

LD EMPLOYMENT TASK GROUP MEETING NOTES 26TH MARCH 2009

		ACTION
	Present: Trish F, Gillian M, Keith B, Terry M, Joanne M, Angela S, Graham F. Apologies: Polly, Carol W, Julia, John, Ellen, Catherine, Chris	
1	<p>Trish gave an update on the transition project, outlining the various work placements that people are involved in. There are around 16 young people in this year's leavers interested in looking for employment. Discussion about commitment of some people on caseload which seems less than some who are on waiting list.</p> <p>Discussion about other funding streams to provide support in work (or in work related training).</p> <p>Discussion about difficulty in obtaining learning support for people doing level 2 courses. Eg of school leaver who received support when doing NVQlevel1 in catering, but not if she goes on to level 2</p> <p>Discussion about future funding for this project: Partnership Board funding will end in 2011, and this activity needs to become part of mainstream activity. Not clear how we achieve this.</p>	<p>Trish to discuss with manager whether "1st come 1st served" approach is best prioritisation for time-limited transition.</p> <p>Gillian to explore possibility of direct payments. Trish to explore Access to Work</p> <p>Graham to raise at Partnership board as part of discussion about membership</p>
2	Looking4work No further action on this. A few more organisations have sent information.	
3	Carers leaflet. Distributed at Transition event. No comeback (good or bad?) Agreed needs ownership by the Board. Would be enhanced by logo's eg from family forum. Agreed review it next year for Transition event etc, but available for any organisations to use in the meantime, and will go on Looking4work and Partnership site	Graham to send copy to Angela for discussion/adoption by family members
4	Valuing People Now Angela fed back on a recent conference. Employment is one of the key priorities for 2009-10. The view from VPN is that employment has gone well for the few , but now has to become available for the many. There is going to be an increased "requirement" to identify numbers in work, those likely to move into work etc. Discussion about how we could find out and gather unambiguous statistics.... National employment strategy promised for the spring(!), and this group will probably have responsibility to prepare the strategy locally. ... we will need to consult local employers. One emphasis will be the increased expectation that Local Authorities and other public sector employers will increase the number of people with (learning) disability they employ. May be useful to invite someone from LA Human Resources to be part of this group.	At the next meeting, Angela will give a brief presentation about the key points in the document "Valued in Public".

	We need to do some further work on the Quality document we developed last year, to simplify it and make it accessible	
5	<p>Linking into (4) we probably need to have a full discussion at some point about where we next put our energies.</p> <p>Over the coming year or so, Day services hope to increase work type opportunities through developing enterprises.</p> <p>What does “meaningful” in the context of employment mean, and who should it be meaningful to?</p> <p>How far should we be encouraging the “off-benefits-and-into-paid-employment” agenda?</p> <p>Should everyone be encouraged to participate, or is it by choice? And whose choice? And what about those who’s advocates say no?</p> <p>Etc</p>	
6	<p>DONM 30th April, 10.00- 12.00 at Mears.</p> <p>(Not everyone finds it easy to get to Mears with limited buses etc, any thoughts?)</p>	