

**Alison Chalmers
Development Worker
Project Update
June 2011**

Young People and De-Stigmatising Mental Health

We ran 2 learning workshops and spent a day filming with drama worker and film maker and 6 young carers. Film being edited at present.

Planning Oscars night in June/July with participants and Carers Centre staff.

I took part in a telephone interview by the National Children's Bureau as part of their research into good examples of engaging children and young people in the work of LINKs (hats off to Hannah and Amy!)

Enter and View

2 Interviews for Enter and View volunteers have taken place with 2 more after this meeting. Training to begin as soon as practically possible.

Feedback from the original group and North Tyneside Council is that things are working well. The volunteers have been impressed by what they have seen and the comments from clients and carers whilst the council are pleased with the work so far.

The group are now looking at the poorer homes in North Tyneside.

Personalisation

At the last meeting Haley updated the group about the Resource Allocation System and assessment, Keith Metcalf shared some of his initial findings about the quality of information and A4E discussed information provision for differing client groups.

A4E shared with the group an event organised at the Shiremoor Centre on 28 July 2011 (12:30-3:30) for everyone interested in personalisation. Keith Metcalfe will be sharing his LINK

commissioned report and a personal budget user will talk on about managing a budget.

User and Carer Experiences of Home Care Project

This new project was going to look at user and carer experiences of Home Care. Links made with member organisations; Carers Centre, Learning Disabilities Federations, Parkinson's UK and Age UK. However, following a meeting with Sheila Watson we are looking at delaying the project to now begin at the end of the year so as any recommendations can support the retendering process in April 2012.

Engagement and Recruitment

We are actively seeking involvement from members to support the work of LINK through networks and feeding back any issues and concerns as well as recruiting new members.

Training

I attended Abuse and Neglect in NHS information/training – very interesting but no answers!

Attended training on Recruitment and Retention of Volunteers