

LDP Employment Task Group Minutes -20 April ,2009

Present : David Keeton,
Lesley Dixon, Dalewood
Jane Jordan Adult Learning Services
Elaine Constantine –NYCC Supported Employment
Sue Parson-NYCC Supported Employment Cauwood
Angela Key- Adult and Community Services
Rebecca Buckle –service user

Apologies: Avis Turner ,Basics
Hazel Cornhill –Action for Children

General Notes

- 1.0 David Keeton welcomed everyone to the meeting including Angela Key from Adult and Community Services who has not been to previous meetings.
- 2.0 DK went through agenda items and mentioned that Mandy Lees from Working Links was unable to attend today but should be able to go to the Moving on Event.

3.0 Adult Learning Service .

Jane went through developments with Adult Learning Service .

The focus group originally planned for the 27th April has been re-arranged for 2 pm on Monday 11 May at Elders Street, Scarborough.

The following courses will be running :

- ONCW Entry Certificate for Lifeskills-in Scarborough ,Whitby and Ryedale
- City and Guilds Work Preparation –in Scarborough and Ryedale

Jane stressed at present that they are still awaiting funding confirmation so no plans can be published yet.

- 4.0 Post 16 Education and Training Directory produced by Henshaws College and funded by LSC. Jane showed this to everyone and DK said would see if possible to look at on –line version.

No on-line version available at present.DK has asked for a few paper copies

5.0 Elaine stated that although NYCC staff for Supported Employment can work with people from Whitby, staff are working from Scarborough base and visiting fortnightly. This restricts referrals they can respond to as they did not receive funding to set up a Whitby base. The emphasis will be on those people who really want to work and although voluntary work can be set up no on going support can be provided and the focus is on paid work.

Elaine pointed out that NYCC Adult and Community Services should be providing 2 supported work spaces in each establishment although no further details are provided on whether this should be part/full time or if paid.

6.0 A discussion took place about the aims of the group and that this task group was a separate task group and no longer a subgroup of the Developing Community Lives task group.

One of the groups at the last Developing Community Lives group on 17th March had focussed on work issues. Through this working group it had been decided that the following topics relevant to the Employment task Group needed to be focussed on:

- People getting into paid work
- People to be supported through changing jobs
- Supported and Sheltered work
- Which agencies need to be involved.

These agencies included :

Connexions , Yorkshire Coast College ,Job Centre Plus, Working Links ,InTraining , Springhead School, Community Care managers, people currently in supported employment

Aims of the group:

1. Make sure careers ideas are realistic.
2. Help make clear to education providers what work ready means.
3. Signposting people to the full range of help available especially if paid work is not realistic.
4. Need more information available to show what support is available in education.
5. Sharing of Labour Market Information and new initiatives or projects in the area

A discussion took place and some responses to the above were raised in order as follows:

1. Work with local Further Education Providers to develop their curriculum so that it covers a range of work and leisure options and how to occupy time – not just work
2. Providers of supported employment work with college tutors to make clear who they can and cannot work with and the skills students need to realistically access work.

3 and 4. Information Events such as :
Moving On /YCC 'Destinations afternoon' for parents

5. Involve local employers more in this group/feedback from County employment groups
Angela asked about this and examples of local employers Costa and Wilkinson were quoted as two examples

A discussion took place on whether this group should cover sheltered work as the title was 'employment task group and DK said should cover sheltered and voluntary work as awoke issues involved.

There should be clear assessment of whether someone can access supported paid work or only voluntary work and basics plus 'At Work' assessment should help there.

Julia asked if anyone could go on the assessment and the response was that they can so long as they have a Learning Disability.

DK checked if everyone clear on aims of group .Elaine said she was but queried what are we achieving and whether this needs to become a pressure group to push for action where there are gaps such as funding for supported employment

Some Action points raised were

- 1.DK to liaise with schools including Springhead and Welburn Hall for Transition Care manager and supported employment providers to do a joint information session rather than just supported employment so full range of opportunities can be raised .

2. NYCC Supported work event at Norton and Malton Rugby Club
4 June 1.pm- 5pm

3. Elaine suggested look at other areas in County especially Northallerton and link with Jos Harbron as to how they get funding and provision for supported employment. Fliss Fearn on the county group and attends quarterly meetings.

DK making links with Joss Harbron

8.0 AOB Look at co chair for this group and discuss at the next meeting

9.0 Date of Next meeting

Monday 13 July 1.30 -3 pm and room booked at Elders Street ,Scarborough