Q. 2 Can you give examples, either locally or nationally, of what you think has worked well over the last 10 years of The same as you?

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

I have been working with Interest Link Sweddle for the last 7 years as a volunteer. I was very impressed with the training I was given. It was full and informative and all of us on the course felt equipped to deal with situations with our service users when we completed it. Interest Link also provided a very good back up and support service for the volunteers. We can contact our co-ordinator at any time. There are many social events put on a good way of meeting other volunteers and service users.

Interest Link has grown bigger and better with the youth growing - a huge success.

**Good Practice - Individuals**

Q. 5 What have you done, as an individual, to make positive changes within your local area?

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

Just by meeting people we know when we are out and about in Peebles on the bus or returning from a trip further afield, how made many of the locals aware of Interest Link and the work that it does. They see our enthusiasm and what fun we are having together. If they are not able to volunteer themselves they often give generously at fund raising events.
Future Priorities

Q.10 What future priorities do we need to focus on?
(Please list these in order of importance with the most important first)

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

It would be wonderful if 'Interest Link' could be started up in other parts of Scotland.
So many people with learning disabilities have no real friends, and 'Interest Link'
Borders has made this come about for the service users and for the volunteers there,
service user is a very special friend.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to the questionnaire. Your continued
input and support is vital in ensuring that we continue to close the inequality
gap that people with a learning disability face daily.

All completed questionnaires should be returned to Sarah Grant either by e-
mail or at the address below. The closing date for responses is 30th
September 2012.

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