



Warrington LINK

Mental Health

Support Services for Returning to Work, Training or Volunteering

The Mental Health LINK Sub Group was established in January 2009. The Sub Group worked on issues and concerns regarding support and services available to people with a variety of mental health problems in returning to work, training or volunteering.

What Were the Aims?

The main aims were to map/ scope what services are available to mental health service users in supporting them to return to work, or into training or volunteering and to hold a 'Dispelling the Myth' event to employers.

What Has Been Achieved

The LINK facilitated a 2 month long pilot of the referrals of the 3 main organisations who offer support to review what information/ services are being requested. A suitable mapping which gives people a consistent message was then produced. A service user leaflet is also

being produced.

Working with Warrington Disability Partnership, an employer's event was organised during Disability Awareness Week, to focus upon 'Dispelling the Myths'.

In addition the LINK is now involved in The 'Time to Change' Campaign, this is England's most ambitious programme to end discrimination faced by people who experience mental health problems. Campaign material was disseminated to various groups and community centres

The LINK is now also involved in a range of different groups to promote Mental Health and to partnership work with both the voluntary and statutory sector.

The Mental Health Mapping and a full report on the work of the sub group is available.

What is the Warrington Local Involvement Network?

Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) have been set up throughout England as a way of helping people to influence health and social care services.

The LINKs main job will be to:

- Find out what people want
- Investigate issues that people raise
- Brings groups and individuals

together to look at issues

- Use their powers to hold services to account

The LINK need to hear your views and experiences of health and social care, so tell us your concerns, what you think works well or not so well and what gaps in services there are, so the LINK can help improve services.

Useful Contact Numbers for Support Services on Returning to Work, Training or Volunteering

- 5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Trust Service User and Carer Involvement Scheme—contact Dennis Dewar 01925 664000
- Warrington Disability Partnership Employment Team 01925 240064
- Richmond Fellowship contact Karen Henry on 10925 571998
- Job Centre Plus contact Andrea Wilson on 01925 785440
- Warrington Mental Health Forum contact Kerry Love on

If you would like more information on the work of the sub group, the mental health mapping or the full report on all the work please contact the LINK office at the address below. If you would like to get involved in future LINK work or to become a member again please contact the LINK office.

Warrington LINK
the GATEWAY, 89 Sankey Street, Warrington,
WA1 1SR
Telephone: 01925 246892/ 3
Email: warringtonlink@blackhealthagency.org.uk
www.warringtonlink.org.uk