



# Sunderland People First

A Voice For Change



Newsletter - Summer 2019



## Stripped of Human Rights Protests

#StrippedofHumanRights protests were organised across the country in response to the appalling treatment of people with learning disabilities and autism in Assessment and Treatment Units (ATUs) such as Whorlton Hall, which was shown on a BBC Panorama undercover investigation.

Members of our team attended protests in Leeds, London and Newcastle to show support.



Over a hundred people turned out for the Newcastle protest which received local and regional media coverage. We are now working with self-advocacy groups and organisations across the North East to look at the support and treatment people receive.

Stripped of Human Rights - the Response to Whorlton Hall at Newcastle: <https://bit.ly/2XzTYwA>

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In May 2019, the Learning Disability Mortality Review programme (LeDeR) published its annual report which showed that people with a learning disability can die up to 29 years earlier than people who don't have a learning disability and often these early deaths can be prevented. The Stop People with a Learning Disability group wrote a powerful statement in response to this report called '3 out of 10 is nothing to be proud of. The statement can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/2Y63erY>



## Treat Me Well Campaign

We are delighted to be working with Mencap, other self-advocacy groups and organisations in Sunderland and South Tyneside on a Treat Me Well campaign. We held two workshops in Sunderland on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> July to look at knowing your rights and the law, reasonable adjustments and how to run a successful campaign. Find out more about Treat Me Well at: <https://bit.ly/2BvyF2Z>

## Community Appreciation Day

Hill View junior school organised a brilliant event called Community Appreciation Day. People and organisations were asked to talk to the children and share how they make the community stronger. Jodie and Gavin delivered a workshop about how people with a learning disability and or autism have skills and talents and can be leaders in their own communities.



## Working with Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust

Sunderland People First and Skills for People were invited along to meet with the Board of Directors from our local health trust. We gave a presentation which focused on working together, the role of peer support and shared examples of projects such as Citizenship and Mindfulness that have made a real difference regionally. We are really pleased that the trust has develop an action plan following the meeting and we look forward to working together in the future.



## DiverseAbility

We were delighted to host a very special community event with Young Asian Voices to jointly celebrate Learning Disability week and Refugee Week. The event at Sans Street Community Centre included accessible sports and an opportunity for members of the community to learn more about disability and cultures.



## Self-Advocacy Fellowes Project

We are making good progress on our self-advocacy project in partnership with the University of Sheffield. Working together with a media company called Evoluted, we are developing a web-based map of self-advocacy groups across the UK. We will be sending a questionnaire to existing self-advocacy groups to ask some key questions about what is working well and what are some of the barriers that groups are facing at this time.



Find out more about the Fellowes Project at: <https://bit.ly/2PGEDSc>

## Be Cancer Aware Trainers

Sharon, Gavin & Jodie have now delivered five Be Cancer Aware training session to people with a learning disability and or autism. This Cancer awareness course is a partnership project between self-advocacy groups across the North East & Cumbria, Macmillan Cancer and the North East & Cumbria Learning Disability Network. We have been delighted with the response to the training so far and look forward to delivering new training sessions.



## Checking Accessibility

Self-advocates learned about how to complete surveys of accessibility in a workshop organised by AccessAble. We looked at several community venues across Sunderland and checked physical access, facilities provided, sensory issues and support offered by staff at the venues.

Find out more at: <https://www.accessable.co.uk/>

## Developing the NHS Long Term Plan

Self-advocates met with colleagues from Sunderland Healthwatch to provide a combined response to the NHS Long Term Plan. We shared lots of thoughts and ideas about involving people with a learning disability in planning for better health care and support.



## Training Student Learning Disability Nurses

Self-advocates delivered learning disability awareness training to over 100 student nurses at the University of Sunderland in June. We had some great feedback from the team and look forward to delivering further sessions with the University in the future.

## The Fans Museum

After delivering a Disability Awareness training session to the team from the Fans Museum in June, we have continued to support this community resource by attending open days and a recent photo call with the Sunderland Echo. We have enjoyed leaning more about community opportunities available and look forward to future partnership working.

You can find out more about The Fans Museum at: <https://fansmuseum.org/museum/>



## Sunderland People First



We are a Community Interest Company based in the North East of England. Our business is about improving the lives of people with learning disabilities and autism. Our experience is based on over 20 years of working alongside the Health and Social Care Sector. Working closely with Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group and Sunderland City Council we have built up a highly regarded professional and award-winning reputation.

### Accessible Information



Meet your statutory duty and make sure that consultations and information are accessible to people with learning disabilities. We are experts in making information clear and easy to understand. We have experience of working with a range of partners to develop easy read information and a lot of our documents are used around the country and even the world. We also provide consultations and training around developing your own accessible information.



For further information – download our flyer: <http://bit.ly/2oxtud6>



### Training

We offer a range of training programmes which include Disability Awareness, Values, Hate & Mate crime and Personal Assistant training. We produce bespoke training packages to meet the needs of our customers. All our training courses have been designed and are delivered by people with learning disabilities.



### Consultancy

We have experience of consulting with people on a large or small scale. We have developed links both locally and throughout the region allowing us to connect with people. Our consultations have helped shape local and regional policies.



### Quality Checking

Quality checks provide an Expert by Experience view of how your service or organisation meets the needs of people with learning disabilities and autism. Our quality checkers team are unique in their experience and their range of checks with both health and social care providers.



### Contact us

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Do you have any thoughts or suggestions for our team? If so, we would love to hear from you: <http://sunderlandpeoplefirst.com/contact-us/>