

## Strategy for the Management of Health and Social Care Associated Infection in the North-East of England — Consultation

This work has followed on from the production of the very well received Medicines Management Strategy in 2007.

It is hoped that this strategy will be published in the Spring and will facilitate real improvements in the control of health and social care associated infection in the North-East of England.

You will see that on page 3 there is a list of the wide range of organisations, including decha, that have been working together to develop this strategy to the point where it is ready to send out across North-East England to gather the fullest possible range of comments.

We will take account of these comments before we send the final draft to the typesetters.

Decha would therefore be very grateful if you would take the time to look at this strategy and let us have your comments.

The document can be found and

downloaded on Decha's website:

[www.decha.org.uk](http://www.decha.org.uk)

You are most welcome to use the "track changes" facility in word to record suggested changes or alternatively just email comments.

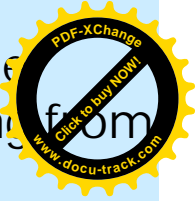
Please note however we are asking for comments on the content and not the layout.

This is a word version and once we have the final text we will send it to a design company to ensure the final product is easy to access and navigate around.

Skills for Health have agreed to provide a dedicated email address to receive comment and decha would be grateful if they could be sent to:

[NEconsultation@skillsforhealth.org.uk](mailto:NEconsultation@skillsforhealth.org.uk)

By Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2009



## Two Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards awareness

Two Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS) awareness days to be held on 29th Jan at Durham County Cricket club, Chester le Street and 19th February at Spennymoor Leadership centre 9.30 to 4.00, both days.

Presentations on DOLS, led by Pat Stewart of CSIP. Residential and Domiciliary care need to know this because of new legal duties to come into effect on 1st April 2009.

The days consist of presentations and workshops and we need one person from each organisation to attend, preferably a registered manager.

There is no charge for these days and refreshments and lunch will be provided.

To register for one of these days please contact:

John McGillivray at  
Planning and Policy  
room 2-108  
Adult and Community Services  
County Hall  
Durham  
DH1 5UG

or [john.mcgillivray@durham.gov.uk](mailto:john.mcgillivray@durham.gov.uk)

or call John on 0191 3834460



## FREE Distance Learning from Bishop Auckland

Please be aware that for a limited time only, Bishop Auckland College are offering selected Distance Learning Courses for FREE!!

The free courses include:

- Dementia
- Infection Control
- Safe Handling of Medication
- Palliative Care
- Nutrition
- Equality & Diversity

Please contact the DISTANCE LEARNING DEVELOPMENT TEAM on 01325 379 606 to book places.

Skills for Care Induction Workbooks – Workbooks and supporting information are available for decha members. On completion please don't forget to claim from the TSI fund for £70 per unit. To request a booklet please contact decha on 0191 383 3274.

## Inspire Conference

Skills for Care North East is bringing together those who influence people considering careers in social care, or preparing for and learning about the sector.

"inspire\*" is a one-day conference that will give you:

- Information about the latest developments and thinking.
- The chance to explore the challenges faced by the sector.
- Enhanced skills and confidence when providing information and advice.

TUESDAY 10TH MARCH 2009  
THE WYNYARD ROOMS

Experts will be on hand to offer information and to stimulate debate.

Delegates will have the opportunity to engage directly with a range of care ambassadors involved in the sector: employees, support staff, managers, employers, carers and those using care services.

Places are limited so please register your interest with us, contact details are shown below. We will then keep you updated with information regarding venue, key speakers and workshops.

Contact: 01642 345681  
E-mail: [northeast@skillsforcare.org.uk](mailto:northeast@skillsforcare.org.uk)

connections



## Personalisation Advocacy Workshops

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, 5th February 2009 9.30am - 1pm at Durham Cricket Club, Chester-le-Street

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 three sessions if possible.

It is important for us to have the best cross-section of Advocacy Groups possible so we would welcome interest from other Advocacy Groups in the County.

## Decha 2009 Roadshow

The decha team wants to ensure the Alliance is an essential part of its membership and aims to provide the members with both the essential and the desirable skills to help maintain the high standards of care being delivered across the County. We want our members to achieve greater than the minimum qualification requirements and are working diligently to ensure the mechanisms are in place to support this.

To underpin this aim we continue to promote registration and updating of nmds-sc data in order to aid us in identifying the areas of training our funding should target. In addition, we want to ensure all of our members are eligible for TSI funding to support them in achieving NVQ qualifications.

If your organisation requires any assistance in either registering or updating your nmds-sc data, or have not yet submitted your full employee details, we will be happy to arrange a visit to your workplace to provide assistance.

Jackie & Gemma are currently organising a series of visits to member organisations to assist with nmds-sc registration, ensure members are fully aware of the training opportunities available through decha and on-site demonstrations to introduce members to the wide range of e-Learning opportunities.

Additionally, if you or your staff are interested in discovering how to use vocational qualifications as a stepping stone to Further or Higher Education programmes, Angeline McSherry from the North East Higher Skills Network (NEHSN) will be happy to come along to explain how this can be done and how flexible FE and HE can be.

If you are interested in our Roadshow coming to your organisation please contact Gemma Cook by ringing 0191 3833274 or email [gemma.cook@durham.gov.uk](mailto:gemma.cook@durham.gov.uk) to book a visit. N.B. Angeline is only available until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009,

P.S, For information about decha, training, funding and events available to our members why don't you visit our FAB new website, which can still be found at [www.decha.org.uk](http://www.decha.org.uk). If you have information about events, examples of Best Practice or interesting Care related articles which you would like to be considered for inclusion in the Newsletter or website, please contact us with the information.

# Milestone 3 Deadline



As a member of DECHA you will be able to claim back funding for any NVQ, 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](http://www.nmds-sc-online.org.uk). If you would like any help or advice 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 3 is due by the end of January and 65% achievement is expected by this date.

Milestone 4 is the final milestone due in by the end of March and 100% achievement is expected by this date.

As you can see the third milestone date is for the end January and as we have not yet reached our target it is vital that you forward any claims you may have or wish to register in to us as soon as possible.

If you have any queries regarding TSI please do not hesitate to contact me on 0191 3836406.

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

Craig Rowbotham  
Decha  
c/o Learning and Development  
Adult and Community Services  
Durham County Council  
County Hall  
Durham  
DH1 5UG

Tel: 0191 3835539

Email: [craig.rowbotham@durham.gov.uk](mailto:craig.rowbotham@durham.gov.uk)



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](mailto:philip.malyan@durham.gov.uk)