

Positive Options Limited News / Media Release



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Subject: **'TRY BEFORE YOU BUY!' - POSITIVE OPTIONS DELIVERS ITS FIRST PPB[®] (PROMOTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR) AND SDM[®] (SUPPORTED DECISION-MAKING) 'TASTER' EVENTS**

During the summer of 2011 Positive Options ran two **free of charge** one-day 'taster' events; **SDM[®] (Supported Decision-Making through Person-Centred Risk Management)** and **PPB[®] (Promoting Positive Behaviour in a Person-Centred Way)**. The aim of these taster events is to give staff in care providing organisations a brief overview of the training module to enable them to make an informed choice about requesting training or commissioning training for the organisation. Both events are aimed at improving the quality of life for vulnerable people and reducing the need for restrictive physical interventions to manage behaviour that can be challenging. We explain behaviour to be challenging when it represents a significant threat to the person's safety or that of others; when it affects the individual's quality of life, and/or when it limits a person's access to the community. Both programmes are consistent with the principles of **positive behaviour support**; namely, they are underpinned by the characteristics of applied behaviour analysis; social valorisation, and person-centred thinking.

Positive Options **SDM[®] taster** provides an overview of the legal and professional framework for paid and unpaid carers in relation to people risks and gives a range of person-centred approaches that could be usefully applied to support effective decision-making in relation to positive risk-taking and risk management.

The **PPB[®] taster** event explores challenging behaviour as a social construct and the impact that this has on the person and others. It provides an understanding of the cause and functions of challenging behaviour and the relationship between the individual and environmental factors that influence behaviour. It also gives a range of person-centred tools, techniques and approaches that can be used to support someone with challenging behaviour.

The feedback received from these two taster events was strongly positive:

- 100% of attendees thought that the strategies taught on the course were ethically acceptable and that they would feel personally comfortable in using them as part of what they do at work when necessary.
- 85% of attendees said that it would be possible to put what they have learnt in practice straight away.
- 85% of attendees said that the skills they had learnt will be effective in achieving positive outcomes for the people that they are involved in supporting or caring for.
- 100% of attendees said that they would recommend the event to others.

Attendee sound bites included:

- "...it makes you stop and think about how risk assessments are conducted..."
- "Good quality training."
- "Lots of ideas to take back to the work place."
- "I will advise that my employer purchases the full training course."

Mark Sheldon, Professional Staff Instructor responsible for delivering the taster events said: "It's been great to see the enthusiasm of staff attending expressing their keenness to get back to the care setting and put these practical tools in place and make a difference to the lives of people that they are paid to care for." He added: "These simple but very robust person-centred tools and techniques will enable the staff that attended to be able to offer greater support to people to engage in activities that may have previously been seen as being too risky. At the same time staff can show a clear audit trail to demonstrate compliance with current health, safety and care legislation. Judging by the feedback during these taster events places on future dates will be snapped up quickly and already organisations are now keen to have all there staff share in the tools and techniques we have covered."

Jeremy Boughey, Chief Operating Officer said: "This is the first time that we've been in a position for offer opportunities for people to 'try before you buy' and the

interest and uptake has been greatly encouraging. On the basis of our core operating values we are clear about not being in the business of getting organisations to buy training programmes and other Positive Options products that they do not need; money is tight in the health, social care and education economy. Our ‘taster’ events demonstrate our good will to support organisations to sample what we are offering through our training with no commitment to commission training if it’s unlikely to be helpful in improving outcomes for the people that they have an obligation and interest in providing care to. Naturally, we hope that we can add value through our thinking and commitment to improving the lives of vulnerable and often socially disadvantaged people but we want to do so on a level playing field and generate productive and efficacious partnerships with customer organisations.” He added: “We have further taster events planned for later in 2011 and early 2012 – people and organisations should check the Taster Events section of our website.”

Click [here](#) to be directed to the ‘Taster Events’ section of Positive Options website

Editorial Notes:

Positive Options provides a range of specialist services to organisations in the education, social and health care sectors that support the organisation, its staff, and other carers in the course of their work with people. Positive Options’ philosophy and training practices are based upon the principles of person-centred thinking, action and excellence. Since 2004 Positive Options has directly trained over 50,000 people in the UK and other parts of Europe and double this amount through its 50+ licensed centres, in its MAPA® physical interventions approach. The Company is a division of CPI, an international training organisation committed to best practices and safe behaviour management methods that focus on prevention. Through a variety of specialised offerings and innovative resources, CPI educates and empowers professionals to create safe and respectful work environments and enrich the lives of the individuals they serve. Since 1980, more than 6 million professionals around the world have participated in CPI training programs. CPI acquired Positive Options are part of its Group of Companies in April 2010.

Positive Options and CPI are also both accredited physical interventions training providers through the BILD Physical Interventions Accreditation Scheme since 2004. Positive Options was most recently reaccredited in 2011 and CPI in 2010. Click [here](#) for more information about BILD and its Accreditation Scheme.

Additional information about Positive Options is available at positive-options.com

Additional information about CPI in the UK is available at: crisisprevention.co.uk

Further information for future dates of Positive Options ‘Taster Events’ can be obtained by clicking [here](#) for PPB® and [here](#) for SDM®