



Assistive Technology Partnership Board

Report

Title: Assistive Technology (AT) progress report
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1. AT retail

- Commencing with purchase of online equipment self assessment tool. After a delay, Procurement sign off expected this month with an implementation period of approximately 3 months.

2. Telehealth

- Telehealth programme consists of 4 project areas: - speech therapy, vitals signs monitoring, medication management and healthy lifestyle promotion. Speech therapy and vital signs projects are well underway with equipment now deployed in the community and the first University evaluation report is due shortly. Smoking cessation project replaced in favour of technology supporting healthy lifestyle promotion. This project has a wider scope and is in the project development phase. Medication management project has experienced delays and is still in project scoping phase.

3. Raise AT awareness with key groups

- 2 x AT Assessment Workers now leading on community assessments.
- AT Project Officer and AT Business Support Assistant posts now filled.
- Working with Bucks New University to provide AT continuing professional development opportunities for social healthcare practitioners. Phase 1 will look at training up to 16 professionals in this area between January and March next year. Phase 2 will involve a wider procurement process and potential of training many more practitioners in social care and health.
- Third sector AT promotional work continues with Bucks Sensory Service, Carers Bucks, Red Cross and Alzheimer's Society.

4. Evaluation and economic development

- Bucks New University are now the established evaluation partner for AT, with work commencing on the new Telehealth and associated Telecare projects. They are also providing the pilot AT Practitioner training programme for BCC and NHS. The aim is to build a compendium of local evidence to support national evidence on the efficacy of AT interventions.
- 2012 Paralympics themed 'Meet the Buyer Event' at Stoke Mandeville Stadium held in Sept 12. At this event, industry met with social healthcare practitioners to discuss the AT agenda, demonstrate latest equipment developments and network with national and international delegates. The event was also linked to an EU trade delegation attending the National Spinal Injuries Centre at Stoke Mandeville to see delivery of advanced care from acute to community settings. This programme of work has helped to promote Bucks on an international stage as developers of 'Tele' technology.