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December 2009 Issue

Welcome to LWDP's e news

Welcome to the latest edition of our monthly news. In here you will find news from LWDP and information you may find useful from across the sector.

NEWS HEADLINES

Christmas Message

This Christmas the LWDP will not be sending Christmas cards and gifts. Instead we are making a donation to Bookworms & Chatterboxes, an Oxfam supported initiative for teaching Teachers. We wish all our colleagues and stakeholders a happy and healthy New Year.

Please note that the LWDP offices will be closed for the festive period from lunchtime on Thursday 24th December 2009 and will re-open on Monday 4th January 2010.

Dymph Knowles, CEO

Recruitment and Retention Strategy

The recruitment and retention strategy to support the independent Social Care sectors across Lancashire has been approved by the LWDP Board, identifying 8 key strategic aims that will be worked towards over the next 18 months.

Do you want to join the Development Working Party?

As registered Care Providers you are invited to develop and steer these aims by joining the "Development Working Party". Once formed, this working party will meet bi-monthly with the first focus on the following three topics:

- Topic 1 – Development of HR Toolkit to aid recruitment
- Topic 2 – Promoting Social Care career pathways
- Topic 3 – Staff retention

For further information or to request a registration form contact natashafurnell@lwdp.org.uk or telephone 01772 761855.

Advertise your vacancies FREE – Situations Vacant

The LWDP “Situations Vacant” page is a great opportunity to advertise your vacancy for free. We are also looking to produce this information as a newsletter for registered job seekers. To advertise your vacancies, please follow the link below, then select the “Add a vacancy” option.

<http://www.lwdp.org.uk/JobVacancies.aspx>

EURES – The European Job Mobility Portal

The EURES website provides information, advice and a job matching service. It also has more than 700 advisers that are able to assist jobseekers and employers across Europe. EURES is a great, free opportunity to list job vacancies that can be accessed from 31 European countries. Employers can also receive CV’s from interested candidates.

The EURES website also has current up to date information about working in the UK and employing staff from outside the UK. This and much more is available through the EURES network.

It is free to join and takes approximately ten minutes to register by following this link:

<http://ec.europa.eu/eures/home.jsp?lang=en>

Employing Staff from Overseas

If you would be interested in further information about employing staff from overseas, LWDP may provide a one day training event should there be sufficient demand. To register your interest, please contact clairewardle@lwdp.org.uk or telephone 01772 761855 ref: **Overseas Employment**.

Help raise the profile of Social Care

At LWDP we are constantly looking to see how we can help raise the profile of careers in Social Care. As part of this we are looking to engage with employees currently working in Social Care, along with service users and their families to share stories about why Social Care workers have made people’s lives better. Individual stories could possibly be used as case studies at future LWDP events.

If you have a story you would like to share which illustrates a “life changing” experience or know of someone who might like to share their positive experience of Social Care, please email your contact details to natashafurnell@lwdp.org.uk

National Minimum Data Set – Social Care

Free Workshop on 12th January 2010

LWDP and Skills for Care are jointly hosting a NMDS – SC workshop on the 12th January 2010 at Marian House to help you understand NMDS – SC and show you how to complete your NMDS – SC through LancashirePlan. For more details follow this link:

<http://www.lwdp.org.uk/LWDPNews.aspx>

E Learning

We will be launching our first full E Learning package on Dignity in Care early in January 2010. For more details follow this link:

<http://www.lwdp.org.uk/LWDPNews.aspx>

Investors in People

Is your organisation IIP Recognised?

There are still places available for Care Providers to gain the Investors In People standard. LWDP is working with the Centre for Assessment and Recognition to offer LWDP Care Providers the opportunity to gain the Investors In People accreditation. This modular programme will be substantially subsidised to support up to 30 Social Care employers. The programme will start in the spring of 2010 and run until the spring of 2011, at which point participating organisations will be expected to have achieved recognition against the Standard. Although substantial funding will support the launch day and workshops, organisations will contribute on a pro-rata percentage towards final assessment.

We are holding an information session on 1st February 2010 where you can come along and get further details on the IIP programme. To register your attendance for this, please email katieburgess@lwdp.org.uk or clairewardle@lwdp.org.uk or telephone them on 01772 761855.

Please note: as limited places are available, they will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

HR Services

Last Chance to Attend Running Effective Meetings and Interviewing Skills Training

There are still places available to attend the Running Effective Meetings Training on 14th January 2010 and Interviewing Skills Training on 27th January 2010. The venue

is Marian House, Beech Grove, Preston and the cost is £50 per delegate per day. Joining instructions will be sent in advance. Please contact clairewardle@lwdp.org.uk or telephone 01772 761855 for more information.

Follow the links to see the course outlines and booking forms.

<http://www.lwdp.org.uk/LWDPNews.aspx>

Training Advisory Group

Further to the Training Advisory Group meeting on the 16th November 2009, the following recommendations have been agreed by the LWDP Board:

- Until the end of the financial year organisations can access additional PTLLS/CTLLS places as there is funding available.
- Autism awareness training can be funded as a one day short course.

Stakeholder Event

Further to the Stakeholder Event held in September 2009, the follow up event has been scheduled for the morning of 18th March 2010. More details will follow nearer the time. To see the feedback report from the 23rd September, follow this link:

<http://www.lwdp.org.uk/LWDPEvents.aspx>

Information Day

The next Information Day to be held at Marian House will be 4th March 2010. More details for this will follow but please put the date in your diaries.

SECTOR NEWS

Care First Careers - Entry to Social Care

Care First Careers is a joint Department of Health and Department of Work and Pensions recruitment scheme offering £1,500 to every employer who takes on unemployed 18 – 24 year olds between now and the end of December.

www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk/carefirstcareers

Skills for Care is supporting the pilots of Care First Careers by working in partnership with Job Centre Plus and the Department of Health. They are preparing for the national roll out and ensuring that all employers across their networks have a good understanding of Care First Careers. They are also working very closely with Job Centre Plus to make sure that front line advisors have an understanding of what it is like to work in adult Social Care using their recruitment and retention materials.

http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/entry_to_social_care/entry_to_social_care.aspx

Changes to Direct Payments

From the 9th November, the direct payments scheme will be extended to people who lack the capacity to consent and to people with mental health problems who are subject to mental health and certain criminal justice legislation. The Department of Health has updated its guidance for councils and users to reflect the changes, and has produced a short leaflet explaining them.

[Download the leaflet and guidance](#)

Skills for Care have worked in partnership with micro employers to produce a guide to support people who employ their own workers in relation to HR practices. Some positive feedback has been received about this product and the HR guide for SME businesses. These can be found at:

http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/entry_to_social_care/recruitment/PAtoolkit.aspx

“Get Connected Project” for Adult Social Care

The Get Connected Project is a capital grant scheme for the registered providers of adult Social Care in England supporting personalisation. The Social Care Institute for Excellence is providing grants to assist the registered Care Providers with their information, communications and technology. They will focus on providers who do not have good access to the internet.

The initiative is to allow those who use, visit or work in adult Social Care services to benefit from the learning, knowledge and access that the internet can bring. This will support adult Social Care Providers who need to register with the Care Quality Commission by 1st October 2010. To register, providers will need to complete an online registration form.

[SCIE](#)

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

We hope that you have found this issue of E news useful and informative. Any suggestions and comments on what you would like to see in future issues would be welcomed so please contact us with your thoughts. Please email info@lwdp.org.uk with any comments.

Lancashire Workforce Development Partnership is a Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England and Wales No:6166930 and controlled by Lancashire County Council within the meaning of Part V of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The Company's trading address is Marian House, Beech Grove, Preston, PR2 1DU and the Registered office is Christ Church Precinct, County Hall, Preston, Lancashire PR1 8XJ.