

# Employment Task Group (Wigan)

## 24<sup>th</sup> April 2008

**Present:** Carol Williams, Catherine Riley, Jill, Catherine Hitchen, Joanne Melia, Chris Rudd, John Clarke (chair). Graham Frost

**Apologies:** Carol Grace, Mark Glover Anita Wheldon.

### **Agenda.**

1. Information. Review of work done so far.
2. Funding-Transition Update
3. Quality Standards Work.
4. Catherine's Bid.
5. Any Other Business.

### **Website Work Done So Far**

We need to launch and update the site. We need to sort out advertisement. Carol Willaims to speak with the Borough Life Magazine, Wigan Leigh Embrace, to send out details in their newsletter. We also discussed using CVS advertise and promote the Web Site as well as placing posters within G.P Surgeries. Catherine to talk to Angela re Wigan and Leigh Embrace.

Anthony re computer and website update, website updated at Task Group Meeting see Angela Seddon. (John C.)

### **Funding – Transition Update.**

Kerry and another to work on transition, who probably go into other venues, college, Oakley Brook.

There have needed to be staff changes in Supported Employment due to the loss of ESF Funding. This has caused a great deal of interruption within Supported Employment.

### **Quality Standards Work.**

We discussed the Quality Standards which Graham and John developed which are intended to reflect the wishes of the people who are seeking work. There is more work to be done on these before we take to PB for approval.

## **Catherine's Bid**

Catherine has completed business plan for the helpline .There are initial costs of £12K but people think that these may increase.

To work closely with Connexions JC + Supported Employment also going to deal with voluntary work, people will be advised and this will create demand.

Waiting lists would be created or made bigger.

However, people would be volunteering and not just hanging on.

We discussed people who are volunteering and the considerable amount of help that some people need.

## **Any Other Business**

We discussed Wigan Extreme and congratulated people from the Task Group who supported this initiative.

We discussed the developing personalisation of services and how we could support this through training PA's

We discussed the visit of Andy Burnham MP to IAS. Anita John, Chris, Carol and Catherine R to attend to promote the work of the initiatives within the IAS Group.

We thanked Catherine Riley for her considerable contribution whilst on placement.

JC contact Sarah Wilcox at MENCAP.