**Coalition for Change**

**Join Us!**

**August 2023**

**Who we are**

We have come together to challenge and influence national policy and local commissioning concerning the services available to individuals with learning disabilities and/or autism who have been described as displaying “challenging behaviours”. People with lived experience of the existing system, their families and/or care givers and professionals from statutory, voluntary, and private sectors are shaping the Coalition’s work programme.

We believe that there should be a new social care contract for care which prioritises community support services over admission to “Assessment and Treatment” units and hospital. We believe that support services should be co-designed and co-produced. We have adopted the mantra of “Homes not Hospitals”.

We have three aims:

1. To build networks of:

* Young people and adults with learning disabilities and/or autism who have also been described as displaying behaviours that challenge.
* Those with specific lived experience of in-patient care at a hospital or assessment and treatment facility
* The families and/or care givers of people who are vulnerable to being placed in unwanted services or who have supported individuals in the past.
* Professionals with personal experience of services for individuals with learning disabilities and/or autism

1. To identify opportunities to influence and challenge national policy and local commissioning concerning their investment in particular support services:
* which focus on people’s mental, physical health and wellbeing, allowing them to live a fulfilled and meaningful life (and which follow best practice and NICE guidance)
* which are local, close to family, friends, and the community
* which are co-designed
1. To share with national policy makers and commissioners our experience of designing and providing appropriate services for people with learning disabilities and/or autism who have also been described as displaying challenging behaviours.

**Membership**

Membership is free and open to any person with learning disabilities and/or autism; their family members; their carers and any interested person from the private, public, charity or voluntary sectors who wants to help improve the life opportunities for people with learning disabilities and/or autism.

The Coalition for Change (Norfolk) (C4C) has two levels of membership:

* Core Group (6 places currently available)
* Communication and campaigns (unlimited places available)

The Coalition for Change (C4C) Core Group will consist of people with learning disabilities and/or autism, family representatives, advocates as well as professionals with experience of the services for and lives of people with learning disabilities and/or autism.

As a **Core Group member**, individuals will be asked to take part in meetings (usually online) to make decisions about what C4C should focus on and how it should be done. We can arrange support to help people access digital equipment and software if needed.

We will support Core Group members to be able to fully participate in the meetings by offering pre- and post- meetings as well as ensuring that information is accessible and in easy read formats.

We will pay expenses for Core Group Members to take part in the meetings and to support with any work outside of this that we may ask them to be involved in.

As a **Communication and Campaign member**, individuals can agree to receive updates, information, invitations to be part of consultations, events, campaigns etc. They will be asked for their opinions by the Core Group to ensure that what C4C does stays relevant and captures as many voices as possible however they will be able to ‘pick and choose’ what they get involved with and how.

Membership of the Core Group or as a Communication and Campaign member is open-ended and individuals are not limited in how long they serve or participate in the work of C4C.

Application for either type of membership can be made by email to Tracey Jones on tracey.jones@norfolk.gov.uk.

Our current membership can be found on [Norfolk Safeguarding Adult Board’s website](https://www.norfolksafeguardingadultsboard.info/about-us/an-overview-of-safeguarding-adults-reviews-sars/coalition-for-change/core-group-members/).

We hope you feel able to join us either as a Core Group member or as a Communication and Campaign Member – we look forward to welcoming you to the Coalition!