

**INCLUSION**  
**GLOUCESTERSHIRE**  
BIGGER DREAMS • BETTER LIVES • BRIGHTER FUTURES



# Your Voice Network Meeting Minutes



**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>  
May 2023**



**Devon**  
County Council

**INCLUSION**  
**GLOUCESTERSHIRE**  
BIGGER DREAMS • BETTER LIVES • BRIGHTER FUTURES

**SWAN**  
South West Advocacy Network



**people first forum**

giving a voice to people with learning disabilities

People from these groups came to the meeting

# We talked about:



Kayleigh and Cody did a presentation on the types of support you can get and what happens if support is cut.



They told us that people with learning disabilities can have different types of support.



Some people have support all day and all night in a residential home.



Some people have their own place and have support for a few hours every day or every week in supported living.



Some people have support all day and all night living with a Shared Lives carer.



When support gets cut people might be worried about losing their home.

## What people said:



One person had their support hours cut, they said it was hard but in the end they had more freedom.



One person knew a lot of people who had support hours cut. One of them got into debt paying for their support.



One person told us about people whose support was cut from 1 hour to only 15 minutes.



People heard about one person who did not have medical support and help with meals for a year.



Some care organisations have lost staff and that might be why they cannot give people support.



One person had letters, bills and health appointments piling up when they did not have support.



Care organisations are asked to sign up to a bill of rights in one county, but they are not always following them.



People often get their support cut after they have an assessment.



One person said that people do not realise how hard it is to have support and staff changes can be very difficult.



People who have poor mental health can get worse because of changes to their support.



One person had their support cut and they had to share support with other people. They couldn't do what they wanted to do because of this.



One person said that Care Managers should listen to us, respect us and ask us what we want.

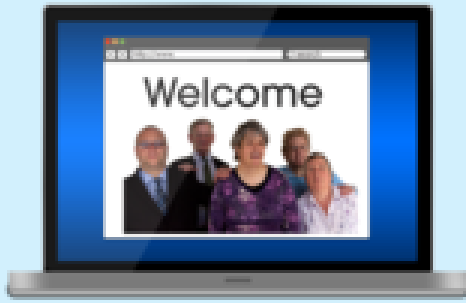
## Updates:



Nicole has passed the latest test she did. Well done Nicole!



People First Forum had their big night out which is a night club and 700 people came.



Devon Council have updated their learning disability website.



Kayleigh and Cody have released the first episode of their podcast. You can listen to it here: <https://spotifyanchor-web.app.link/e/zscoD33LVzb>

# Changes we will ask the NHS and social services to make:



There should be more advocacy support to challenge when support hours are cut.



We would like to tell social services how hard it is to have support and how hard it is when it is cut.



Care organisations should have a penalty if they do not follow a bill of rights they have signed up to.



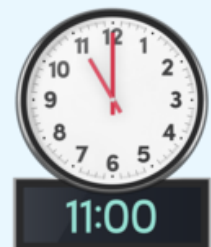
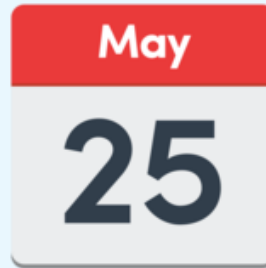


# The next Your Voice meetings are:

The network meeting is on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 12:30pm



The coffee morning is on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 11:00 am



**This June**  
**Learning disability**  
**week**  
**19th - 25th**

The topic for our next meeting is Learning Disability week.

Here are some things to think about before the meeting:

What wrong ideas do people have about people with a learning disability?

What amazing and important things have people with a learning disability done?

What difference might it make if more people know about the amazing and important things people with a learning disability have done?

