicity. We are planning further events looking at families and carers from BME communities and forced marriages with people who have learning disabilities. There will be a wide range of events around ethnicity that will be focused on promoting equality as an essential for individuals to fulfil their potential, and to make sure all equality strands are implemented.

Our regional network meetings in the North West 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. It needs to be reported though that the interest that has been shown in the FREE Networks has mainly been from outside the North West who have to pay for the events.

It is important that individuals attend these meetings so they are able to look at removing discriminatory barriers and empower communities from different backgrounds.

Individuals are empowered through services, which recognise their needs. Organisations need to provide the right support to individuals to adopt roles that are appropriate to their communities. We need commitment at all levels to develop services to address those needs.

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 and can often be missed.

The NWTDT are putting on events this coming year which focus on the issues that relate to developing better practice and outcomes in the future, becoming better at communicating and share information, local knowledge, modelling what we want others to learn. A model of cultural competence broken down into manageable ways of thinking about this type of work, preventing people from feeling overwhelmed and support them to get skills, knowledge to lead local change.

The various programmes aim to provide guidance and practical information on developing quality services to meet the needs of minority groups.

We hope that the training will inspire and encourage those who work with people from minority groups to begin to listen to what they have to say, their stories and their struggles. We hope that this will persuade those who are involved in the planning and delivery of services that it is essential to prioritise this work, and that working with people from all diverse communities can be exciting, interesting and creative and this brings huge benefits to the wider organisation.

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



Transition Network.

We have committed to joint investment in facilitating the transition network in partnership with CISP. We will be hosting three joint workshops; these are a

follow on from our very successful transition event facilitated by the youth parliament during this year.

The transition events will include health, employment, inclusion and partnership work.

As part of the work, there will be a series of action learning sets that will invite key stakeholders to develop positive relationships in co –working across positive transitions.

Supporting Children and Young People

The NWTDT 0-19 Matters Programme has been launched 20th November at Kids Up North event, information is being shared across the Region following this and the programme further developed.

We have now written a plan which offers a menu of activities which local authorities and NWTDT subscribers etc. can commission in terms of engaging with disabled children and young people, supporting families who may have disabled children or developing inclusive practice which will mean that disabled young people can access mainstream services on an equal level to their non-disabled peers. NWTDT are now finalising the children's programme in terms of content.

We have been working with a local school in Blackburn to develop person centred reviews and person centred plans with young people and their families whilst making sure that young people are seen as people and the contributions they make in their communities have great value. There has been a great response to the urgency to plan with those young people who may be in danger of leaving school to poor opportunities and community connections; due to their experiences of their difficulties in needing the right support to have full citizenship.

Supporting Older Citizens

Having consulted and worked with older people the team is confident that it has much to offer in this ever-demanding agenda that is steering the older people's policy.

There has been a poor response from local and regional services to work together.

It is also apparent that the independent sector has many skills and experiences that we can learn from, but perhaps are not currently contributing to the development of this area of work.

We are currently working hard to have conversations with as many partners in older people communities to work with us on this much-needed agenda.

At a local level, we have had the opportunity to share our learning on a local radio station funded by Age Concern, run by older people.



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

The steering group is meeting again on 6th March and then again at the start of April to sign off the final proof. The booklet will be ready for distribution mid-April.

User Led Organisations - Workshops

Everything has been prepared and the first one is Monday 9th March. At present between 16 to 18 people are booked onto each workshop. The workshops are being held in each sub region and being funded in partnership with Step by Step Living Network.

Self Advocacy Report

Building on the piece of work completed with Central Lancashire to review Advocacy Services and based on previous experience. Laurence Clark is pulling together a report addressing how advocacy can be better supported which will be complete by the end of March.

Health



Janet Cobb



Catherine Webster

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 IMPORTANT THINGS ARE WE WORKING ON

- 1) Agreeing a list of Priorities that will make the biggest difference to the health of people with a learning disability
 - General Workforce – address knowledge, attitudes and value base
 - Mental Health
 - Complex Health Needs – including access to AHP
 - Accessibility – new technology, choose & book etc
 - Postural Care
 - Palliative Care / End of Life Care
 - Health Promotion – including Access to screening
 - Dentistry
 - Implementing the Michaels' Enquiry – specifically the Directed Enhanced Service.
- 2) Finding out what we have already done to make things better
- 3) Finding out what still needs to be done

WHAT WE ARE DOING RIGHT NOW

- 1) At our February Network meeting we will work through the health section of *Valuing People Now* to update the list of **Priorities for Health** that we have agreed.
- 2) We are collecting Good News stories for Health of people with learning disabilities in the North West. We shared these with the Regional Task Force in February and we will put them onto our website. We plan to collect even more over the next few months.

- 3) 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.

WHAT WE ARE PLANNING TO DO

- 1) We have booked Health Network meetings for 2009 on
Thursday 26th February
Tuesday 26th May
Thursday 10th September
Tuesday 24th November

In February our topic is **Postural Care** – this is one of our priorities for health.

- 2) We also want to plan some local events that bring health staff and people with learning disabilities together to talk about specific topics.

- 3) In 2009 we will start to add the *Criminal Justice System* and *Mental Health* to our agenda. In 2010 we will start to think about *Children and Learning Disability* – in particular CAMHS and Complex Needs.

- 4) We are planning a new series of Health events for later in 2009.



Quality Dene/ BILD

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

Support people to inspect and comment on the quality of services locally

Experts by Experience and Service User Reviews

This Contract has ended. The Experts who were interviewed and trained, including the Experts who undertook inspections, were made aware the funding was only available for one year. Discussions are taking place with the Valuing People Task Force to ensure continuation in 2008/09

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 care placements, to include work on commissioning, housing options and regulation.

Through our partnership with NWTDT Housing Options offered half day meetings with Partnership Boards to talk about how to make it easier for people to get a better choice of where they live and how they are supported.

At those sessions we talked about:-

- The different ways people can get a house or a flat, and the good things and not so good things about each.
- We looked at the different ways of getting support and how each way can help people in their own home.
- We looked at what people need to know and think about when they begin to plan how to get a house or a flat
- Finally, we talked about what Partnership Boards can do to make the choices we looked at happen for people.

Housing Options worked with Blackpool, Central Lancashire, Bury, Cheshire, Sefton, St Helens, Wigan and Halton. Bury, Central Lancashire, Blackpool and Cheshire asked to make their sessions a full day instead of half a day, we agreed to that. Bury, Blackpool and Cheshire also invited people who were not Partnership Board members but were interested in how they could help make it easier for people to get the kind of houses and support they wanted. This included people with learning disabilities, family carers, housing and support workers.

All the people who came have said that the meetings helped them understand more about housing and support and gave them good ideas about how to make things better.

Housing Options and NWTDT held a regional conference on 17th October at Harris Park Preston for people who buy services and housing and support providers. People who came enjoyed the day and said that it helped them think about new ideas for making it easier for people to get the kind of houses and support they wanted.

CSIP have provided some funding for NWTDT to represent NW ADASS and CSIP at the group who are reviewing the Regional Housing Strategy. We have expressed our concern that again people with Learning Disabilities have not been involved in this review.

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

One of the major barriers that stops people with learning disabilities from having real choice and control over their lives is the way that different local services, planning and funding happens. Some times this is because of local decision making and sometimes it is because of national policies that don't fit together well. We need to be more focused on employment support and day service change fitting together in a way that helps people have more control over their daily lives. The network aims to support people involved with the planning, provision of day opportunities to think about what progress has been made, what the priorities are for the future, to share and learn about good practice across the North West and to plan what actions need to be taking in supporting individuals in having more meaningful, fulfilled lives.

Getting a Life Network took place on the 8th July 2008 and was presented by Linda Jordan who talked about the Getting a Life Project and employment. The Second meeting was held on the 22nd of January 09.

In this session, Carey Bamber, Personalisation Programme Manager for the Care Services Improvement Partnership NW, talked about the work that is underway across the region to implement personal budgets, and to transform adult social care services. Carey talked about the policy context, local examples, and how people and families are contributing to this work.

In addition a presentation was delivered on quality, innovation and best practice in Supported Employment Services for people with disabilities and those furthest away from the labour market. In this session Pure Innovations Ltd Stockport explored how effective partnership working between four supported employment providers in Greater Manchester has led to the development of excellent sustained employment and progression outcomes for participants.

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.

Raising the Profile of real paid employment for People with a Learning Disability is a priority of the Getting a Life Network also. We held a conference 27th February 2009 to look at this priority which the Cabinet Office, DWP and new National Director for Learning Disability, Anne Williams, spoke at. Presentations from the day will be made available at www.nwtdt.com

On behalf of the Regional Task Force we have submitted our comments to the call for evidence in relation to the development of the Employment Strategy.

Publicly Valued, Publicly Employed

The Publicly Valued Publicly Employed continues into its third year.

To date the project has:-

- Engaged with 27 Public Sector Employers
- 9 Public Sector Employers have employed people with learning disabilities as a result
- Engaged with 21 job seekers
- 18 people have secured employment
- There are 5 offers of employment currently on the table

The learning from the experience is truly valuable in helping us develop sustainable employment for people with learning disabilities. Sustainability is the key. Achieving job entries and in work success is evident however what is equally clear that we are not yet getting deeply enough engaged with the public sector as employers. Short term contracts are not being renewed. Our work in year three will be to ensure that the concepts are imbedded into the culture or the organisation. To date too much has rested on individuals and we need to get a more firmly established presence so that the pilot becomes the norm.

We look forward to the publication of the Valuing People Now Employment Strategy in the Spring. I have every confidence that it will be radical and bring about rapid change (James Purnell) and we will see sustained support to eradicate a care and control approach that being replaced by a truly empowering approach to support for people with learning disabilities and their families (Phil Hope).

5. RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMMISSIONING GROUP

- That the Commissioning Group accept the contents of this report.
- Agree to the recommendations within the Finance Report
- Agree to the annual uplift to subscriptions.
- Approve appointments

6. CONCLUSION



2008/ 2009 has been an eventful year seeing the development of

- Pathways Associates Community Interest to further support our work and as a potential route to securing additional development monies
- Our Children's subscription programme and growing number of skilled associates in this field
- Our Research Centre to back up and evaluate our work and attract research money to the region whilst providing an invaluable resource of superb academics in the North West
- The resolution of the financial pressures the NWTDT faced
- An ever growing number of valuable and valued associates and associate organisations.
- Improved links to Regional and National groups including ADASS and VPST.
- More self advocate groups than ever at our Regional Forum
- More families in touch with the team talking to each other and sharing good stories.

We have no doubt that 2009/ 2010 will be just as busy with just as many positive outcomes for people with a learning disability and their families in the North West.