

connections

decha Roadshows



Since the last newsletter seven care provider organisation have received a visit to ensure they are fully aware of the benefits of decha membership and to discuss the registration and/or updating of nmds-sc data. We also provided explanations of the reports available through nmds-sc and assist in Workforce Development Planning locally.

In addition, four of the organisations also had explanations and demonstrations on the use of e-learning packages and some signed up their whole employee register immediately.

The visits have been very successful, and have been welcomed by the organisations and the recipients were very enthusiastic about the alliance and membership benefits. We have offered follow-up visits to any who wish to have assistance with nmds-sc online.

Further visits to other organisations are planned and decha continue to welcome requests for visits to advise, support and assist the members to obtain maximum benefit from their membership.

The organisations making these requests include: long term members who have not previously taken advantage of the training and funding opportunities available to them; organisations who have had a recent change of manager or management (recently sold); new members and newly established organisations.

Such visits have always been available to the decha membership and we have responded to all requests to provide on-site explanations and assistance, however, the recent advertising of the roadshow, in our newsletter, has increased awareness of the service. We hope more members will take advantage of this and we will be happy to attend your organisation to offer any information, support and/or guidance which you feel would aid you.

To book a visit ring Gemma Cook on 0191 3833274 or email gemma.cook@durham.org.uk

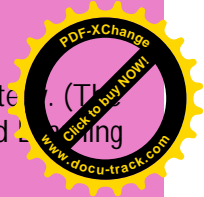
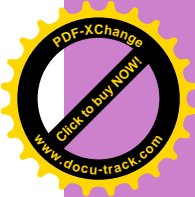
E-Learning Taster Session Success!!

Gemma Cook from decha and Claire Tingle from Ivysoft delivered a day of e-Learning Taster Sessions at Bullion Hall Chester-le-Street on Wednesday 21st January 2009. This was well attended and attendees felt it had been very worthwhile.

The taster sessions were delivered in one hour blocks, giving participants enough time to gain a clear understanding in the use of e-learning and have an opportunity to use the applications and visit the courses they were interested in.

The people attending were enthusiastic and keen to learn, and while skills ranged from almost no experience of using IT to experienced home users all left feeling they would be capable of undertaking e-learning programmes and completing courses.

Where needed, Gemma and Claire were able to give individual support navigating the software, and helped allay concerns for people who thought they would not be appropriate for registration on the courses. Gemma and Claire considered the day as a success, and felt it was well received.



Regional Adult Social Care Workforce Strategy — workshops 3 and 4

Consultation events will be held on 12 and 17 March regarding the AS Workforce Strategy. The event on 12 March will be held in the south of the region - Middlesbrough Teaching and Learning Centre, and the event on 17 March will be north of the region; Quality Hotel, Boldon)

Directors of Adult Social Services in the North East and the North East Improvement and Efficiency Partnership have commissioned work to develop a strategy for the development of the adult social care workforce in the region.

We have been working with the Directors of Adult Social Services and a range of other people with an interest in this issue - including voluntary and private sector providers, users and carers and funders and providers of training - to develop a draft strategy.

We now want to consult with a much wider group of people. These workshops offer the opportunity for people to comment on the draft strategy. Your feedback will help inform the development of the final version which will be completed in March 2009.

We are holding 2 workshops; one for those South of the Region (Tees Valley, Darlington and County Durham) and the other for colleagues in Tyne and Wear and Northumberland. However you are welcome to attend the date that suits your schedule. These workshops have been commissioned to develop a regional strategy for the development of the adult and social care workforce.

Members of decha who would like to be involved in either of the above workshops should forward expressions of interest to:

Angela Hotchkiss
Programme Support Officer
North East Improvement & Efficiency Partnership
Guildhall, Quayside, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 3AF

angela.hotchkiss@northeastcouncils.gov.uk
www.northeastiep.gov.uk

0191 261 3928 Direct line and voicemail
0191 232 4558 Fax
0845 076080 Out of hours switchboard

The times and locations are:

Thursday 12 March at Teaching & Learning Centre, Middlesbrough
Or
Tuesday 17 March at Quality Inn, Boldon

Draft Agenda can be found at http://www.northeastiep.gov.uk/event.htm?event_id=200

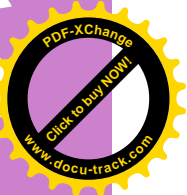
Medication Guidelines and Procedures

Medication workbooks are available to decha member organisations, for use by domiciliary and home care workers at induction stage.

The workbook is to be completed under the guidance of the manager. It is accredited by the Open College Network at level 1 and costs only £12 registration fee per learner. For further details or to request an enrolment form please contact Gemma Cook on 0191 3833274

Common Induction Workbooks

Decha has worked in conjunction with Durham County Council to produce a social care Common Induction pack, for use by our member organisations. The pack comprises of a candidate workbook, supporting information for candidates and a certificate for use by the organisation on completion of all 6 elements of the new Skills for Care induction into social care. If you would like to take advantage of this decha service, please contact decha.



Unit HSC375 Administer medication to individuals

Decha are pleased to offer this unit to our members through Durham Assessment Centre.

For this unit learners will understand how to administer and monitor the effects of medication on individuals. They will also learn how to be able to record on and store medications correctly. The unit applies to all medication used for and by individuals, both prescribed and non-prescribed.

This unit is intended to be used in a variety of care settings including hospitals, nursing and residential homes, hospices, and community settings including the individual's own home and GP surgeries. It does not cover the use and administration of intra-venous medication.

To register for this course please contact Gemma Cook on 0191 3833274.

Falls Prevention Training

This training has proven very popular and decha have commissioned an additional training session on 31st March 2009

The additional training session will be held at:

Mt Oswald Durham 13.30 - 16.30 pm 31st March 2009

We anticipate high demand for this course, so please contact Gemma on 0191 3833274 as soon as you are able to commit to this date.

FALLS MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

AIMS

- Ensure attendees receive appropriate information in relation to local Falls Managements Programmes, Protocols and Referral Systems/Forms
- Provision of practical solutions to Falls Management.
- Gain an understanding of factors that increase the risks of falls, including environmental, physiological, psychological and lifestyle factors.

OBJECTIVES

Attendees will, through attendance of the Falls Management course, be provided with the core information and skills to ensure confident and competent decision making, action, referral and outcomes in relationship to their individual capability and local Falls Management Protocols.

Personalisation Advocacy Workshop

Durham Employers Care & Health Alliance are working in partnership with Skills for Care, our sector Skills Council, to identify current Advocacy Groups within Adult Social Care, Mental Health & Learning Disabilities and the possible challenges the Personalisation Agenda may bring.

We are intending to hold three discussion groups, the output of which will be developed into a report that will be taken forward nationally.

To ensure the best outcomes from the discussion groups and to most appropriately inform the report, we are asking organisations to identify the most suitable representative for the discussion groups.

The discussion groups will be held on the following dates:

Thursday, 12th March 2009 9.30am - 1 pm, venue to be confirmed

Wednesday, 22nd April 2009 9.30am - 1pm venue to be confirmed.

If you wish to nominate an individual from your organisation, which may be yourself, who could participate in these activities. The nominated individual should attend all two sessions if possible.

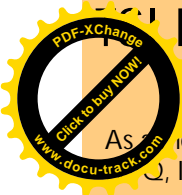
Is important for us to have the best cross-section of Advocacy Services possible so we would welcome interest from other Advocacy Groups.

National Dementia Strategy

The introduction of the National Dementia Strategy is backed by £150 million over the first two years. It aims to increase awareness of dementia, ensure early diagnosis and intervention and radically improve the quality of care that people with the condition receive. Proposals include the introduction of a dementia specialist into every general hospital and care home and for mental health teams to assess people with dementia.

The National Dementia Strategy aims to transform the quality of dementia care and make the lives of people with dementia, their carers and families better. In the development of this strategy the Department of Health held a public consultation, the details of which can be found on the DoH Social Care website. Details of the strategy can be found via the link below.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_094058



Milestone 4 Deadline

As a member of DECHA you will be able to claim back funding for any Induction or Foundation Modules successfully completed by your team, through TSI.

In order to claim TSI Funding the NMDS-SC (National Minimum Data Set- Social Care) organisational questionnaire must be completed and sent to Skills for Care in Leeds. Each DECHA Member will receive a unique NMDS-SC reference number that must be supplied before submitting any TSI claims. Please note if you already have an NMDS reference number and would like to submit a claim please ensure you have updated your organisations details with the NMDS since the 1st April 2008 otherwise your claim will not be processed. Alternatively you can register or update at www.nmds-sc-online.org.uk. If you would like any help or advise on applying for a NMDS Number please contact Jackie Eager in the DECHA team on 0191 3835582.

In order for us to carry on receiving funding from Skills for Care it is imperative that each DECHA member taking advantage of TSI Funding adheres to the milestones below to ensure that future funding is not jeopardised.

Milestone 4 is the final milestone due in by 15th March 2009 and 100% achievement is expected by this date.

If you have any queries regarding TSI please do not hesitate to contact Gemma Cook on 0191 3833274.

<http://www.decha.org.uk/article.php?aid=39>

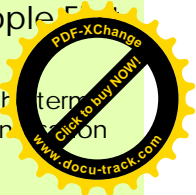
Decha are always looking for good news stories and case studies. If you would like to include an article please contact:

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Personalisation - Putting People



Many providers and staff may have heard the term "Personalisation" or reference to the "Personalisation Agenda" recently but...

What is personalisation?

Personalisation is a vision promoted by the Government since late 2007, and means thinking about public services and social care in an entirely different way; starting with the person rather than the service .

The starting point is now what the individual sees as important in their lives, and it takes into account other support that is available to them, structuring services around their priorities and being focused on the best outcomes for the individual service user.

The Government considers that "every person who receives support, whether provided by statutory services or funded by themselves, will have choice and control over the shape of that support in all care settings."

What does this mean for providers , service users and Adult and Community Services staff?

This will eventually require a change in the way that social care services are assessed and service users will have more say in their desired outcomes. There is no change in the statutory duty placed on local authorities and all care and support plans will continue to require agreement by social workers.

It may mean that providers are asked to be more flexible around their service delivery , some new services may have to be commissioned, and there may be changes in capacity.

As the payment mechanisms also change, with increased numbers of service users having access to direct payments - where they control the payments - providers will have to be prepared for a greater range of payment methods.

New contracts will have some emphasis on personalisation in them , and commissioning strategies will reflect this agenda.

What's happening in Durham?

The Government are aware that they cannot prescribe uniform systems and structures across the whole country , therefore the Council have appointed Phil Malyan as Personalisation Development Manager to work with staff, members, service users, providers and managers to ensure that the impact and effect of this agenda is fully understood in Durham.

Presentations and discussions have already taken place at many provider and service user forums but if you wish to know more or invite him to attend your group, Phil can be contacted on 0191 3835648 or by email at philip.malyan@durham.gov.uk