

Learning Disability Partnership Board

**What happened at our meeting on
Monday 17th August 2026**



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Who was there?

Jan Marriott - LDPB Co-Chair	Nicola Shilton - GHC
Paul Tyrrell – Inclusion Gloucestershire	Tamsin Morgan – Gloucestershire Parent Carer Forum
Rosanna Gain – Inclusion Gloucestershire	Alice Akerman - Healthy Lifestyles Gloucestershire
Tammie Flook - LDPB Co-chair, Inclusion Gloucestershire	Lucy Park - GCC
Janet Hawkins – Camphill Village Trust	Latifa Ali - GCC (Connect to Work)
Anna Peacock – Barnwood Trust	Sanjay Sharda - GCC (Connect to Work)
Sue Walters – Family Carer	Jackie Rowe - Inclusion Gloucestershire
Amy Rees – Coproduction Lead, Adult Social Care, GCC	Sophie Kane - Inclusion Gloucestershire
John Hughes - Expert by Experience, Camphill Village Trust	Michelle Garland - Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board Support Officer
Amanda Eady - GCC	Vicki Hawker – Daffodil Support Services
Michael Steed – Brandon Trust	Megan – Brandon Trust
Leo Woodford – Expert by Experience, Camphill Village Trust	Bren – Community Volunteer
Harriet Roberts – Inclusion Gloucestershire	Clare Cannock – Allsorts Gloucestershire

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 and Jan welcomed everyone to the meeting.



Tammie told everyone the meeting Ground Rules.

Camphill Film – using the bus safely



John and Janet told everyone about Camphill's involvement group.



This includes people living at other Camphill communities outside of Gloucestershire.



The group meet every Monday using Microsoft Teams.



The group have made a film about keeping safe.



It took 1 year to write the script.



The film talks about things like using the bus, train or a cashpoint safely.



There is one film that talks about all the topics.



The film has also been split into 2-minute videos.



People at our meeting were shown the video about using the bus safely.



Here is the link: [Using the Bus Safely | Keeping Safe with the InvolveMe Group](#)



After watching the video, Amy asked: What do we want Learning Disability Partnership Board members to do with these films?



Amy said it would be good to share them with other people.



Tammie told the meeting about the Inclusion Gloucestershire Travel Training Project.



Janet said the team are supporting someone who lives at the Grange. It is helping that person a lot.

Direct Payments



Lucy, from the GCC Direct Payments team, came to answer the questions people had about Direct Payments at our June meeting.



Lucy said she would also talk about:

- What a direct payment is
- How they work
- The support people can get when they have a direct payment.



What are Direct Payments?



A Direct Payment is money that the Council gives to someone to pay for their care and support.



A persons care and support needs are agreed by doing a care needs assessment.



A Direct Payment means the person chooses their own care and support.



The council do not choose it for them.



Choice

This gives people more choice and control in how their care needs are met and how they live their lives.



Some people may choose to employ their own Personal Assistant.



Support

Other people may want a different type of support.

This could be:



Agency care



Day care or respite care

A self-employed person assistant. A self-employed person pays their own tax and national insurance and does not get holiday pay.



Lucy said some people have drum or cookery lessons, as this helps meet their needs.



How do I get a Direct Payment?



A social worker will work with the person to do a care needs assessment.



This has to be agreed by the person and the council.



The financial assessment and benefits team will need to check if a person needs to pay any money towards their care.



They will do this by looking at the money a person has coming in and any savings they may have.



Some people will need to pay for their own care.



Some people will need to pay something towards their care.



Some people will not have to pay anything for their care.



When you are talking about your care and support you can ask for a Direct Payment or more information about them.



You can get a Direct Payment if you live independently.



A Direct Payment can be managed by the person having the care or someone else the person trusts.



Lucy's team help people when it has been agreed someone can have a Direct Payment.



Janet said: some people living at Camphill would benefit from a Direct Payment.



Lucy's team help people set up a new bank account for their Direct Payment.



They check the ID of the person managing the Direct Payment.

Lucy team send a Direct Payment Agreement.



This tells people the rules for having a Direct Payment.



Lucy's team will also send a list of when payments will be made into a person's Direct Payment bank account.

For people who have to pay money towards their care Lucy's team can help set up an automatic payment into their Direct Payment bank account.



An automatic payment is called a standing order.



If people are struggling to understand things they can ask for an advocate.



People can always stop having a Direct Payment if they feel it is not right for them.



The council would then sort out a person's care and support for them.



Lots of people tell say they like having more choice and control.



Lucy asked Tammie: What do you think is the biggest benefit of having a direct payment?



Tammie said it was having her foster mum as her Personal Assistant (PA).

Lucy said family members can be PAs.



If the family member lives in the same house, this needs to be agreed by GCC.

The support people can get when they have a Direct Payment

If you don't want to manage the money, you can have a someone else manage your Direct Payment.



People mentioned organisations like DOSH and Client affairs.



Lucy explained organisations like that look after personal money.



A Direct Payment is for care.



GCC work with lots of organisations that help people with PAs.

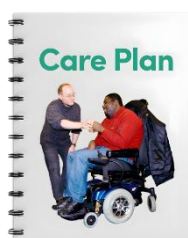
Penderels is an example.



GCC will pay for PA criminal record checks. These are called DBS checks.



If you employ PAs, GCC will sort out insurance for you.



Rosie said her mum is the main carer for her brother.

When she became unwell, her brother needed more care paid for.



GCC were helpful when this happened.



People are asked to think about a back-up plan for their care and support.



This might be thinking about what would happen if your PA was unwell.



Tammie chooses not to have support when her foster mum is on holiday.



Mike said some people at Brandon Trust get Direct Payments and Individual Service Funds.



Sue shared her experience of trying to set up Direct Payments for her son.
She had problems opening a bank account.



This was a long time ago.



Lucy explained, a funding pot for care is made up of money from GCC and any money a person may pay towards their care.



Questions

How can you spend the money?



It says on the support plan.



Jan asked are people allowed to have a holiday?



Paying for care and support whilst on holiday would need to be looked at when doing person-centered care planning.

18

You need to be 18 years old to get an adult Direct Payment.



You can get children's Direct Payments, but Lucy is from the adult team.



Bren asked: How do we make sure people are having good conversations about Direct Payments and the other options?



Someone in the meeting shared her professional experience.



She said it's about looking and the benefits and drawbacks of each option.



Conversations about this need to be written down in a care plan.



Vicki, from Daffodil Support Services, said someone they support was told they could have a Direct Payment, but not paid it for a long time.

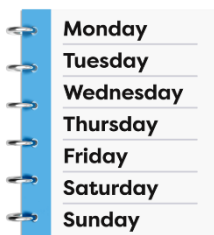
This meant the person was unable to pay for their care.



This was very worrying for them.



Vicki had to talk to someone at GCC to help get it sorted.



Lucy said she would look into this. It usually takes 6-8 weeks to get the first payment.



People can pay for their care themselves until the payment comes through.



When it comes through they can get what they paid refunded.



Or they can ask the council to arrange their care until the Direct Payment is set up.

Actions from today



Michelle from GCC's Safeguarding team will put these videos on their website.
(This action is already happening)



Ask someone from the GCC Learning Disability team to come and talk about planning care and support.



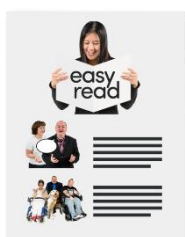
Ask the transitions team to come and talk to the board.



Share the information that Lucy has told us.



Talk to Brandon Trust about Individual Service Plans.



Share accessible information about Direct Payments.



Think Local Act Personal have made some accessible resources about Direct Payments.

Here is the link to the Think Local Act Personal website: [Home - Think Local Act Personal](#)

Inclusion Gloucestershire Research



Sophie from Inclusion Gloucestershire came to talk about research into women's health.



Emma Douglass, a learning disability nurse, is leading this research and Inclusion Gloucestershire is helping.



In the past people with learning disabilities have not always been included in research.



This means there are gaps in research.



Inclusion Gloucestershire would like to talk to anyone who is a woman with a learning disability to find out which areas of health is most important to them.



They would also like to talk to professionals and family carers.



Information about the research and how to get involved is attached to these notes.



Leo told the group about a webpage on the Camphill website for sharing accessible information.



Janet, from Camphill, said: not everyone uses email but the team would be welcome to come and talk to people at Camphill.

Brandon Trust are also interested in this work.



Bren asked: how do we thank people for getting involved in this work?



Like

Sophie said they are not at that stage of the project yet but it is something they would like to happen.



Sophie will talk to Emma about this. who is running the research project.



Leo suggested fundraising.



Jan said: if the research comes to the people, rather than people always being expected to come to the researchers, that may be enough.



Janet said sometimes it's about saying thank you.



Bren agreed that saying thank you for people's involvement is very important.



Sometimes people are asked to share what they think and never hear anything back.



Harriet told the group about Inclusion Gloucestershire's Big Survey.



Harriet said she has an Easy Read version of the survey for people today.



You can also fill it in online:
<https://bit.ly/4coyN56>



A poster about the Big Survey and how people can take part is attached to these notes.



Bren said he can take some to share but the number of people who want to fill it in may be limited if it takes a long time.



Amy said we need to be better at working together on work like this.



The right organisations should be involved.



Working together better, would stop us repeating work.

Rosie told everyone about plans for the Health Action Group.



Rosie asked the board if the Health Action Group could join groups of people who are already meeting.



For example, they could come to Camphill or one of the Inclusion Hubs.



Rosie wants the Health Action Group to be more creative.



Leo thought that would be funky.



Professionals would still come to the Health Action Group.



Bren said Skills Zone might be a good place to meet. They have community rooms.



Bren will share the contact details.



Rosie, from the GCC Enablement team, said they have hubs for people with learning disabilities across Gloucestershire.



Rosie Mockford asked for her email address so they can talk about this.



Rosie, from the Enablement team, said if people want help to fill in the Big Survey, they can come along to the hubs.

Working together update



Amy told the board about a visit she had to Camphill.



Leo and Jon explained what they did. They drew social workers and wrote ideas about what they wanted social workers to do and be like.

Leo said they helped each other.



Amy has taken their ideas and will put it into the new practice framework.



This means a guide that says how we want people to work and behave



Amy said Camphill were amazing.



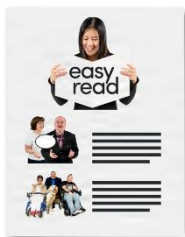
If any other board members work with people with a learning disability who might be interested helping Amy let her know.



Brandon Trust might be interested.
Rosie said: maybe the Health Action Group could link up.



Rosie asked: is there anything else we can do to help people get more involved?



Leo and Jon said it's important things are in Easy Read - using pictures help.



Leo said a session on Makaton would help.

Anything else to talk about and our next meeting



Rosanna gave an update about Eco Hub.



A poster about this is attached to these notes



Healthy Lifestyles are running a new group from 7th September at Treasure Seekers



Alice will share more information soon.



Janet said it's a shame that everything happens in Gloucester.

People in the Forest of Dean can't get there.

Our next in-person meeting will be on Monday 12th October at 11am



We will tell you where it is going to be soon.

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