

Name of Project:

Total Communication

Name and contact details of person leading the project:

Claire Bartlett, Lead Speech and Language Therapist

Karen Kingsland, Project and Development Officer

Which Partnership Board Sub Group is leading this area of work?

Person Centred Approaches

How much LDDF money does your project want in 2009-2010?

Option 1 - £10737.60

Option 2 - £9872.40

What is the budget (how will you spend the money) for the project and is any other money also going to be used for this project?

Event organiser

Option 1 - 0.4 Scale 5 post for 12 months: £7737.60 (preferred option)

Option 2 - 0.2 Scale 5 post for 3 months, 0.4 for 9 months: £6872.40

Equipment £1000

Resources £1000

Publicity £500

Catering £500

Tell us about the Project, how it will work, what it will do, who will do it and things like that:

“The Government expects organisations working with disabled people to develop communication policies. For those with severe disabilities this may require individual communication techniques” (Valuing People).

People with a LD and their carers, and all national and local drivers describe overcoming communication barriers as essential to enabling people with a LD to lead the lives they want to lead. Getting communication right is fundamental to maximising independence, self directed support, accessing quality primary and secondary healthcare, maximising educational and work opportunities and enabling people to understand their rights and options. Without promoting total communication approaches the vast majority of people with a LD will be unable to maximise their potential and continue to be marginalised.

Services often don't have access to resources and knowledge needed to ensure people are able to communicate effectively.

People rely on Speech and Language Therapists to help put in place strategies and tools that should be available to people as a matter of course.

Many services for people with a LD are not aware of Total Communication (TC) and the importance of creating TC environments.

Everyone has the right to be able to communicate their thoughts and feelings.

The TC Event

This event will launch TC within Brighton and Hove.

It will be aimed at all people with a LD and anyone who provides a service for people with a LD, including the wider community.

It will include:

Stalls and displays with information to take away on the day or resources people could use and buy.

Networking- asking people to bring or show examples of good practice

Workshops about things like Graphic Facilitation, Intensive Interaction and training for staff.

Perhaps we could web-cam the day.

We will need to employ an event organiser. Information from our colleagues in East Sussex who have launched TC suggest a 0.4 scale 5 post.

This person could also take responsibility for promoting TC in general and further development of the project to include future funding possibilities. The post holder would receive supervision and guidance from Speech and Language Therapy.

Post-event, the organiser would be involved in giving feedback to services, presenting on the event to commissioners and helping to ensure that TC is embedded. In addition to this, they would explore ways to develop TC in the wider community, for example setting up core standards for TC within establishments that provide care for people with LD.

What outcomes, targets or goals would your project achieve?

People will be more aware of the communication needs of people they are working with.

People will be able to employ communication tools and strategies in their environment.

To create opportunities for providers and services to network and share ideas and resources.

To develop core standards around TC for all establishments who provide care for people with LD.

Is there anything else you want us to know?