Annual Report

2025-2026

Gloucestershire Partnership Boards

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

GLOUCESTERSHIRE PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND SENSORY IMPAIRMENT PARTNERHIP BOARD

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

GLOUCESTERSHIRE PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND SENSORY IMPAIRMENT PARTNERHIP BOARD

About

Our Boards
The Learning Disability Partnership Board and the Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment Partnership Board work to ensure people receive the support and services they need.

Co-Chairs
Each board has two co-chairs: one with lived experience and one independent co-chair.

Board Members
Representatives with lived experience, family members, carers, public agencies, and local voluntary and community sector organisations.

Our Aims
To promote inclusive communities where everyone has choice, independence, and equal rights. The boards share best practice, collaborate across sectors, and respond to local needs.

Commissioning
The Learning Disability and Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment Partnership Board service is commissioned by Gloucestershire County Council and provided by Inclusion Gloucestershire.

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

GLOUCESTERSHIRE PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND SENSORY IMPAIRMENT PARTNERHIP BOARD

What We Delivered

6

Learning Disability Partnership Board Meetings

- Bi-monthly, in-person meetings.
- All planned and co-chaired by an expert by experience.
- Agendas and minutes produced in Easy Read format.
- Mailing list growth: currently 222 members

7

Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment Partnership Board Meetings

- 6 bi-monthly online meetings, 1 in-person meeting.
- All planned and co-chaired by an expert by experience.
- Agendas and minutes created.
- Mailing list growth: currently 203 members

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Subgroups and working groups supported:

- Neurology subgroup
- Health Action subgroup
- Advocacy working group
- Transport working group
- Housing working group

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

GLOUCESTERSHIRE PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND SENSORY IMPAIRMENT PARTNERHIP BOARD

Highlights

This year has seen strong growth in engagement, leadership, and collaboration across the boards

Continued Growth

We saw growth in engagement this year, with a significant increase in new subscribers to our mailing lists

78

New Experts by Experience

The growing number of experts has strengthened the value and insight of the boards

10

Strengthened Leadership

The PDSI Co-Chair continues to champion the voices of our members across wider networks, whilst appointment of a new LDPB Co-Chair has brought renewed energy

Strengthened Partnerships

New partnerships and stronger collaboration, supported by the new Coproduction Lead, aligned chairs and partners around shared priorities

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Key Impact

Lived experience and partnership working have driven meaningful impact and change over the past year.

Gig Buddies

A Building Circles project, formed from the work of the LDPB, secured renewed funding to ensure continued social connection and reduced isolation.

Communication Cards

LDPB communication cards continue to be widely shared; popular at Big Health Day, and now part of POhWER's self-advocacy toolkit.

Parkinson's UK

The PDSI and Neurology Subgroup supported Parkinson's UK to secure a formal commitment from Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust - a significant advocacy breakthrough.

Increased Influence

New priorities shaped by lived experience, and shared with Quality Assurance Board, contributed to the re-establishment of the Transport and Advocacy working groups.

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

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What our members said

Feedback from board members highlights the many **strengths** and **successes** of the boards this year:

1 Creating real connection and collaboration

- Brings people, organisations and lived-experience voices together
- Strong networking and relationship-building
- Direct collaboration with commissioners and services

"Networking and making connections has improved so much."

2 Positive and welcoming experience for members

- Welcoming, kind and inclusive atmosphere
- Well-chaired, well-paced meetings
- All communication styles respected

"Every meeting has special moments... everyone is included."

3 Raising issues, influencing change and sharing information

- Raises awareness of important issues
- Helps services advocate for the people they support
- Shares information and highlights gaps
- Progress seen in areas like non-statutory advocacy

"The Board has campaigned and got results on vital issues."

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What our members said

Feedback from members highlight areas we can **develop** and continue to focus on next year

1 Clearer influence pathways

- Continued focus on impact and accountability
- Work with coproduction lead to establish how the board can feed into decision-making

2 Strengthening representation

- Greater diversity of people
- Ensure lived experience voices remain central

Gloucestershire
Learning Disability
Partnership Board

LDPB Priorities 2024 - 2025

Between April 2025 and October 2025, it was agreed that we would continue to focus on two of the priorities (**transport** and **changing attitudes**), as outlined in our 2024-2025 action plan.

- **Relationships and Friendships**
- **Hate Crime**
- **Changing Attitudes**
- **Transport**

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

LDPB Priorities 2024 - 2025

Changing Attitudes

Completed actions

June 2025

Building Circles share training and engagement opportunities they provide to help change attitudes to disabilities

October 2025

National Star College Students share how the college and students are helping to change attitudes to disabilities

Transport

Completed actions

August 2025

Inclusion Gloucestershire Travel Training team from shares information about new 3-year project and opportunities to get involved

August 2025

Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire Community Rail Partnership shares information about transport training offer

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LDPB Priorities 2025 - 2026

New priorities were agreed by the **Learning Disability Partnership Board** in October 2025

- **Advocacy**
- **Work**
- **Health**
- **Hate Crime**

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

LDPB Priorities 2025 - 2026

ACTION PLAN

Advocacy

Completed actions

April 2025 - Share GCC films explaining what advocacy is

April 2025 - **Access Social Care** explains what social care is, people's rights under the Care Act, and share information about support available (Jacky Martel)

May 2025 - Support continuity of advocacy working group during transition period at GCC

June 2025 - Team shares partnership board member feedback with Quality Assurance Board and commissioners overseeing Community Advocacy Project

March 2026 - Share communication cards with **POhWER** to form part of the self-advocacy toolkit

April 2026 - **POhWER** shares information about upcoming self-advocacy toolkit workshops (Juliet Newton)

April 2026 - **Access Social Care** explains how Peer Navigation can support people to be able to use AccessAva to self-advocate (Keith Sexton)

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

LDPB Priorities 2025 - 2026

ACTION PLAN

Advocacy

Planned actions

Inclusion Gloucestershire non-statutory advocacy team to share information about support available
(Date: to be confirmed)

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

LDPB Priorities 2025 - 2026

ACTION PLAN

Health

Completed actions

October 2025 - **Inclusion Gloucestershire** Research Team share findings from Talking Therapies Research, identifying key barriers to access (Vicci Livingstone-Thompson)

December 2025 - **Artlift** shared information about Creative Cancer Awareness Project and upcoming workshops (Helen Crocker)

December 2025 - Update about **ReSPECT** process (Vicki Howard). Note: Vicki was unable to attend so update was shared via the team

December 2025/February 2026 - **Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust** to share Big Health Day 2025 feedback and coproduce ideas for 2026 (Dominika.Lipska-Rosecka and Sophie Ayre)

January 2026 - **GHC Partnerships Team** to share an update about the Learning Disability Services Review – learning and next steps (Rosanna James)

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

LDPB Priorities 2025 - 2026

ACTION PLAN

Health

Planned actions

Health Action Group to share update about priorities and plan once reestablished with new Co-Chair (Rosie Mockford)
(Date: to be confirmed)

Annual Health Check - session focus
(Date and speaker: to be confirmed)

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

LDPB Priorities 2025 - 2026

ACTION PLAN

Work

Planned actions

June 2026 - Forwards Employment and Skills Hub to share information about the service (Amanda Eady)

Enablement team (GCC) to share information about their offer and how people can access support (Rose Savage)
(Date: to be confirmed)

Gloucester Job Centre to share process for accessing employment support (Keely Tanner)
(Date: to be confirmed)

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

LDPB Priorities 2025 - 2026

ACTION PLAN

Hate Crime

Completed actions

January 2026 - **GCC Safeguarding team** share safeguarding process at LDPB and invited to attend regularly (Michelle Garland)

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

LDPB Priorities 2025 - 2026

ACTION PLAN

Hate Crime

Planned actions

Gloucestershire Constabulary to return to give update about changes in the guidance around hate crime and incidents (Steph Lawrence)
(Date: to be confirmed)

Share Keeping Safe film from **Camphill**
(Date: to be confirmed)

Making every adult matter (MEAM) to share information about support available (Kathleen Hansbury)
(Date: to be confirmed)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND SENSORY IMPAIRMENT PARTNERHIP BOARD

PDSIPB Priorities 2025 - 2026

Between July and October 2025, the **Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment Partnership Board** reviewed its priorities and agreed to continue three into the next year. Accessibility in the community was identified as the overarching theme, with advocacy and transport highlighted as specific areas of focus.

Accessibility in the Community

Advocacy

Transport

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PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND SENSORY IMPAIRMENT PARTNERHIP BOARD

PDSIPB Priorities 2025 - 2026

ACTION PLAN

Accessibility in the Community

Completed actions

July 2025 - Community Catalysts share information about their work supporting people to offer care and support in the community, and enabling people to have a choice of services (Heather Vincent)

July 2025 - Inclusion Gloucestershire Research Team share findings from Talking Therapies Research, identifying key barriers to access and recommended next steps (Vicci Livingstone-Thompson)

November 2025 - GRCC shares information about the Gloucestershire Accessibility Project (GAP), focusing on digiital accessibility and assistive technology

January 2026 - Gloucestershire Deaf Association (GDA) shares a presentation about accessibility from the perspective of the deaf community (Gilson Sly)

January 2026 - Barnwood Trust gives an update on funding opportunities for improving accessibility in the community

March 2026 - Tewkesbury Access Forum shares information about how they are working on improving accessibility within their local community (Liz Peche)

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PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND SENSORY IMPAIRMENT PARTNERHIP BOARD

PDSIPB Priorities 2025 - 2026

ACTION PLAN

Advocacy

✓ Completed actions

May 2025 - Support continuity of advocacy working group during transition period at GCC

June 2025 - Team shares feedback from PDSI board members with GCC's Quality Assurance Board, alongside report from Access Social Care, to highlight key barriers to advocacy

November 2025 - Community Advocacy Project established and team attend to continue to represent board member's experiences and priorities (ongoing)

January 2026 - Access Social Care explains what social care is, people's rights under the Care Act, and shares information about support available (Jacky Martel)

March 2026 - POhWER shares information about upcoming self-advocacy toolkit workshops (Juliet Newton)

March 2026 - ME/CFS Friendship Group shares advocacy breakthrough: Hospitals Trust have agreed to work closely to coproduce a policy for caring for people with severe ME

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PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND SENSORY IMPAIRMENT PARTNERHIP BOARD

PDSIPB Priorities 2025 - 2026
ACTION PLAN

Transport

✓ Completed actions

May 2025 - GCC's Highways team shares information about projects, accessibility improvement work and priorities. Members have the opportunity to feedback own experiences (Jenny Goodson)

May 2025 - Barnwood Trust shares research findings from Access to Transport in Gloucestershire, highlighting the main barriers people face (Dan Jacques)

May 2025 - Co-chair meets Transport for All to understand more about their priorities and opportunities to work together

May 2025 - Inclusion Gloucestershire Travel Training Project team shares information about the new project and how people can get involved to improve travel confidence (Debbie Worrall)

June 2025 - Team shares feedback from PDSI board members with GCC's Quality Assurance Board, highlighting transport as a key priority and emphasising the need for the reestablishment of the transport working group

October 2025 - Building Better Transport group is reinstated. Team attend and contribute, sharing feedback from board members (ongoing)

March 2026 - Share update about the Robin Bus and the Building Better Transport Links Group (Thea Rumer)

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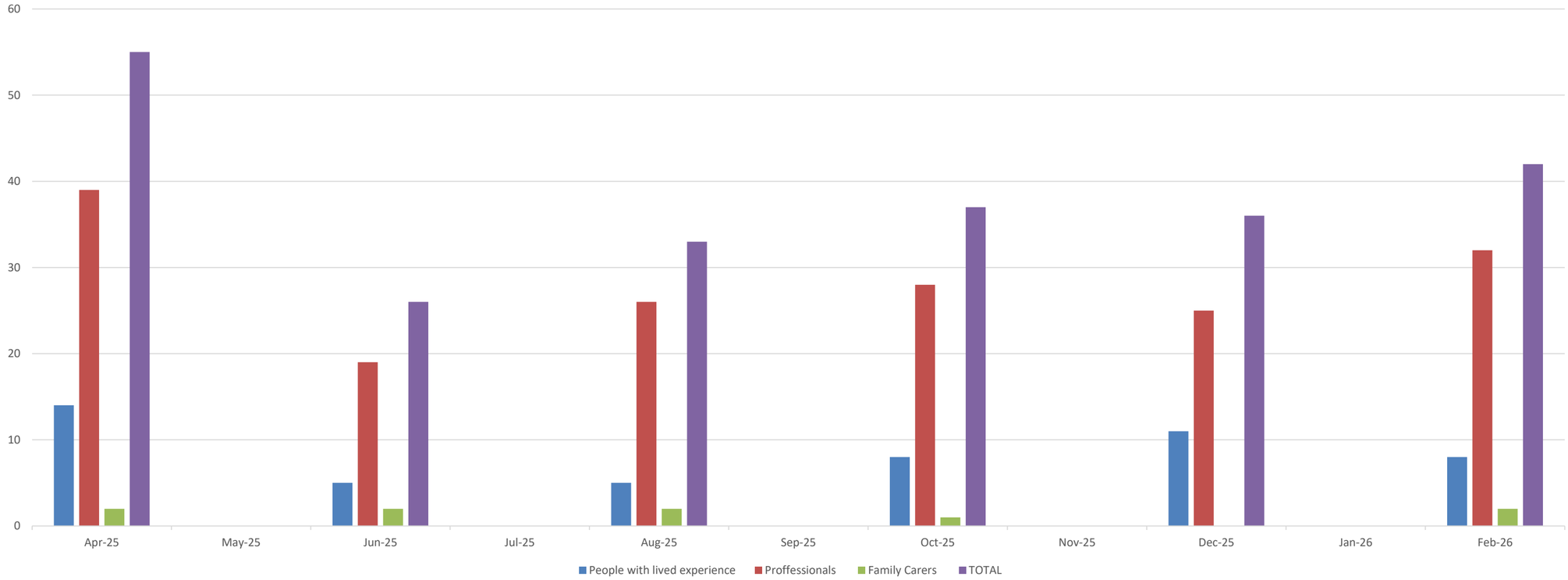
Annual Attendance



Notes

- Some people fit into more than one (or all) the categories, however, people have not been double counted.
- The LDPB numbers do not include attendees at the two ‘mini’ meetings.

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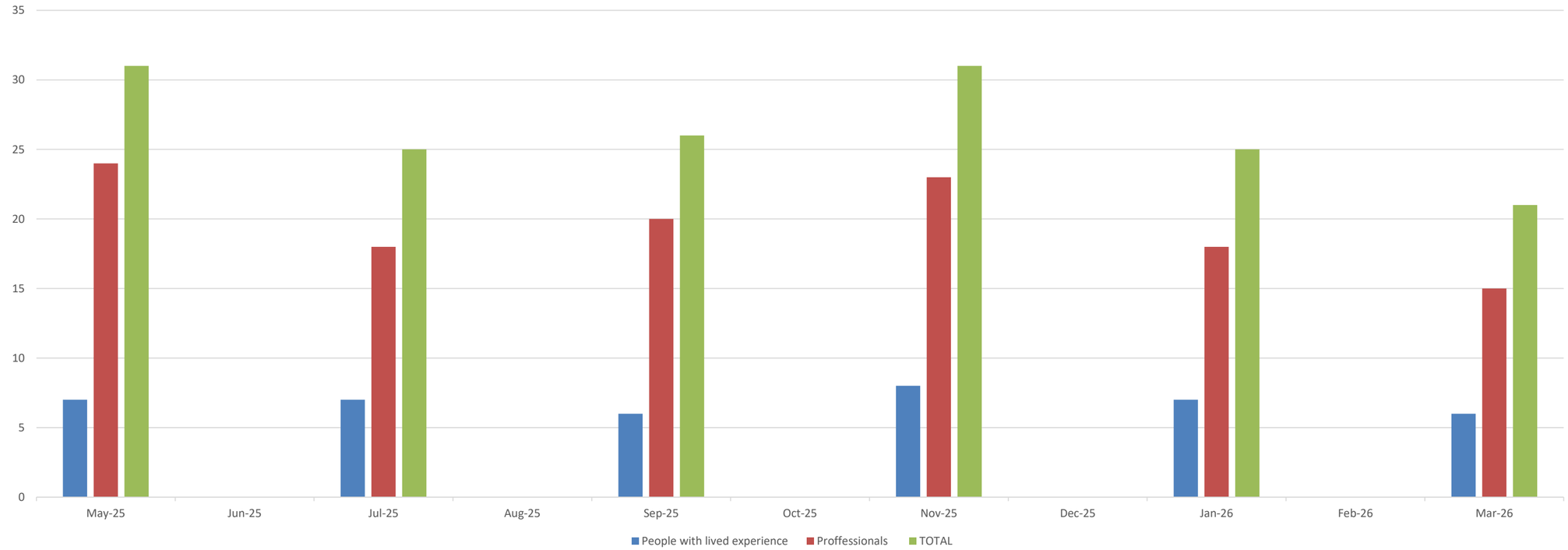
PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND SENSORY IMPAIRMENT PARTNERHIP BOARD

Annual Attendance



Notes

- The PDSI PB figures just include the online meetings.
- Increasing attendance of people with lived experience continues to be a priority.

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Partnership Working

We continue to strengthen partnerships and build new relationships across health, VCSE, education, advocacy, transport and local authority sectors.

Both boards play a key role in enabling partner organisations to network, collaborate and strengthen local offers.

They bring together experts by experience, professionals and community partners to share insights directly with service providers.

Joint actions and shared resources have strengthened local systems and projects.

Lived experience continues to drive improvements in accessibility and inclusion across the community.

Gloucestershire
Learning Disability
Partnership Board

LDPB Partners

29

organisations engaged with the Learning Disability Partnership Board this year

Access Social Care
Active Gloucestershire
Allsorts
Artlift
Aspire Living
Barnwood Trust
Brandon Trust
Building Circles
Camphill Village Trust
Daffodil Support Services
Department for Work and Pensions
Forest Pulse
Gloucestershire County Council
Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust
Gloucestershire Carers Hub
Gloucestershire Community Rail Partnership
Gloucestershire Parent Carer Forum
Gloucestershire Constabulary
Healthy Lifestyles Gloucestershire
Healthwatch Gloucestershire
Integrated Hospital Optimisation Team
Inclusion Gloucestershire
Kingfishers
Making Every Adult Matter
National Star College
NHS Gloucestershire
PACE
POhWER
Prosperity Care and Wellbeing

Gloucestershire
Learning Disability
Partnership Board

LDPB: Key Partnership Highlights

Expanded collaboration with National Star College, bringing younger voices into board discussions.

Strengthened links with GCC Safeguarding, to improve a clear route for lived-experience feedback.

Worked with POhWER to embed communication cards into the self-advocacy toolkit.

Provided opportunity to improve design of Big Health Day through co-production.

Travel-training opportunities were shared via GOCRP and Inclusion Gloucestershire.

Provided lived-experience input into the Learning Disability Services Review.

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PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND SENSORY IMPAIRMENT PARTNERHIP BOARD

PDSIPB Partners

32

organisations engaged with the Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment Partnership Board this year

Accessible Gloucestershire
Active Gloucestershire
Access Social Care
Barnwood Trust
Charcot Therapy Centre
Cotswold District Council
Community Catalysts
Daffodil Support Services
Gloucestershire & Oxfordshire Community Rail Partnership
Gloucestershire Carers Hub
Gloucestershire County Council
Gloucestershire Deaf Association
Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Gloucestershire Sight Loss Council
Gloucestershire Rural Community Council
Headway Gloucestershire
Healthwatch Gloucestershire
Inclusion Gloucestershire
Insight Gloucestershire
Mary Rush Care
ME/CFS Friendship Group
National Star College
NHS Gloucestershire / Gloucestershire ICB
P.A.C.E.
Parkinson's UK
POhWER
Saracen Care Services
South Western Ambulance Service (SWAST)
Tewkesbury Access Forum
The Isbourne
University of Gloucestershire
You're Welcome

GLOUCESTERSHIRE
PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND SENSORY IMPAIRMENT PARTNERHIP BOARD

PDSIPB: Key Partnership Highlights

Strengthened relationships with Parkinson's UK, leading to a joint letter to Gloucestershire Hospitals.

Re-engaged with Gloucestershire Deaf Association, promoting increased cross-sector interest in deaf awareness, inclusive design, and accessibility improvements.

Continued to build relationship with the University of Gloucestershire to improve collaboration and engage younger members.

Provided direct lived-experience feedback to Highways and the Robin bus service.

PDSI Co-chairs delivered a coproduction presentation at the Community Hospitals Association Conference on behalf of the Boards.

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

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Cross-Board Partnership

Advocacy Working Group
Supported the group through GCC's transition and into its re-established form as the Community Advocacy Project, ensuring lived-experience insight from board members shapes priorities.

Transport Working Group
Continued to support the re-established group, reflecting transport as a shared priority across both boards.

Housing Working Group
Provided ongoing lived-experience input to influence housing-related improvements.

Collaborative Partnership Board
Attended the re-established board to share learning, highlight impact, and agree shared priorities with partners.

Co-Chair Forums
Co-Chairs with lived experience now attend new forums, strengthening consistency and connection across partnership boards.

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

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Subgroups Update

Health Action Group

•A new Strategic Health Facilitator is now in post, committed to ensuring the subgroup is genuinely co-produced and effective.

•Recruitment is underway for a new co-chair with lived experience.

•Once re-established, the subgroup will continue to drive key priorities, including improving screening uptake and the accessibility of Annual Health Checks.

Neurology Subgroup

- The subgroup is building a network, bringing people together to share lived experience and identify common issues to provide support and improve accessibility.
- Meetings are well attended, with strong support for the group to continue as a dedicated space so people do not fall between gaps.
- The subgroup has already had tangible impact, including its role in the joint letter with PDSIPB and Parkinson's UK in securing a commitment from Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Gloucestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board

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Key Issues Raised

Accessibility not consistently embedded: documents, websites and meetings are not always accessible; differing needs are not fully considered.

Advocacy gaps: limited provision, especially for people with complex needs; progress beginning but still a priority.

Transport barriers: ongoing issues affecting access to services and independence; recent improvements but still a major concern.

Co-production has not always been meaningful: lived-experience involvement has sometimes been inconsistent and not embedded throughout processes.

System fragmentation: gaps between GCC, GHC and providers mean people fall between services.

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Learning and Next Steps

Embed accessibility: across all documents, meetings, websites and systems, including screen-reader formats and reasonable adjustments such as AI notetaking.

Continue prioritising advocacy: closing gaps in provision and making information easy to find, building on the advocacy working group and upcoming POhWER self-advocacy workshops.

Continue prioritising transport: supporting the Transport Group and tackling barriers that limit access to services, independence and participation.

Strengthen co-production: continue to advocate for the meaningful involvement of people earlier in decision-making.

Identify influence opportunities: ensuring board priorities can have more direct and visible impact across the system.

Widening representation: ensuring a broader range of lived-experience voices are included and heard.

Strengthen digital engagement: ensuring accessible, up-to-date online information is available in varied formats (video, audio, Easy Read), supporting co-chairs to take a lead.

This report was commissioned by Gloucestershire County Council and produced by Inclusion Gloucestershire.



