

# Newcastle Advisory Group

## Do you want to be part of this?



We are looking for:

**3 people with a learning disability**

and

**3 family carers of someone with a learning disability** to join the Newcastle Advisory group.

You will need to be:

- **18 years or older**
- **Live in Newcastle**
- **Use or be familiar with services for people with a learning disability in the area.**



The group comes together with support from **Inclusion North** to work with **Newcastle City Council**.

Together we think about what support, services, and opportunities people with a learning disability in Newcastle have to live a good life.

### **What have we been doing?**

Reported on the areas and housing designs for new supported living developments.

Involved in the process to select which organisation will deliver the support in these new developments.

Given our views on new digital support options.





Recommended training for the Safeguarding Plan 2019/2020.

Promoted the need for accessible financial assessment processes within the Council.



Developed an accessible 'housing move checklist'.

Provided information and ideas to the Council's 'Information Now' website.



### **What we will be doing in the next 6 months?**

Find out what the important issues are for people with a learning disability and their families in Newcastle. Work with the Council on these to make a difference.

Continue our involvement with new housing and support developments, what is needed for the future?



Look at how people with a learning disability will be affected by the Council's budget 2022/2023.

### **How does the Group meet?**

Members of the Group come together **once a month** for **1.5 hours**.

Members sometimes also come together at other times, as a smaller group when working on specific things.

We meet online using **Zoom**. We will look at doing some sessions face to face in the future when it is safe to do so.





We agree as a group on the day and time for these meetings and review this every 6 months.

We will be meeting on the **first Wednesday of the month 10-11.30 from Aug-Dec 2021**

### **What will it be like being part of this Group?**

Everyone is an equal member of the Group.

We all bring different skills, knowledge, and experience.

We support one another, learn together, and have some fun along the way!



### **We are looking for people who have these skills:**

- Can listen well to other people and work as part of a team.
- Can speak up in meetings and represent the views of others with a learning disability in what we do.
- Can use a computer or phone to join online Zoom meetings or be willing to learn how to do this.



### **More information:**

We offer a **£10 per hour involvement fee** to everyone who is part of the group.

If you are worried this might affect your benefits you don't have to take the money. We will do our best to be



flexible and to find a way to make this work for each person in the group.



### **What members of the Group say about their involvement:**

“Good to keep in touch with what’s happening.” GD

“It’s important to air our views on services from the City Council.” BR

“I really enjoy going to the group. I have learnt a lot along the way and hopefully improved the lives of many people by the work the group does. The group gives people with a learning disability a voice, an opportunity to have their opinions heard and acted upon.” BT

### **Interested in being part of the group?**

Please fill in the 2-page form below telling us a bit about yourself and send it back to us.



**Please note:** If more than 6 people are interested, we might ask for more information to help us choose the right people for the Group.