

## **Learning Disability Partnership Board**

**What happened at our meeting on  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2026**



## Index

Page 3      Who was at the meeting

Page 5      What we talked about

Page 5      Working together update

Page 11     POhWER and the self-advocacy  
workshops

Page 15     Access Social Care – Peer Navigation

Page 18     Anything else to talk about and our next  
meeting



## Who was there?

|                                                           |                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jan Marriott - LDPB Co-Chair                              | Yvone Smith – Family Carer                                      |
| Paul Tyrrell – Inclusion Gloucestershire                  | Nick Baker – Expert by Experience/<br>Inclusion Gloucestershire |
| Rosanna Gain – Inclusion<br>Gloucestershire               | Vicki Hawker – Daffodil Support<br>Services                     |
| Tammie Flook, LDPB Co-chair, Inclusion<br>Gloucestershire | Sophie Ayre – NHS Gloucestershire                               |
| Janet Hawkins – Camphill Village Trust                    | Juliet Newton – POhWER                                          |
| Anna Peacock – Barnwood Trust                             | Keith Sexton – Access Social Care                               |
| Bren McInerney – Charity Worker                           | Lauren Cains - Building Circles                                 |
| Rosie Mockford – GHC                                      | Helen Kay – Building Circles                                    |
| Sue Walters – Family Carer                                | Gabi King - Team Leader, Brandon<br>Trust                       |
| Amy Rees – Coproduction Lead, Adult<br>Social Care, GCC   | Geoff Hetburn - Expert by<br>Experience, Brandon Trust          |
| Katie Cook – Team Leader, Brandon<br>Trust                | Colin Vanner – Expert by Experience,<br>Brandon Trust           |
| Rasi Gunasekana – GHC                                     | Megan Hill - Support Manager,<br>Brandon Trust                  |
| Charlotte Burge – GHC                                     | Keely Tanner – Gloucester Job<br>Centre                         |

**GCC means Gloucestershire County Council**

**GHC means Gloucestershire Health and Care Trust**

**GHT means Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.**

**IHOT means Intensive Health Outreach Team**

**GOCRП means the Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire  
Community Rail Partnership**

**GCC may have to give information in this document to  
someone who asks for it. This is because of a law, called  
the Freedom of Information Act.**

## What we talked about:



Tammie told everyone the meeting Ground Rules.

## Working together update from Amy



Amy's presentation is attached to these notes.



Amy explained what Coproduction is.

Coproduction means working together and being equal.



Amy said they are trying to help more people to have a direct payment from the council.



A direct payment helps you to pay for the support you need.



Understand

Jan said direct payments can be difficult to understand.



Some people have found they can't use it for the support they need.



Rosie Mockford said that in other counties direct payments can be used for more things.



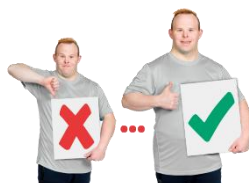
Helen asked: how do we tell people about direct payments?



Amy said she can ask the direct payments team to come and talk to the Learning Disability Partnership Board



There are lots of myths about direct payments.



Amy said there is work to be done to make things better



Jan said we have talked a lot about direct payments in the past, but nothing changed.



Amy said GCC need to do better.



There need to be more Personal Assistants that can give people the help they need.



Janet asked: are direct payments just for people living independently?



Rosie said they should be for everyone if it is right for the person.



It is about choice and control of the help people have.



Sophie said the culture at the council needs working on.



Culture is the way things are done and how people act.



People can come to a workshop to help the social care team make what they do better.



Amy will send out more information about this.



The group felt Shire Hall was a good place for this workshop to happen.



**Involve**

Amy said there will be more things people can get involved in.



GCC know they need to do better at listening to people.



Leo explained she was a police cadet but there have been lots of cuts including the police cadets who have a learning disability.



The group felt that the police should work better with people who have disabilities.



Bren said there is a lot of change happening in the health service.



A decision has been made by the prime minister which means about half of the staff at Gloucestershire NHS will lose their jobs.

This isn't something we can change.



Rosie asked: how are people with learning disabilities part of the NHS 10 year plan?



Bren said unfair differences in healthcare (inequalities) is part of the plan.



He wasn't sure if the plan talked about people with learning disabilities.



Rosie said people need to know what is happening.

Bren will give an update soon.

18

64

The council is making a new plan about how adult social care helps people aged between 18 – 64.

They will talk to people more about this.



Amy told the group about some important things happening soon.



Please see Slide 11 of Amy's presentation.



Please email Amy if you are interested in getting involved in these things:  
[amy.rees@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:amy.rees@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

## POhWER and the self-advocacy workshops



POhWER helps people with advocacy (speaking up).



GCC pays POhWER to provide people with the advocacy they should have by law.

This is called statutory advocacy.



Juliet is the Community Development Worker for POhWER.



She has developed 4 different workshops:



1. How to speak up for yourself of someone you care for.



2. Talks about Housing



3. Money



## 4. Health and Wellbeing

These are for anyone.



They will be online and in person.



Each workshop will be accessible.



You don't need to attend all of them.



There will be an expert in each subject coming to the workshops



Rosie asked whether the doctor can talk about annual health checks as these are for people with learning disabilities.



Yes

Juliet said yes.



The workshops have been coproduced with charities and organisations in Gloucestershire.



The workshops will be accessible for people with learning disabilities.



The information from the workshops will be made in different ways, including Easy Read.



Amy said she would share information about the workshops in the GCC Adult Social Care newsletter.

## Access Social Care – Peer Navigation



Access Social Care is a charity that helps people get the social care support they need.



As part of this they also give people and organisations training on social care rights.



Keith from Access Social Care came to talk to the group about a new team of Peer Navigators.



Keith is a Peer Navigator



He has experience of the social care system with his step-daughter.



All the Peer Navigators have had social care or have had a family member have it.



Peer Navigators can help people to use AccessAva.



AccessAva is an online tool, sometimes called a chatbot.

It is free for everyone to use.



By asking people some questions about what is happening with their social care AccessAva can help write letters which people can send to the council. AccessAva is kept up to date with changes in the law.



The Peer Navigators can help people online or in-person.



A poster about Access Social Care's Peer Navigators is attached to these notes.



People at the meeting who have used Access Social Care said their help has been amazing.



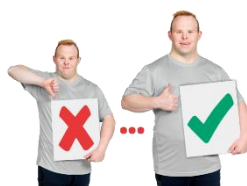
Amy asked if GCC can tell people about AccessAva.



Jan said Access Social Care and GCC now have a better relationship.



Rosie said people can get very upset and worried from misunderstanding their social care rights.



Amy said there is probably more work to be done to help people get the social care they need.

## Anything else to talk about and our next meeting



Sophie reminded everyone about the Big Health Day 2026.



The next Big Health Day is on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June** this year at Oxstalls Sports Park



It will start at 9.30am and end at 2pm.



Courtney, who works with Inclusion Gloucestershire and Access Social Care, is running some training on the Care Act.



This training will include the important parts of the Care Act for **Autism & Mental Health**

You can attend the training online or in-person at the Inclusion Gloucestershire offices.



Courtney is running this training on a few different dates, which are:

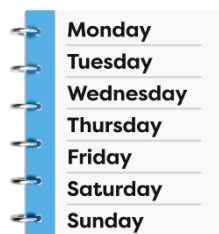
3<sup>rd</sup> June 11 – 12:30



29<sup>th</sup> June 10:30 – 12



8<sup>th</sup> July 2 – 3:30pm



Rosie said it's Learning Disability week after the Big Health Day.

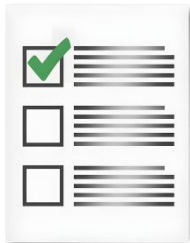
Please let Rosie know if you would like to be involved.



Leo told the group the Grange had an Artlift Cancer Awareness workshop with Rosie and Jonathon which was amazing!



Jan said Simon Thomason should meet up with Courtney about the Mental Capacity Act workshops.



Bren asked how the Learning Disability Partnership Board is making positive change.



How are we showing the difference we are making?



The board will need to show this to make sure the Learning Disability Partnership Board keeps being supported.



Helen said she would love it if the board can revisit Hate Crime.



Building Circles worked with someone who reported a hate crime but didn't hear back from the police.



Vicki from Daffodil Support Services said she shares what she learns from the Learning Disability Partnership Board with the people she works with and supports.



Someone asked if all the Partnership Boards could get together.



Amy said she would like to organise a big meeting next year.

**Our next in-person meeting will be on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 11am**

It will be at the Treasure Seekers hub on Eastgate Street.



**Photosymbols®**

Publisher Licence 6157169754167



