



Finance Workshop

19th March 2010

North Devon Deaf Children's Society, Charles Dart
Crescent, Barnstaple.

In 2009, a decision was taken by the Sign Vision steering group to hold road show events based on subjects identified by the Deaf community across Devon.

Traditionally, these events had been one day conference style gatherings, held in Exeter. Due to financial considerations, geographical accessibility and a need to cover specific topics in more detail, three locations were identified and dates close to March 2010 (Deaf Heritage Month in Devon) were selected. These were Exeter (Keeping Safe), Tiverton (Health) and Barnstaple (Finance).

With assistance from John Ross at North Devon Deaf Children's Society (NDDCS), a workshop on Finance was held in Barnstaple from 4pm until 8pm on the 19th of March 2010. This was attended by 13 people from the Deaf community.

Vince Willson from the Devon Welfare Rights Unit attended and spoke about the 'Quids for Special Kids' project which aims to help families with children access the full range of benefits to which they are entitled.

Steve Opie and Amanda Daley from South West Pound provided information about the services their organisation can provide and gave assurances that they would work more closely with the Deaf community in North Devon where requested.

All representatives agreed that their organisation should be aware of the challenges facing Deaf people and work to ensure that every effort is taken to make the services they provide and the people who provide them as accessible & Deaf aware as possible.

Whilst the numbers of attendees was slightly disappointing, the potential outcomes from the session were encouraging.

Debbie Williams
Officer for the Community & Voluntary Sector
Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service

Benefit Information

Good	5	OK/Unsure	1	Poor	1
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South West Pound

Good	7	OK/Unsure	1	Poor	0
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(NB – where responses have been noted as ‘Poor’, this was because the respondent missed the presentations completely – perhaps a ‘not able to answer’ section in future?).

If you would like to be informed about future events, please write your preferred contact details here

Deaf Club, Poster.

5 x email addresses

What would you like at other events?

Health, Doctor.

Help (support) to make our services accessible to all (presenting Agency).

Any topics or issues of the day i.e. election. Any changes of topics which would benefit hard of hearing people & keeping up with updated information.

More people!

To learn how we can help improve our communication to the deaf (presenting Agency).

Disability Living Allowance, to have comprehensive information translated into full BSL or provided in plain simple English.

Any other comments?

Nice to know that there is help available for deaf people (benefits, finance).

Very worthwhile event & I learned a great deal (presenting Agency).

Very interesting workshop. Can you arrange any more workshops please?

Very educational for me. Thank you (presenting Agency).

I know that there are more deaf people out there and it's difficult to reach them about the services. An idea is to advertise at Audiology departments.

As I have been saying this evening, the South West must now move forward in the access to information for Deaf people.