

WHAT WE DID BEFORE THE BIG LOTTERY FUNDED PROJECT—SUMMARY

ARK Community Networks supports people to be involved in their community in lots of different ways.



We got some money in 2004 to help us give people information about how they could be involved in helping to improve services.



We used some of the money to employ a worker to support people who wanted to take some action about things that concerned them in their local area.



We gave information to staff and encouraged them to find out more about what was going on in their own area.



Some people who took action about road safety and other issues in Peebles shared information about what they are doing during staff training courses.



We sent information to all the people we support who wanted to know more about how to get involved and be an active citizen or member of their community



We ran a training course for 9 people. The course got people talking about things they had concerns about. There were interesting exercises to help this.



We produced a Training Pack using some of the same exercises and handouts so that more people can try these for themselves.



We have now got more money from the Big Lottery to carry on with this work.



We plan to support more people to take up issues that concern them in their area, run more training courses and encourage more involvement to help improve services.



We believe people with learning difficulties have a lot to contribute to improving public services. We will work together with as many people as possible to support their voice to be heard .



Our worker from the Big Lottery project will also be supporting people in other ways:



She will be helping people to think about opportunities for them to get paid or voluntary jobs



She will be supporting people to speak to staff during training courses and at workshops and conferences.



She will be helping a few people to build a circle of support around them to help with planning for the future

