

NORTH WEST TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM



Director: Lynn James-Jenkinson



Date of submission:

Subject:  Update report to Commissioning Group

Executive summary:

The following report is a summary of the activity of the NWTDT in the period April 2007 to June 2007.

Recommendations:

1. That the Commissioning Group accept the contents of this report.

REFLECTION



The first quarter of this year has been challenging following changes to team members, new associates beginning their work with us and Lynn's absence. It is good to know though that even though this has been an unusual quarter for the team the focus has remained the same and the 'business' of the team has remained on track and many new programmes of work have been and are being developed in line with the priorities of our stakeholders and the emerging agenda for health and social care which the North West continues to be at the forefront of.



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1. INTRODUCTION

The previous report (8) 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 produced by team members.
- Report to be circulated.

Report circulated and available at www.nwtdt.com

The Self Advocates have nominated new representatives to be in the Commissioning Group following re-elections to the Regional Task Force and National Forum earlier this year.

Gary Hargreaves has stepped down – Lynn has written to Gary on behalf of the Commissioning Group to thank him for his support.

Ibrar Riaz, Alan Hirst and the new co-chair of the Regional Task Force Sean Dempsey will sit on the Commissioning Group.

Lead Officers still need to review their representatives.

The Business Plan for this financial year has yet to be finalised as a result of the recent staff changes within the team and Lynn's absence during the first quarter. This will be presented to the next Commissioning Group meeting.



Budget –

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- End the year balancing the budget.

A financial report for the first quarter will be brought to the Commissioning Group meeting.

Subscription invoices have been raised for this financial year.



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

Some still outstanding, work to resolve is ongoing.

North and South Trafford PCT's – with Jim Campbell

Oldham PCT – with Linda Sheldon

Ellesmere Port and West Cheshire PCT's – with Mary Kirkham



Communication-

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

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

Our new 'brand' has been well received with positive feedback regarding the Newsletter. Work to improve the website continues and should be complete prior to the next Commissioning group meeting.

Sue Canavan has now left the Team and we are using this opportunity to review our administration processes to ensure we achieve best value from the subscription funding available.



Team –

REQUIRED OUTCOMES



- Agreements to be finalised and monitored
- Associates - each team member to support 2 new associates to create capacity and sustainability across the region, a greater emphasis will be placed on supporting self advocates and family members become Associates.

All agreements have been renegotiated and are in place.

The number and range of Associates available to the Region through NWTDT doubled last year and continues to grow.

Greater emphasis will be placed on mentoring and supporting self advocates and family members, who wish to become Associates over the next year and in developing positive partnerships with similar organisations.



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 national policy 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 practise across the North West.
- To influence and inform the National task force or other bodies relating to regional priority issues.

The meeting in July concentrated on the difficulties faced by the families of children with a disability and the possible role the Regional Task Force and NWTDT could have in supporting the new NW Children's Trusts in partnership with Adult services to improve services and responses to children with a disability across the Region particularly linked to the Early Years Programme and existing work in relation to Transition.

It was agreed that –

- Jill Baker (Salford) will introduce Lynn and Charlie to the Directors of Children's Trusts to offer the extension of the NWTDT subscription programme through their NW group.
- Lynn will circulate the existing NWTDT brochure to the Directors of Children's Services at this meeting.
- Cynthia Fletcher (CSIP) is co-ordinating a regional group to address the issues raised at the Task Force meeting, particularly relating to family Leadership training.
- The NWTDT will develop a programme of work which fits with the Early Years and wider children's agenda.

Self Advocates



Regional task force/ National Regional Forum representatives



Jason



Dene and



Pippa



Regional Self Advocacy Representatives on the National Forum

Paddy Burke from Liverpool People First

Mark Shackleton from ReAct Lancaster



Regional Task Force representatives

Sean Dempsey from Salford Being Heard (Co-Chair, Regional Task Force)

Glen Buckley from Salford Being Heard

Rebecca Ferguson from People First Bootle

Ibrar Riaz from Mowbray Self Advocacy Group

Alan Hurst from Tameside People First.

They will join Elaine Entwistle, Christopher Payne and Gary Hargreaves who will continue as RTF reps for another year.

CONFERENCE PRIORITIES



Following the conference held in Blackpool the 3 new big issues are:-

- **Find us houses we would like to live in.**
- **All public places and public transport must be accessible. We mean ALL.**
- **There must be enough money for self advocacy support.**



Sean Dempsey was elected as the new Co-chair of the Regional Task Force and Elaine Entwistle is his Deputy. Pippa met with Sean after the meeting to talk about his job as Co-chair and how he wants that to work.

Sean wrote to Charlie Barker, Tony McDermott and Denise Allen and they met to agree how they work together as co-chairs

The representatives meet 3 weeks before the Task Force. They made a poster of themselves as the new 'dream team'. At the pre-meeting, the elected representatives can talk about things that are important. They also prepare what they want to say at the main meeting.



They had a big impact at the March Task Force meeting, leading discussion about the 3 Big Issues from last year, and the ones for this year. Thanks to them all 3 of this year's Big Issues will be discussed at the Task Force this year so that action is taken.

At the pre-meeting this time, Sean led a discussion about how they can be good elected representatives. They took a paper about people in NHS campuses and agreed questions to ask at their Partnership Boards.



They also talked about children and young people to say what they think would make life better for young people now. When they got to the Task Force, Sean was very active as Co-chair and everybody else spoke out too. Sean gave a speech saying who he is, and how he and the others get views before the meeting so they know what self advocates want. They tell their local self advocacy groups what has happened afterwards. Sean said this is why other representatives should listen to them.



Agendas for the pre-meetings are agreed by Sean and Pippa before being sent out, and notes after the pre-meetings are sent to all the self advocate representatives who have said these are helpful in the big Task Force meetings – though they also listen and say other things when they have heard the speeches. Reports are sent to the Steering Group so that they know what has happened at the Task Force, and can give their views before the next one.



Pippa met with Sean and Glenn Buckley about 'Breaking The Cycle' and they came up with really good points. Sean went to the Regional Health and Social Care Leads group where he raised lots of good questions. He was there to make sure the managers remembered that those who are locked up are real people who have their own points of view, needs and wishes that must be remembered in plans.



Ibrar Riaz and Allan Hirst were elected to the NWTDT Commissioning Group and Gary Hargreaves was thanked for the good job he has done.

Support to IC Jason Rhodes in its work for NWTDT



Pippa has met with Jason and Gary almost every week to offer business advice when Jason needs this. Pippa has learned more about Jason's business and how best to support him. Jason and Gary finished off the conference report and DVD and sent these out and have also done the agendas and notes for the Steering Group, and given help to members of the NWTDT.



This is the 'quieter' quarter for Jason in supporting the regional self advocates. From now on, it is very important that there is good planning and communication to make sure that everything is thought of and planned out for the Self Advocates Conference in January/February 2008. The fifth time Jason has planned this conference, he knows most of the things that need to be done, but decisions at the right time at the Steering Group and clear NWTDT support to him will be critical so that the preparations can be paced right between now and the event. The split of responsibilities between Dene, Phil and Pippa this year will make good communication between them more important as this is the biggest production of the year!

Family Forum



Phil



Lynne

REGIONAL CONFERENCE PRIORITIES

1. **Support & Services** – By far the biggest concern is the reduction or lack of appropriate services for their sons and daughters that then has a direct impact on the families / carers lives. Issues mentioned included-
 - Shortage of staff
 - PCP's not actioned
 - Lack of appropriate or robust respite services
 - Rising of criteria thresholds to withdraw services
 - Lack of appropriate supported living
 - Lack of appropriate day opportunities
 - Lack of support for older carers

2. **Direct Payments and Individualised Budgets** - Getting control of the money was something people wanted for their sons, daughters and family but felt the system worked against them. Examples included –
 - Lack of support to recruit PA's
 - Lack of info & support to use direct payments / Individual budgets
 - Funding rules skewed to in-house services discouraging the use of direct payments/individual budgets

3. **Transition** – There was a lack of confidence in the 14 – 19 transition processes from 'education' into 'adulthood'
 - No confidence in multi-agency working
 - Lack of information to carers
 - Processes & planning started too late, so appropriate adults services are then not in place

The steering group met in early July to start planning the next Family Forum event which will be based on one of the 3 themes identified at the previous meeting – see above

Representatives of the regional family forum met with the Rob Grieg on the 4th July in Manchester following his engagements at the Disability Living Today conference where they discussed this years 3 themes.

Health and Social Care Leads



Lynn

REGIONAL PRIORITIES

1) Breaking the Cycle/Secure and Forensic Commissioning Strategy

Monitor and evaluate implementation, maintain and overview and link to national agenda.

2) Workforce Development

- Develop a programme of support for Providers (existing and emerging) in response to the current agenda @ individualisation which will support the 'market' to respond.
- Consider issues @ who is the workforce and what has the NW workforce achieved in the past – how do we learn from that about what works and what doesn't.
- Brokerage - Further develop support planning which will respond to the perceived danger of Brokerage becoming an 'industry' and link to regulation (too much or not enough?). Families/ people who use services/ Social Workers/ providers leading Brokerage – need to examine opportunities.

3) Quality Assurance

- How do we measure the outcomes for people, manage risk and link to regulation/ CSCI?
- Fair Pricing - Responsible commissioning guidance needs to be re-examined.
- Sustaining the money – keeping hold of money which supports change like LDDF and which helps disinvestment so mainstream money can be reinvested in the services people tell us they want through their person centred/ support plans.

4) People growing older with a Learning Disability

- Links to generic health and mental health services
- Improving links with Housing services
- Developing Person Centred Approaches/ Support Planning with Older People.

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 Local Authorities and PCT's.

The Regional Lead Officers meeting in June concentrated on the development of Breaking the Cycle and how the North West responds to the needs of people in secure services and prison. Members of the Regional Task Force joined this meeting to support the development of this programme and to ensure the voices of people who use services and families were reflected in the discussion.

Lead Officers were urged to attend the Regional Managed Network meetings to ensure they are kept up to date with developments and in a better position to influence the strategy relating to this.

The notes from the session are available at www.nwtdt.com in the section for Lead Officers.

Providers



Lynn

REQUIRED OUTCOMES

- Support the development of regional providers network

Lynn and Dave are working to develop a series of events and support that will be available to Providers across the North West in conjunction with Dene Donalds (NWTDT workforce development lead) who is co-ordinating events aimed at supporting individuals and families develop local social enterprise.

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

The funding for this financial year has been agreed and a work programme developed based on the priorities set by self-advocates, families, lead officers and CSIP/VPST.

The required outcomes for this funding have yet to be finalised with the Dave Spencer given Lynn's absence during the first quarter. The Business Plan for NWTDT will be finalised once this is complete.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMMISSIONING GROUP

- That the Commissioning Group accept the contents of this report.

6. CONCLUSION



The first quarter of this year has been challenging following changes to team members, new associates beginning their work with us and Lynn's absence. It is good to know though that even though this has been an unusual quarter for the team the focus has remained the same and the 'business' of the team has remained on track and many new programmes of work have been and are being developed in line with the priorities of our stakeholders and the emerging agenda for health and social care which the North West continues to be at the forefront of.