

Learning Disability Partnership:

EMPLOYMENT TASK GROUP MEETING

Date : 9 February 2009, 1.30-3 pm

Venue: Elders Street Day Centre, Scarborough

Present:	David Keeton (IGEN), Sue Parsons (Team Manager A&CS), Elaine Constantine (Team Manager ESDC) Rebecca Buckle (Service User), Hazel Cornell (Action Children), Gill Sowman (ESDC Admin minutes) Guest : Jane Jordan (Education)
Apologies:	Avis Turner Basics Plus, Felicity Fearn (SE ESDC)

Intro.		ACTIONS
	<p>DK welcomed everyone to the meeting and updated them on his position with regard to contacting Working Links & In Training (Dec 08 meeting). He had left messages but as yet had received no reply. Laura Scott and Mandy Lees were back in post and it was hoped to invite them to the April meeting.</p> <p>He also advised the group that he was now joint chair with John Lawson and Ruth Collin for Developing Community Lives, after the meeting on 20 January 2009.</p> <p>He then welcomed Jane Jordan to the meeting and invited her to give a presentation on her Adult Learning Services' role.</p>	
<p>1</p>	<p>Jane thanked everyone for inviting her to speak and stated she had arranged a Focus Meeting on 11 February 2009 at Elders Street Day Centre where she was looking forward to getting feedback on what's working and what's not and guidance in creating the new brochure for the Courses in future.</p> <p>In particular an accredited "Introduction to Skills for Working Life" course is being discussed. She is preparing a questionnaire to find out exactly what courses would be most beneficial. Fees will need to be looked at and where appropriate additional exam fees will be levied. Based on the feedback gained it will be hoped to have an information and discussion day so carers and users can access the courses information before enrolment which should be most useful.</p> <p>It will be emphasised that there is a need for a commitment to attend and fulfil <u>all the Course requirements</u> and encourage people to access more varied and interesting courses, not just repeating same course year in year out.</p> <p>She was setting up "Drop Ins" for Carers, beginning on February 19 at 9.30-1.00 at Talbot House, and then regularly at 6 week intervals.</p> <p>There followed an excellent discussion and appreciation was shown for all Jane 's hard work in pulling everything together.</p>	
<p>2</p>	<p><u>Yorkshire Coast College situation</u> – DK was working with "Destination for Work" students at YCC and will be at the Information Day for leavers from the course this year on Thursday 12 February 2009 along representatives from social</p>	

<p>3</p>	<p>services and work related organisations. Julia Huby was still responsible for Work Experience within the college, and DK encouraged Jane to approach the college for use of their facilities in the future.</p> <p>Supported Employment Update: EC (SW) stated that the focus for Supported Employment was now on paid employment for those who wanted to work and voluntary work where appropriate. Support would be available initially before other means of support would be explored. New employers were being approached for possible Work Tasters. Whitby referrals had been received but due to budget restraints it was difficult to progress these further at this time. Staff were visiting Whitby on a fortnightly basis to monitor placements. SP (Ryedale) Two new referrals this week and Interviews for a Job Coach were being held on Thursday 12 February 2009. (Note SH now works Mon Tue Wed).</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>Basic Plus Assessments – EC had received these and had been very happy with the standard and quality of the assessments. Thanks to Peter Scott for his work in this field E.C and S.P felt a good working relationship was developing between the services.</p> <p>Springhead School – DK was now working with the 6th Form students with an option of Supported Work Experience. To this end he gave a list of the companies he has approached so far to everyone including: North Bay Railways, Cayton Commercials ,and Boyes Stores . DK to keep group informed of further employer contacts so that everyone aware of employers being approached to avoid too many different people approaching same employer etc. <i>(GS will add to spreadsheets for reference)</i> Three students will leave this summer going on to Special Colleges, but next year 13 leavers are expected so he felt appropriate future planning would be in order as some will be looking for supported employment.</p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>Future meetings</p> <p>Monday 20 th April 2009. Monday 13 th July 2009 Monday 7 th September 2009</p> <p>All 1.30 -3pm at Elders Street Day Centre, Scarborough</p>	