



Newsletter 03

DISABILITY AWARENESS MODULE LAUNCHED

In late March the Disability Awareness Module, was launched. The module is available in English and Welsh. It is now being used by partners in the Engaging Diversity Development Partnership to provide staff training in their organisations.

Our Modules include:

Disability

Age

Religious Belief

Gender

Sexual Orientation

The Welsh Language

Work is continuing on all the other 5 modules. Next up is the Gender Awareness module which is planned to be released in May, with the Age Awareness Module and the Welsh Language Awareness Module both not far behind. The Sexual Orientation and Religious Belief Awareness Modules are currently at the focus group stage and intend to be made available for previewing later this month.

CASE STUDY

Within the Engaging Diversity DP, there are 13 different organisations all with their own success stories. Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC) was one of the first partners to take part in Action 1. Susie Grindley, the Project Manager explains...

“WCBC had never undertaken much on-line learning as a mechanism for learning before so this was a new and exciting venture for us, however as we needed a way to

Contact Us

+44 01492 871111

engaging.diversity@btcgroup.com

www.engagingdiversity.com

BTC Group Ltd.

Oxford House Oxford Road

Llandudno North Wales LL30 1DH

deliver this training to a large and diverse audience it appeared that on-line learning could be that valuable tool.”

“Providing staff have a computer with Internet connection they can access the training from anywhere at anytime so staff can undertake the training when it is convenient for them to do so.”

“WCBC also offered their staff the option of undertaking the training at a computer suite in their Learning Centre. Many chose this option as this meant that they could get away from the distractions of everyday work, and those unfamiliar with using computers were happy as there was a trainer available to help.”

“By April 2006, WCBC has trained over 470 staff members on Race Awareness. Feedback has been very positive. The format of the training is also proving popular as the modules adopt a documentary style to deliver the issues and information on

legislation and then staff are asked to reflect on what they have learnt by giving examples of how the issues effect their own job roles. Individuals then complete a short exam to test their understanding which is scored and they can then revisit any questions that were incorrect to see what was misunderstood.”

WCBC feel that the use of the online modules and the Equalities Network will assist them in their service delivery by improving the knowledge of their employees in equality and diversity issues and believe that it provides quality, consistency and value for money in its approach. For the full case study please go to www.engagingdiversity.com/casestudy.htm.

EQUALITIES NETWORK

This e-community continues to be an important part of the project where partners communicate and share their ideas on diversity issues as well as give their feedback on modules and other

topics. Each organisation now has their own community where individuals go to view the modules, obtain the surveys and discuss their own diversity issues.

TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERS

The Transnational Agreement was approved in the beginning of March and we are extremely pleased to be commencing our work programme. As secretariat to the TCA, the Engaging Diversity DP began to progress the project through the Transnational e-community. All partners agreed to meet in the first week of May in Llandudno, Wales to discuss our ideas and experience of online mentoring and the use of e-communities as well as the future management of the Transnational Partnership

NEXT STEPS

In the next issue we will report on the progress of the Transnational Partnership, the initial feedback on the Disabilities Awareness Module and the research programme for the Project.