

The Learning Exchange Network (LEN) in Wiltshire and Swindon

Information about the LEN

The LEN is an initiative developed by Skills for Care South West and is a network of managers and owners of care services for Adults in the South West. Its aim is to support care providers in improving service provision and delivery through improving the learning and development opportunities of their staff. This is to improve the quality of service and care for service users.

Wiltshire & Swindon Care Skills Partnership has been involved in this process for the last eighteen months. This network aims to bring providers together bi-monthly to address

- continuing professional development
- increase skills and knowledge in workforce development
- provide access to information regarding latest news and developments
- training, legal and policy updates, funding, learning and development opportunities

Those attending the meetings have taken part in creating the plans for the future. Over the last 18 months, we have experienced many subjects with many guest speakers. The lunch time is a fantastic opportunity to talk about current issues, the meeting topic or to catch up. Our afternoon sessions are equally important as they enable us to catch up on policy, development, training and latest news from the Partnership, Skills for Care and governing bodies etc.

About the meetings

The meeting starts at 9.30am (arrival between 9.00am and 9.20am to enjoy refreshments). We usually finish for about 3.00pm – but feedback is demonstrating that we need to extend the day to accommodate more in-depth learning and networking opportunities for selected subjects.

The places are free, but are now limited in number to fifty for health and safety reasons. Attendance by confirmed booking means that a place is secured. It is important, that if you do book, you attend all day.

You need to let us know if you need to cancel, as early as possible; venues, and guest speakers can become a costly expense in a climate where we have smaller budgets. If you do not cancel your place two working days before, the Partnership will reserve the right to charge you £30 for non-attendance. We accept emergencies happen of course.

We want you to enjoy yourself and benefit from the experience the LEN meetings provide – please do feel that you are welcome to attend, participate or just learn.

The membership agreed that from Feb 2010 all members would be bringing our own lunches – this will help with supporting the reduction in the budgets and means we can use the funds towards guest speakers. We really appreciate your continued support.

As the club can become cold at times, it is advisable to bring a jumper / coat. We do use their seating, which can be a little hard – do feel free to bring a cushion if you would like.

Date	Topic	Venue
23 rd March 2011	CQC Outcomes – looking at your organisation Partnership and Skills for Care updates	Devizes Sports Club
18 th May 2011	Refreshed Common Induction Standards – how they work, what needs to be done and how they fit into the CQC Partnership and Skills for Care updates	Devizes Sports Club
20th July 2011	Workforce Development – developing the people in your organisation to improve the way you deliver your services and activities Partnership and Skills for Care updates	Devizes Sports Club
14 th September 2011	Dignity Partnership and Skills for Care updates	Devizes Sports Club
25 th November 2011	Annual Conference – this year Older People and Accommodation Strategy	Alexandra House Wroughton
January 2012	Supervision / Appraisals Partnership and Skills for Care updates	Devizes Sports Club

Learning Exchange Network (LEN) Membership Application 2011-2012

Establishment:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

Expectations of LEN Membership

By signing this application, I agree that our establishment will support the LEN Meeting's to the best of our ability by:

- Allowing a manager or equivalent decision maker from the above establishment to attend a minimum of three out of the five LEN Meetings per year
- A representative of the above establishment will confirm a **manager or equivalents** attendance to the meeting at least a week prior to attending
- If a place is booked and that person is unable to attend the meeting, they will send someone in their absence or send their apologies to the Partnership with at least two days notice – unless a genuine emergency
- **The person/s attending will stay for the full length of the meetings**
- Developing our learning resources
- Contributing to and Sharing good learning practices
- Participating in the LEN Meetings to help them continue
- Being open and honest
- Enjoying yourself whilst learning
- Bringing your own lunch, mug and something to keep you warm

Signed on behalf of the above establishment:	
Please print name:	
Role within the establishment:	
Date:	

Please return this section to:

Wallace Regelous| IVP Sector Development Manager
Wiltshire & Swindon Care Skills Partnership | Old Brook House | County Hall | Bythesea Road
| Trowbridge | Wiltshire | BA14 8JN