

## Bulletin: March 2010

### Key highlights from previous month

We are currently working on the programme plan for 2010 which will set out our Workplan for the coming year. A guide to this will be available in April. Our nine key priorities for 2010 – 2011 are:

- 1. Implement the Personal Assessment:** collating data from the virtual team pilot to implement the personal assessment from May 2010
- 2. Work in partnership to implement finance systems:** working with colleagues in finance to continue further testing for the Resource Allocation System so that we can roll out personal budgets, when we also implement our personal assessment
- 3. Implement our Workforce Model:** following from the consultation in September/October establish a steering group chaired by Margaret Barrett to move forward to a new way of working, including support planning.
- 4. Ensure users and carers are our care partners:** continue our work with peer mentoring project, the change management group and partnership with the involvement forum
- 5. Develop a service brokerage framework:** a specific project working to agree and implement a framework for Gateshead
- 6. Ensure access to universal services:** lead by Paul Gertig, a project to help us understand and have better access to services for all
- 7. Agree our prevention and early intervention approach:** working with the council re-ablement scheme, Telecare strategy and other key partners to agree our strategy
- 8. Work in partnership with commissioning:** following on from our partnership with mapping the market, to develop the commissioning for personalisation workstream
- 9. Ensure effective business change:** work closely with service and team managers as well as people who use services to embed self directed support.

### Focus areas for next month

An event to discuss the findings of the Mapping the Market project which will also launch our new commissioning for personalisation workstream, will be on 24<sup>th</sup> March in the afternoon. For an invitation please contact Claire Bainbridge.

The conference for Adult Social Care assessment teams will be on 15<sup>th</sup> March. In the afternoon session Margaret Barrett and our workforce team will present and further develop the future vision for the adult social care assessment teams.

We will be working with the CareFirst team and service managers to collate the information from the virtual team pilot and use this to review and revise the assessment forms. A small group of staff from our assessment teams will meet on 26<sup>th</sup> March with the CareFirst team and the personalisation team to develop these. If you would like to join this group contact Penny Gray. A workshop for Universal Services is on 17<sup>th</sup> March at MPH at Pelaw: this will map services, identify priorities and form working groups. For more information or to attend the event contact Paul Gertig on 0191 433 2143.

### Communications

The Gateshead matrix on 'personal budgets – your choice' has been revised. Copies are available from Claire Bainbridge or from the SharePoint site. The matrix sets out the options for people for their personal budgets – from commissioned services to using their personal budget as a direct payment as well as representative payments for people who lack capacity.

Remember fact sheets are available on the council website for people who wish to employ their own personal assistants: go to [www.gateshead.gov.uk](http://www.gateshead.gov.uk)