



KINGSTON

ALL AGES LEARNING
DISABILITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD

End of Year Report 2022/23

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About the All Age Learning Disability Partnership Board



All Age Learning Disability Partnership Board is a made up of professionals, service providers, and people with learning disabilities, and their carers and advocates.



It was set up by Kingston Council, and it is supported by Healthwatch Kingston. It was promised in the All Age Learning Disability Strategy.



It is co-chaired by local people with learning disabilities. We all work together to improve services for people with learning disabilities.

Community Events

The All Age Learning Disability Partnership Board held two community events in 2022 that over 100 people participated in.

Health and Wellbeing Community Event

The purpose of the event was to give people a chance to network and socialise, provide a range of information for families and people with learning disabilities, and enjoy a day of health and wellbeing enhancing activities.

Kingston Council provided information on healthy eating with tactile aids, and information from adult social care, voluntary sector providers. The event also included accessible sports taster sessions from the Fulham Foundation and Kingston Council, and drumming from Eco-op, and Makaton sing and sign from Your Healthcare.



Community Events

Cost-of-living information and advice event

The Kingston All Age Learning Disability Partnership Board held an event December 2022 about the cost-of-living.

We wanted to understand better, how the cost-of-living was impacting people with learning disabilities, and their families and carers in Kingston, as well as provide information about available support.

Guest speakers from Royal Mencap and Kingston Council, who presented their cost-of-living support services, followed by a Q and A session.

Impact

The attendees filled out surveys.

80% said they worry about food prices and energy prices.

60% were worried about travel costs.

50% were worried about going out with friends or doing their hobbies, this was mainly due to cost of other things taking priority.



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KINGSTON
UPON THAMES



Community Events

Cost-of-living information and advice event

Kingston Carers Network, and Eco-Op, and Balance attended to provide information about the support they offer locally.

We were pleased to have Your Healthcare provide festive sing and sign session, raising awareness about the importance of communication, and breaking down barriers, and bring a bit of festive cheer!



Community Events



David Bennet, Co-chair of the partnership board supported us to plan and run the events.

“This year we did drumming, and we got people to fill in surveys to tell us about their health and care experiences.



I help to plan the All Age Learning Disability Partnership Board Community events. It is important to me. I volunteer in the Healthwatch Kingston office once a month. They help me to use a computer, and I help them with work.



I also like going to Eco-op activities. The staff are friendly, and it is easy to get to. I have been going to college in Richmond.”

What do we want to happen?

We want good information and support to make choices and get the right services.



We want information to be available to everyone. This includes people who don't go online or use technology.

We want information to be available in a format that supports everyone.

We want it to be easier for organisations to signpost and promote each other's services and events.

What do we want to happen?

We want people with learning disabilities to be supported.

We want people with learning disabilities to have good access to health and social care.

We want mental health services that work for people with learning disabilities.

We want to amplify the voices of people with learning disabilities in our work.



Healthwatch Kingston

Healthwatch Kingston is your local health and social care champion.

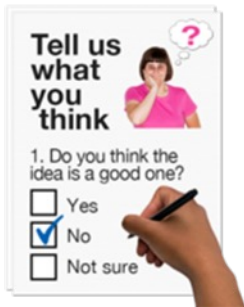


If you use GPs and hospitals, dentists, pharmacies, care homes or other support services in your area, we want to hear about your experiences.

We are independent and have the power to make sure NHS leaders and other decision makers listen to local feedback and improve standards of care.



We are here to listen to the issues that really matter to people in Kingston and to hear about your experiences of using local health and social care services.



We are independent, and anything you share with us is confidential. So, if you need advice, or you're ready to tell your story – we're here to listen.

Healthwatch Kingston



We organise the All Age Learning Disability Partnership Board meetings. These meetings give lots of time for people with learning disabilities to talk about what is important to them. The Involve team from Kingston Council help us with the meetings.

Raising the voices of people with learning disabilities



Healthwatch Kingston continues to be committed to involving people living with a learning disability, their families, carers and advocates.



We continue to speak to, and work with people with learning disabilities, ensuring that health and social care providers understand the barriers faced by people with learning disabilities and their families and carers.

Healthwatch Kingston



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Raising the voices of people with learning disabilities



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Healthwatch Kingston

Our Impact: 'Your Care Your Way' Campaign: Accessible Information

If you're disabled or have a sensory loss, you have a legal right to health and social care information in a way you understand, and communications support if you need it.

Even though the Accessible Information Standard has been a legal requirement since 2016, many NHS Trusts are not supporting equal access to care for deaf and blind patients.

Healthwatch England launched a [campaign](#), 'Your care, your way' to ensure services are taking their duty seriously to provide information in a way that people understand.

We supported people in Kingston with learning disabilities to respond to the consultation.



Healthwatch Kingston

Our Impact: London Ambulance service



London Ambulance Service asked each local Healthwatch to feedback on what we think their priorities should be for their next strategy (2023 - 2028). Healthwatch Kingston supported people with learning disabilities to respond to the survey.

The London Assembly Health Committee has written to the London Ambulance Service (LAS) with 5 recommendations to help the development of its new organisational strategy for 2023-28.

The London Assembly Health Committee said: “We are delighted that our community engagement carried out between November 2022 and January 2023 has supported the work of the London Assembly Health Committee and will further inform the London Ambulance Service as they develop their strategy. Our full Healthwatch Kingston report will be published later this year (after the publication of the London Ambulance Service Strategy 2023 - 2028). The strategy will also be informed by community engagement reports from other local Healthwatch across London.”
Read more [here](#).

Contact Details



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www.healthwatchkingston.org.uk

Your Healthcare



Your Healthcare provide community health services to people with a Learning Disability who:

- Are over 18 years old
- Have a Kingston or Richmond GP
- Have a diagnosis of a Learning Disability

We can start to get to know people when they are 16 years old. This is so we understand their health needs for when they become 18. This is part of the work in Kingston around transition.

We are called the Neurodevelopmental Service and the people working in the team are health professionals.

In our team we have: Behaviour Analysis, Community Outreach; Dietetics; Nursing; Occupational Therapy; Speech and Language Therapy; Psychology; Physiotherapy; and Psychiatry.

We work in partnership with Mental Health services, GPs, community health services, Kingston Hospital, St George's hospital, Kingston Council and others to support good health for people with a learning disability.

Your Healthcare

Some highlights from 2022!



Nursing were nominated for awards for their work helping homes with health called “Project 2020”



Speech and Language Therapy have changed the specialist audiology clinic with Kingston Hospital audiologists so that they can help more people with their hearing.



Physiotherapy have been finding out about abdominal massage to see if it helps people with constipation.



Dietetics and nursing have been running a walking group to help people exercise and manage their weight.



sing

Singing and signing with people!

Contact Details



Your Healthcare

Neurodevelopmental Services, 22 Hollyfield Road, Surbiton, KT5 9AL



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swlicb.nds@nhs.net



www.yourhealthcare.org



Kingston Carers Network



Kingston Carers' Network provide lots of different services to support unpaid carers. This includes people caring for adults or children with learning disabilities, mental health conditions and physical disabilities as well as adults with learning disabilities who are caring for someone.



Our team of [Adult Carers' Support Workers](#) can help with understanding your rights as a carer, applying for benefits and appealing benefit decisions, as well as accessing other services and support.



Carers can visit our [online resource hub](#) which has lots of useful information for carers. We also run lots of lovely activities and support groups so that carers can spend time with people who might be in a similar situation.



Kingston Carers Network



[The Young Carers' Project](#) supports young carers from age 5 to 18. They run lunch clubs at schools and weekly youth groups, as well as lots of holiday activities for young carers. We also have a wonderful team of mentors who spend time with our young people. After accessing our services last year, our adult carers were over £1 million better off!”



We also worked with Kingston Council on the [All Age Carers Strategy](#). We spoke with lots of carers of all ages to find out what was important to them. We talked to the council to help them decide what they should do over the next five years to support carers.



We asked our carers if they were happy with the support that we were giving them. 90% said that thanks to our Wellbeing Service they felt good about the future, they had better mental health and they had enjoyed doing things outside of their caring role.



Kingston Carers Network

Contact Details



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www.kingstoncarers.org.uk



Kingston Council

All Age Kingston Carers strategy

Thank you to all the unpaid carers, the LD Partnership Board and Healthwatch Kingston for all their help and ideas with the All Age Kingston Carers Strategy. Unpaid carers, Kingston Carers' Network, other Voluntary organisations, Kingston Council and the NHS have written this strategy about carers, for carers. The link to the strategy is [here](#).

Involve colleagues are working on the easy read version now and we will put this on Kingston Council's website as soon as it is ready.

We are now working on two action plans, one for young carers and one for young adult/ adult carers which will make sure we take action to make life better for all carers in the Royal Borough of Kingston.





Kingston Council

Day activities



Kingston Council has changed how it delivers day activities and support. Day activities are things like day centres and activities, having a job or volunteering.

The new changes started on 1 April 2023. There are now different ways for Kingston Council to arrange for the delivery of day activities.



This includes a new list of providers that Kingston Council can use to help people access day activities that are right for them. This will give people more choice about how they live their life.



Kingston Council

Introducing Kingston's Disability Champion – Cllr Sue Ansari



In 2022, Kingston Council appointed a new set of advocates to act as champions for key groups and issues across the community.

Councillor Sue Ansari was appointed as Kingston's Learning Disability Champion, who sits on the Kingston All Age Learning Disability Partnership Board.

"As Councillor champions we have a vital role in representing and working with groups across our community to amplify their voices and help advocate for issues that affect them.

"I am delighted to be taking up my role as champion for disability, working across functions of the council to get the best outcomes for people facing all kinds of challenges. I'm very proud that Kingston is an inclusive and diverse place to live, work and visit and it is our job to maximise the opportunities, choices and independence of everyone here, enabling them to live fulfilled lives."



Kingston Council

Contact Details



Guildhall, High Street, Kingston Upon Thames KT1 1EU



0208 547 4700



@contactkingston



www.kingston.gov.uk



Kingston Eco-op

Kingston Eco-op offers a range of developmental activities for adults who have learning disabilities, mental health problems, autism and/or other challenges in their lives.



We are open 5 days a week and offer a variety of activities both in groups and individually.



2022 saw a range of new activities and workshops being delivered and enjoyed by an increased number of people joining our service. This has ranged from introducing an arts teacher to teach Arts & Crafts, a Bicycle Maintenance workshop and most recently Accessible Cycling.



With thanks to RHACC for supplying the art teacher, to Wheels 4 All for running the accessible cycling scheme and to Gary from Full Cycle for running the bicycle maintenance. For further details about our activities during the week please see our flyer below



Kingston Eco-op



We are pleased to announce that we have met the Royal Borough of Kingston's new framework for Day Opportunities and Meaningful Occupations and will be opening longer hours as of the 1st April. Our new hours are 9.30 to 3.30pm.

As we continue to grow our service, 2023 will see an introduction of projects outside of our normal daily hours. We are in progress of developing an evening group for adults with high functioning autism and in April hope to launch a Cook and Eat course that will run after hours one day a week.



Kingston Eco-op

Contact Details



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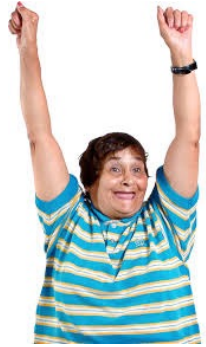
www.kingstoneco-op.org.uk



Involve



Involve is a team of peer advocates employed by Kingston Council to support and advocate for people with disabilities living in the borough.



The advocates work to empower Kingston residents to find their voice and have their say on changes within the borough.

The team work to increase confidence around different topics, such as finding employment and staying safe within the borough and also offer an opportunity for companionship and friendship to reduce social isolation.



As peer advocates, Involve are able to reach residents through shared experiences of life and services within Kingston Upon Thames. Involve aims to act as a platform to share information, knowledge and concerns between the community and the council



Involve

Involve Kingston:

The team convert documents such as reports, letters, and information into Easy Read, for example Kingston Council's Policies, Local Plan, Carers Strategy among others).

The have held 'Friends Chats' where community members to come together and discuss different topics, in a safe and non-judgmental space, to share their stories, reduce isolation, and build a sense of community.





Involve



Over the last year Involve have attended and hosted a variety of community events.

Involve hosted an Alzheimer's awareness training session at the SearchLight Centre in New Malden. This was designed specifically for people with learning disabilities, with a mix and learning and activities and had a positive reception.



The Involve team have also been on the steering group for the new [CLICK Cafe at EnhanceAble](#). Supporting in the design, recruitment and delivery of the project. CLICK Cafe is an inclusive cafe that provides daily activities and hot and cold food



Involve Kingston

Contact Details



Guildhall, High Street, Kingston Upon Thames KT1 1EU



020 3031 2757



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www.kingston.gov.uk/adult-social-care/learning-disabilities



Kingston Hospital

Learning Disability Liaison Team at Kingston hospital



Kingston Hospital has two learning disability liaison team members. The learning disability liaison team was set up in January 2021 and has had over 500 referrals!



In 2022 we worked on a big project with NHS England. We were trying to get better and making reasonable adjustments. We made a new flag that could alert staff better.

We are still working with the IT teams to improve this.



We also worked in improving the amount of easy read information available. We are working with **Involve** to make around 20 Easy Read documents that will go on the hospital website. Next year, accessible information is a **Quality Priority**.



Kingston Hospital

Learning Disability Liaison Team at Kingston hospital



We took part in the Learning Disability Improvement Standards and now we have the results of that survey! **We will talk through that today.**

We are training all new nurses that join the trust in learning disabilities. Gracie runs a training session on the New Staff Induction timetable. We also run a training session on the junior doctors training.



We are setting up a pathway with the hospital and community pharmacists, to make sure that people with a learning disability get a STOMP medication review if they need it.



We have written guidance to make sure that staff always check for hospital passports. We want to make staff more aware of hospital passports.



Kingston Hospital

Patient Experience Team and Wider Hospital



We worked to improve the signage around the hospital. We wanted to make it easier for people to find their way around. We now have new signs all over the hospital.



We have also used a website called AccessAble – This website has pictures of the corridors and rooms all over the hospital. You can use this to check where your appointment is, what it looks like, and how to get there.



Listening to people with a learning disability:

We also ran some events in the community. We had a meeting at the WelCare centre talking about reasonable adjustments and what it is like in hospital.

We also ran an event at Cole Court in Twickenham talking about Accessible Information.

Contact Details



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What do you think we should focus on next?

[Have your say and find out about participating in the All Ages Learning Disability Partnership Board.](#)

[Contact: kezia@healthwatchkingston.org.uk](mailto:kezia@healthwatchkingston.org.uk)



KINGSTON
ALL AGES LEARNING
DISABILITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Thank You

healthwatch
Kingston upon Thames