

Learning Disability Partnership:

EMPLOYMENT TASK GROUP MEETING

Date : 1 December 2009,1.30-3 pm

Venue: Elders Street Day Centre, Scarborough

Present:	David David Keeton (IGEN), John Lawson (OM2 Manager, A&CS) Elaine Constantine (Team Manager ESDC) Avis Turner Basics Plus, Lesley Dixon (Dalewood) , Hazel Cornhill (Action for Children), Jane Jordan (Adult Learning Service) Sue Parsons (Team Manager A&CS), Rebecca Buckle (Service User) Dennis Allen (Service User) Dan Maloney, (Curriculum and Quality Manager from Yorkshire Coast College) Gill Sowman (ESDC Admin minutes)
Apologies:	

1	<p>DK welcomed everyone to the meeting, and suggested the agenda be rearranged to allow Dan Maloney from Yorkshire Coast College to speak to the meeting first as he needed to attend a further meeting elsewhere.</p>
2	<p><u>Yorkshire Coast College situation</u> The merger with Grimsby College was in the last stages and will be signed by a Minister in London on Thursday 3 December 2009 which will hopefully allow the new college to start on 1 January 2010. It is not expected that major changes will occur immediately, other than the appointment of a new campus principal, from Grimsby who will lead the existing managers through the curriculum year. It is expected that the name will not change and that the sharing of expertise and resources as well as securing finances will prove a winning combination.</p> <p><u>Destination Group – 2 year course</u> Everyone on this course has obtained Work Experience, a positive step forward. The college has also developed a 4 Day Program which includes Work Skills, very flexible to include volunteer placements and Work Placements. DM left copies for everyone of new prospectus. The College continues to develop ideas while encouraging enterprise, being work related so students achieve their full potential. The College has forged strong links with the local councils opening up placements including gardening etc. Grimsby College has in place a Car Valetting Scheme, using professional equipment / staffs, which Scarborough are developing. There is a Catering Service run by the College which promotes Healthy Eating; all training is in house covering Health and Food Preparation as well as Hospitality, with Basic Food Hygiene certificates being part of the course. They have taken on board the fact that these courses must be time limited and will ensure a three year progression geared towards Supported Employment or Routes 2 Employment. These will cover 5 programme areas leading up to BTEC level YCC has forged links with all local schools and will endeavour to provide for the mixed needs the students will have. YCC welcomes direct links with other agencies and hopes to liaise with Supported Employment, EC will contact Rachel Jackson (Job Search Co-ordinator) to promote a joint, professional approach to local employers. The second year Destination students will be 2010 school leavers and they will have a personal information pack, recording their skills levels etc giving them “Work Ready” status.</p> <p>DK will be offering Guidance Interviews to prepare each student on Destination Year 2 in January with an information event on on 3 March 2010. DM offered an OPEN DOOR invitation to all, always welcome at the college for visits or information gathering. DK asked if LDD contacts at the college will remain the same and DM replied that it was not expected that any changes would occur until the end of the Curriculum year.</p>
3	<p><u>Partnership Board representation by John Lawson</u> JL had attended the Valuing Employment Now launch in November 09 for Yorkshire and Humber Region and wished to pass on the feedback form this event. The day covered the key strategies for 2009 - 2025 which would need addressing by everyone:- Major change in approach Employment was fundamental in citizenship Joint working to achieve employment</p>

Key Points:

Need to raise people’s expectations including carers and providers
Strong Leadership to deliver, including ACS / Partnership Boards and Task Groups

Targets to be set in 2010 : Regional and Local

More visible opportunities – demonstrating how to overcome barriers to work

2009 - 7.5% - 10% people with learning disabilities are in paid work
48% target to be in paid work by 2025
65% want to be in paid work

How to achieve this locally;

- Use Valuing Employment Now resource pack
- Increase job coaching available – proved to be the most successful model
- Use other staff support for long term employment support
- Clear Pathways to Work for individuals
- Increased paid employment in Public Sector (Valued in Public)
- Improved local Employment networks
- Employment Task Group to reflect / involve other agencies
- Refocus Education expectations / transitions planning
- Annual report to Board on progress
- Increased use of personal budgets and clarity on impact work has on benefits

Other challenges locally;

- ❖ How to provide work opportunities for people with high complex needs
- ❖ Access to local transport
- ❖ Raising expectations of ; Individuals
Carers
Care Management
Providers

Is the Employment Task Group ready to deliver on these actions and meet the Challenges?

There will be a need to collate figures relating to people in the area and who work;

Aim is to show; progression of people into paid work increase /changes in Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale

- Inform Partnership Board
- Help raise expectations
- Highlight to Task Group further work to be done
- Enable a local Partnership approach to delivering on Valuing Employment Now

Need to agree;
Groups to capture
How often (eg every 2 – 3 months)
Who to send information to?

3 cont	<p>JL and DK had created a blank list to begin this process and after discussion it was agreed that all interested parties had been identified, but that further discussion was needed on actual information needed, to create an accurate recording process. The main issues seemed to be around clients using multiple venues / services and therefore not giving correct figures for any returns created.</p> <p>JL and DK to reflect and bring to next meeting for further discussion. Everyone was thanked for their input and thoughts.</p>
4	<p><u>Adult Learning Service update</u></p> <p>JJ reported that the Employability Course was going extremely well and everyone agreed it was well presented and delivered to a high standard of course content. All 5 students were attending (just one problem on time keeping to sort out) and in the January they would begin to embed the Functional Skills sessions.</p> <p>The Pathways Course was running in Whitby and looking to future courses. JJ is meeting up with Transitions CCMas well as Springhead, Welburn schools and Whitby College.</p>
5	<p>DK reported that the presentation to Leavers Group at Springhead School had been a really useful presentation which had resulted in excellent feedback and interaction from the group. Thank you to FF and LA for this.</p> <p>DK invited JJ to Springhead in the future.</p> <p>Passed on to the meeting the Disability Employment Advisor's name and contact number: Mick Mullett 01723 395136</p>
6	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>Avis Turner of Basics Plus advised the meeting that an exiting new venture was in the closing stages of agreement to purchase Betton Farm. She was sure this would open numerous paid (minimum 7 x 16 hr posts) and voluntary opportunities for people in Horticulture, Catering, Shop, Animals and Hospitality areas.</p> <p>DK closed the meeting after arranging meeting dates for 2010 and thanked everyone for attending.</p>
7	<p>Future meetings for 2010</p> <p>Tuesday - 2 February 20 April 8 June 3 August 5 October 7 December</p> <p>All on Tuesdays and - 1.30- 3pm at Elders Street Day Centre, Scarborough</p>