

Making it Happen! Communicating and Working with Commissioners of Health and Social Care

You are invited to attend a one day seminar to be held:

Tuesday 24th March 2009
at Neurosupport, Norton Street Liverpool L3 8LR.

The event has been jointly organised by the Merseyside and Cheshire Neurological Alliance and the Long-Term Conditions Team (LTC) Delivery Support Team.

The facilitator for the day will be Nick Welch who is a former assistant director responsible for commissioning in Oxfordshire with extensive experience of commissioning and of formal partnership and joint working with commissioners.

The overall objectives of the day and of a follow up meeting will be to assist voluntary organisations working with people with neurological conditions to:

- Be familiar and comfortable with commissioning concepts and commissioning language.
- Understand the commissioning decision-making processes and timetable.
- Understand the scope and range of commissioning strategies from high level statements of direction and aims, to a basis for annual business plans.
- Be able to identify key arrangements for commissioners' decision-making and the timing of and opportunities for exerting influence.
- Have a better understanding of formal partnership arrangements through Health Act 1999 flexibilities (pooled budgets joint and lead commissioning and integrated services).
- Help stakeholders find out and understand how commissioners operate in their area(s).
- Be clear about what the "plus" or specific requirements are for neurological services – the particular requirements for people with neurological disorders for their needs to be properly met.

The outline programme for the day is:

9.00	Arrival, coffee, tea etc
9.30	Introduction. Background to the workshop, objectives and outcomes.
9.45	Developments in social and health care policy.
10.30	Understanding Commissioning: definitions, scope and purpose; the commissioning cycle; key concepts and words.
11.00	Tea, coffee, biscuits.
11.15	Understanding commissioning: continued work on the 4 stages of Analyse, Plan, Do and Deliver, and Monitor and Review. The commissioning decision-making timetable for social services and PCTs. Political and Board level decision-making.
12.30	Review of the morning: key points, and areas for clarification.
12.45	Lunch
1.30	What makes for a good commissioning document – what to expect and what to ask for.
2.15	Influencing commissioning: strategies and approaches.
3.15	Specific requirements for Neurological Services. Focus on the 'Plan' and 'Do and Deliver' components of the commissioning cycle, identifying the specific requirements of neurological services, influencing planning, and delivery.
4.00	Review of the afternoon: key points and outstanding issues.
4.10	Taking the work forward: arrangements for the next stage.
4.30	Close and depart.

If you would like to attend the day, please can you email maureen@neurosupport.org.uk

Please can you provide details of the organisation you are representing and any dietary needs or access needs that you might have.

Places are limited so prompt application is necessary.