

## Devon Small Scale Provider Forum Meeting

Date:- 06.08.08

Time:- 10.00

Venue:- Step By Step, Dawlish

Those attending:-

Wendy Mason...chair

Linda Williams

Ian Greenaway

Jan Navran

Gary Bowld

Penny Wilkinson

Bridie Caldwell

Mike Armstrong

Guest Speaker...Ian Lancaster...Brokerage team DCC

The minutes of the last meeting were read and agreed.

Matters arising:-

It was suggested that the matter of enabling contracts be discussed at the next meeting as a representative from Teignbridge Social Services will be present.

The chair person began by welcoming Ian Lancaster who gave a presentation explaining Brokerage and Electronic monitoring. [As Ian is unable to email this huge attachment I have asked for a hard copy which I'll photocopy before the next meeting]

Mr Lancaster said that the brokerage system had had some teething troubles but that there are now nine full time personal brokers in Devon so the feedback should improve.

Providers can register with the system at any time and it will be the sole source of new Service User contracts. *This applies currently to Domiciliary Care and some Enabling.*

Brokerage has tried to be collaborative and provide better choices for Service Users.

If a Service User asked for a particular provider who was not registered, brokerage would approach that provider to register. If, however, the provider refused to register they could not get the contract.

Mr Lancaster then moved on to Electronic Monitoring of care workers. Initially this would be only for Domiciliary Care and some Enabling. There will be a decision by the end of this year on the provider of the equipment.

The meeting expressed concerns about the de-personalisation of support and awaits 'with bated breath' the introduction of monitoring.

The issue of Individual Funding was discussed. Those present expressed great concern over the potential for this to go horribly wrong. A Service User could, in theory, buy their support from an unsuitable person and there may be no police checks or knowledge of employment regulations. This could put vulnerable persons at huge risk.

*Please see copies at the next meeting for full presentation of Brokerage and Electronic Monitoring.*

The chairperson thanked Mr Lancaster for coming and looked forward to meeting him again.

The meeting closed at 12.05.

Next meeting.... Alison Meeke from Teignbridge Social Services has agreed to attend our meeting on **13<sup>th</sup> October at 10 a.m. at Step By Step, Dawlish.**

We plan to ask her about the discrepancies in Social Service 'take up' around the county/the lack of understanding by Social Services of the Supporting People criteria/enabling contracts and the amount of unpaid work done by providers.

If you have any further questions for her please email [linwooldridge@btinternet.com](mailto:linwooldridge@btinternet.com) and please try to attend the meeting. [Also, if you have any items which you would like to add to agendas at any meeting]