

FREESPACE - WESTERN HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT



Freespace will be starting a new service in Summer 2010 in new accommodation in Western Harbour being developed by the Port of Leith Housing Association.

We will be providing personalised, twenty four hour support to five individuals in five flats from a nearby core-flat. All accommodation is wheelchair accessible with the core-flat on the ground floor also. There is an internal courtyard.

- Each person will have their own home and space;
- There will be 24 hour support;
- Recruitment, induction, training and supervision of staff will be tailored to meet the specific needs of the five individuals;
- People and their families can be as involved in the recruitment / induction of staff as they would like to be;
- For young people this service will release the carer role for parent / sibling relationships to predominate;
- Support for individuals to live in an ordinary, community environment;
- Aim for people to have as much independence and control as possible.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 Working with people, their families and the relevant agencies / professionals to:
 - Plan support required – person centred planning;
 - Get to meet and get to know individuals, their support and health care needs, their interests, gifts, skills and interests;
 - Recruit, induct and train support staff.

- 2 In the development phase each person and their family will have a named senior manager initially to meet and liaise with before support staff are introduced. (Angus, Jim & Rebecca). Care Managers and other professionals will also have this named contact to liaise with.

- 3 People and their families can decide to what degree they want to be involved in the development and transition phases. We will set up regular meetings to discuss progress. We can do this with individuals and their families or as a group (including care managers). We will find out what you would prefer about this.

- 4 We will provide a timetable of key events to people and their families. This will cover the following areas:
 - Working with individuals and their families (From May 2010);
 - Support Planning & Person Centred Planning (From June 2010);
 - Advertising for support staff;
 - Recruitment process: Job Descriptions, Person Specifications and information packs;
 - Selection of support staff;
 - Induction & Training of support staff;
 - Transition Period;
 - Moving in;
 - What next.

Freespace Western Harbour Key Messages

- New service for five young people leaving school & college and wanting to live independently in the community;
- Freespace have been working in partnership with Port of Leith Housing Association who are providing six wheelchair access flats in their new Western Harbour development;
- This will be the first opportunity for independent living for the majority of the individuals;
- Freespace will be providing all aspects of support:
 - supporting people to feel belonging in their community;
 - have friendships and relationships;
 - develop all kinds of interests, gifts and life skills;
 - support people to identify their aspirations and goals and how they can work towards them;
 - supporting people to have as much control, choice and direction over how they live their lives.
 - look for opportunities for employment.

Staff teams will be recruited to provide this support. Individualised induction and training will be provided to help support the transition period. Staff will be required to work waking night shifts. They will also be required to work sleepover which will be in addition to their contracted hours.

We are looking to recruit a team of support workers with various hours who will bring a diverse range of skills, knowledge, experience and person centred approaches to this new development.

We are looking for staff that can demonstrate:

- commitment, loyalty and accountability to people and the values of Freespace;
- a positive and can- do approach;
- sensitivity and flexibility;
- are thoughtful and practical with good common sense;
- ability to learn and develop, take responsibility and use initiative.
- Can see things through from inception to completion.