



Action for blind people



NEWS RELEASE

dd/mm/yyyy

For immediate release

TEES VALLEY GIVE LOCAL BLIND PEOPLE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit has awarded a capital grant of £12,415 to Action for Blind People in Middlesbrough. The funding has enabled the visual impairment charity to purchase assistive technology, which will enable blind and partially sighted people from Middlesbrough to move onto education, training and employment.

Local jobless visually impaired residents within the communities of Middlehaven, University and Gresham will now have a resource centre with new specialist equipment, allowing them to gain ICT skills, carry out on-line job search and prepare CVs. The money came through the Tees Valley delegated grant scheme, which is funded by European Development Fund (ERDF) and Single Programme funding received from One North East via the Tees Valley Partnership.

Joan Jones, Regional Manager at Action for Blind People Middlesbrough said: “The initiative is a fantastic way of giving more visually impaired people access to computer

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aided facilities, which will enable them to gain the skills and receive the assistance they need to get the job they want. It recognises the important role of ICT in achieving equal opportunities, sustainable development and social cohesion within the areas. We are delighted to receive such a generous amount of money and we are thankful to Tees Valley, ERDF and One North East for helping Action to achieve this.”

-Ends-

For further information please contact Debbie Flatley, Press Office on 020 7635 4921 or email debbie.flatley@actionforblindpeople.org.uk .

Notes to editors:

- Action for Blind People supports over 20,000 blind and partially sighted people in the UK every year. Action for Blind People’s National Freephone Helpline is 0800 915 4666.
- Action works to inspire change and create opportunities to enable blind and partially sighted people to have equal voice and equal choice and to live a full and valuable life.
- Action provides visually impaired people with opportunities through employment, housing, leisure and information and support.

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