**Disability Dog – purchased training via Direct Payments. First seizures dog in Wales to be sponsored under a Direct payment . The dog is trained to sense seizures by Service Dogs Europe. Having the dog will increase the customer and their families confidence for them to be alone and independent and reduce reliance on paid care .***The customer and her family had anxieties about accepting carers being with the customer at all times – for the individual this meant an lack of privacy and personal life and for the family a reliance on them for support when the customer rejected carers***:**

**‘Seizure Alert Dogs саn оftеn alert minutes tо hours bеfоrе а seizure occurs.** Thе time bеtwееn thе alert аnd thе seizure varies bеtwееn dogs аnd ѕееmѕ tо depend оn whаt type оf сhаngеѕ tаkе place wіthіn thаt раrtісulаr person.
**Both children** **and adults** whо hаvе а Seizure Response Dog оftеn experience аn unexplained decrease іn seizure activity. Thіѕ mау bе due tо а decrease іn stress due tо thе support аnd companionship that a professionally trained аnd loving Service Dog provides.’ - See more at: http://www.servicedogseurope-uk.com/seizure-alert-dog/#sthash.qZOnENzv.dpuf

* *What were the drivers?*
1. *An identified need for alert to seizures so that the customer could put herself in a safe place or alert her responders that she was starting to feel unwell.*
2. *Various tele care equipment and epilepsy sensors had been tried and has been felt to not operate effectively for the complex epilepsy and pre seizure indicators that the customer experiences.*
3. *The customer struggled to employ carers via direct payments as she felt that the turnover of staff compromised her autonomy and privacy.*
4. *Putting an alternative to employment of direct care in place to reassure her family that she was able to live as safely as possible independently.*

**WHAT’S CHANGED?**

* *What did we do differently?*

First seizures dog in Wales to be sponsored under a Direct payment .

* *How was this done?*

*Consultation with customer and her family evaluated pro’s and cons of proposal and risk.*

* *The customer has not employed more carers directly and is continuing to work with the Dog developing its skills with a local obedience trainer who has been advised of the Dogs specific epilepsy training and reinforcement.*

**WHAT DIFFERENCE HAS IT MADE?**

* *How has it impacted on people?*

*Customer feels optimistic that Dog will make a difference to seizure alert and her safety and that she will be able to manage living independently without reliance on a high level of direct care support.*

Link to web site : http://www.servicedogseurope-uk.com/seizure-alert-dog/