

17th March 2023

Inclusion North News



Inclusion North will share an important news story and tell you about their own work here every two weeks.



Kellie Woodley, Inclusion North's Project Manager for the North East is sadly leaving Inclusion North next week after 10 years. Inclusion North are very happy for Kellie's new adventures and wish her the best of luck.



Kirsty Morgan will be acting up into the Project Manager role for the North East for the next three months.



In national news, the Spring 2023 budget from the Government was released this week.

Some points made were:



- Working parents who have children older than 9 months old will get 30 hours of free childcare. The aim is to support working parents that have a child under the age of 5 until September 2025.



- There are plans to support people with the cost of living including keeping the Energy Price Guarantee at £2,500 for the next 3 months. This means that people's gas and electric bills should not go up in April.



- There are plans to help people to get a job by removing barriers for people who claim benefits, older workers, and those with health conditions who may not be able to work but want to.

Update from Courtney, our Project Worker for the North East



The Involvement Leaders have been involved in some important meetings to speak about the neglect and abuse that was shown on the Edenfield Panorama programme in October 2022.



Part of this work has been about learning what needs to change and what lessons have been learnt.

We have been given updates on what the Integrated Care Boards in the North East and North Cumbria, Yorkshire and Humber are doing.



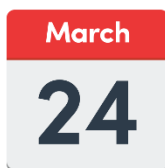
We updated them on some of the work Inclusion North are doing to hear the voice of people with a learning disability, autistic people and family carers. The Involvement Leaders told them their ideas and thoughts on how to improve care, how to identify risks early and how to change cultures in hospitals.



I have created a PowerPoint about these meetings with feedback on what was spoken about to make sure people receive the right care. If you would like to share this with you, please let me know.



We have been told that on **Friday 24th March 2023** Channel 4 Dispatches will be showing a programme called 'Locked Away: Our Autism Scandal'. A summary of what the programme will be about has been shared by the producers. This says -



"Autistic patients trapped within mental health units tell their stories of poor treatment, abuse and long spells inside as their symptoms just get worse. These videos made secretly by patients, paint a stark portrait of a healthcare system in crisis."



We know this programme may cause some distress for people and families to watch, so please reach out to any of your support networks if you are choosing to watch it.

