



7/09/10

Dear Member

**DECHA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday 13th OCTOBER 2010 1pm-5pm
DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBER
COUNTY HALL DURHAM**

This year's Annual General Meeting will have a significant focus on Personalisation and the current economic climate and how financial restraints will affect decha. We aim to deliver an informative programme reflecting current changes and developments in social care and hope you can attend and share your views with us.

The first order of business will be the election of the Board and Chairperson.

With reference to the Alliance Constitution "**The members of the Alliance Board will be elected at the annual general meeting of the Alliance by the Alliance's Employer Members, postal and electronic votes will also be accepted.**"

Using the following process "**Prior to the annual meeting volunteer Board Members will be requested to provide a statement of not more than 250 words for their case, including their organisations size and type. This will be sent out to Employer Members before the Annual Meeting. Postal votes may be accepted if received before the Annual meeting.**

The Chairperson is to be elected by the Alliance Board year on year at the meeting."

a board will be elected to empower us as an employer-led organisation.

"The Alliance will be managed by an Alliance Board who will be responsible for strategic direction, (steering the Alliance), approval, implementation and review of this document.

Authority is delegated by the Alliance Board to the Alliance Co-ordinator / Senior Development Officer, Independent and Voluntary Sector Team, for full administration, tendering of bids, and financial accountability. The Alliance Co-ordinator reports to the board and is hosted by Durham County Council for personnel requirements."

Current Board Members will not be automatically re-elected although all are welcome to re-submit their details in a statement (see included Nomination for Membership of decha Board form) unless they decide to step down.

We require a commitment from Board members to attend a minimum of 2 of the 4 meetings held each year (approx. February, May, September/October (AGM) and December)

We plan to take the opportunity to highlight the changes and developments which have occurred during the current year (2010-11) and which are ongoing and developing to support the sector. We encourage you to bring your views and suggestions to the meeting, where there will be an opportunity to share them with other members, and we welcome comments, suggestions and concerns being forwarded to us prior to the day.

We have a limited number of places available and these will be allocated on a "first past the post" system, any applications to attend which are received after we reach maximum capacity will be placed on a reserve list.

In order to register to attend, please complete and return the enclosed Registration Form to me. In addition, we also enclose Instruction Papers and a Nomination Form for Board membership, and we urge you to consider nominating someone for appointment to the Alliance Board, you may wish to self nominate and this is totally acceptable. Please return Nomination Forms together with your Registration Form. Any person nominated, or self nominating, is expected to attend the AGM when the election process takes place. (N.B. Any person who wishes to be nominated who has prior commitments should contact me on the telephone number below.)

Registration to attend and/or Nomination Forms should be returned by **Thursday 30th September 2010.**

Should you have any items you wish to raise at the A.G.M. please forward them to me, in writing, by **Thursday 30th September 2010.**

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Jackie Eager
Decha Assistant Development Officer
Learning & Development
Adults, Wellbeing & Health
County Hall
Durham
DH1 5UG

Tel: 0191 3835582

email: jacqueline.eager@durham.org.uk