



# North West Employment Conference

**27th February 2009**

## Employment

### What can help and what is available

**10.00am - 4.00pm**

**Venue:** Harris Park Conference Centre, 253 Garstang Rd, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs, PR2 9XB

**Facilitators include:** Cabinet Office, Anne Williams - National Director for Learning Disability, Lorraine Gradwell - Breakthrough UK, Deborah Parker - Progress Recruitment, Jacqueline Marsh - Job Centre Plus, Jason Rhodes.

Valuing people now, from progress to transformation, set an agenda for people with learning disabilities across a range of issues, including employment. It builds on the vision set out in valuing people (2001) which was the first white paper in people with learning disabilities in 30 years a vision based on the four main principles of rights, independence, choice and inclusion and sets out "Big priorities" to be delivered over the years 2008 - 2011.

What people do during the day, insuring inclusion with a particular focus on paid work being one of them. Valuing people aims are that people have good lives doing the things they want to do. It says people should have the chance to get a job.

It is a commonly held belief that to achieve we first need to believe it is possible. For many people with a learning disability an additional barrier to getting into work is the acute lack of positive affirmation. Together we must challenge this wholly unacceptable debilitating practice starting with those professionals who are charged with serving people with learning disabilities.

Since Valuing People came out a few more people have been getting paid work but there are many people still in day centres who cannot get a paid job.

The next steps are to make sure that we make this a priority in supporting into paid employment.



The government are looking at the way that job centres support people with learning disabilities to get a job.

The North West regional forum of people with a learning disability identified that one of their three big issues was employment "give us a job and pay us the same". Insufficient progress has been made, and one of the biggest barriers to employment is often around the inflexibility of earnings.

This conference aims to discuss and look at some of the issues and hopefully support the government to identify some of the issues. What has the government done to help support people into employment and what have the public sector done to remove barriers that have been identified to make real change happen.

The social exclusions taskforce from the cabinet office will be presenting some of their work along side a representative from the DWP.

**Cost: FREE Subscribers / £75 +VAT non-subscribers**

**Working towards better futures for people**



# Booking Form

Please reserve me a place at the 'Employment, what can help and what is available' event being held on 27th February 2009 at Harris Park Conference Centre.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of places required: \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment

I enclose a cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_  
made payable to Voice Marketing

Please invoice  
the address below

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Invoice Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_ Order No: \_\_\_\_\_

Closing date for applications to this event is Friday 20th February 2009. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

If your application has been successful - you will receive a confirmation letter along with a map. Please bring this with you when booking in on 27th February 2009

**Please return booking form to:**

**Catherine Titherington**  
**NWTD, c/o Voice Marketing, 60 Westhead Road,**  
**Croston, PR26 9RS**  
**Tel: 07828 395175**  
**Email: [events@nwtdt.com](mailto:events@nwtdt.com)**

Cancellations made less than 2 weeks prior to any event will be charged at the full rate. We reserve the right to charge £50 + VAT for any Free event where cancellations are not confirmed in advance. All bookings will be confirmed via email together with directions and start times.



# North West Employment Conference

**27th February 2009**

**Employment**

**What can help and what is available**

**Venue:** Harris Park Conference Centre, 253 Garstang Rd, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs, PR2 9XB

## AGENDA

9.30am - 10.00am

**Coffee / Tea**

10.00am - 10.15am

**Welcome**

Lorraine Gradwell MBE

What's working and what's not working within your organisation about developing person centred plans that make a difference to people?

10.15am - 10.30am

**PSA Targets - how is the Government helping**

Cabinet Office

10.30am - 10.45am

**DWP - Benefits trap**

What are we doing to help address the barriers

10.45am - 11.00am

**ADASS - What are we doing to help?**

Anne Williams

11.00am - 11.15am

**Job Centre Plus**

Our role explained

11.15am - 11.30am

**Valued in public - talk into practise**

Deborah Parker

11.30am - 11.45am

**Doing it like Jason**

Jason Rhodes

11.45am - 12.30pm

**Question time to panel**

12.30pm - 1.30pm

**Lunch**

1.30pm - 2.30pm

**Workshops**

Choose one option from the following - understanding benefits, public sector jobs, supporting employment, doing it like Jason, personalisation and jobs.

2.30pm - 2.45pm

**Break**

2.45pm - 3.45pm

**Workshops**

Choose one option from the following - understanding benefits, public sector jobs, supporting employment, doing it like Jason, personalisation and jobs.

3.45pm - 4.00pm

**Key messages - feedback from workshops (facilitators)**

4.00pm

**Thanks to visitors, sum up and close**

Lorraine Gradwell MBE

**Working towards better futures for people**