



Working for Choice, Independence & Lifestyle

Wiltshire Independent NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2019

Issue 48

Wiltshire Centre for Independent Living

info@wiltshirecil.org.uk

 **0300 1233 442**

Welcome to the Spring edition of our newsletter. Now that mornings are brighter and evenings are getting lighter for longer it tends to invigorate us and give us more energy! If that is the case and you would like to have a say or get involved, there are plenty of opportunities and we would love to hear from you. For example:



This year we are setting up a Personalisation Board. It will be user led. The aim will be to initiate action for change within health and social care across Wiltshire. It will ensure service users have a voice around the table to influence practice and procedure. It will be a board that represents the wider voice of the people to input into practice from the beginning and not as an afterthought. It will ensure true Co-production. We will invite you to nominate potential board members who will be selected following an interview process. The Board will invite senior officers from Wiltshire Council and the CCG who will have designated responsibility for specific areas of work ensuring accountability and responsive input into the board. The Board will meet 4 times per year and will feed into local health and wellbeing strategies for all disabled and older people in the county.

If you would like to know more or are interested in being a part of this exciting new role please contact Wiltshire CIL on 0300 1233 442 or email info@wiltshirecil.org.uk for further information.



We are currently receiving calls from a number of people regarding their experiences of Wiltshire Council's Financial and Benefit (FAB) assessments and the impact it is having on some peoples' wellbeing. We want to hear from you if you have had a FAB assessment and capture your views on how it went and how you felt about the process and outcome. With your input we can make a series of recommendations to FAB to improve the assessment process, we will then work with Wiltshire Council to identify ways of implementing these recommendations.

Are we keeping our promise? Please let us know  



Please rate your experience with us by completing our short online **[Service User Survey](#)**

We would really appreciate your feedback and it will only take you a couple of minutes to complete.

direct payments

Important information for employers with a pension scheme



Important Information

In April 2019 the minimum pension contributions will be changed by law. This will affect the contributions of the employer as well as that of the employees. The changes are shown in the table below.

For those of you using our Payroll Service, all the changes necessary to ensure the correct contributions are made will be managed by ourselves. All you need to do is to alert your employees to these changes.

Date Effective	Employer minimum pension contribution	Staff pension contribution	Government pension contribution	Total minimum pension contribution
From now until 5 April 2019	2%	2.4%	0.6%	5%
6 April 2019 onwards	3%	4%	1%	8%

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any queries
payroll@wiltshirecil.org.uk 0300 1233442

Employers – End of the Tax Year

At the end of the tax year, every employee employed under a PAYE scheme receives a P60 form which shows all the money they have been paid and the deductions made. If you use our Payroll Service, these will be produced throughout April and will be sent out with the payslips either by post or by email, depending on how you receive your payslips.

National Minimum Wage (NMW)

New rates from 1st April 2019

- £8.21 per hour for ages 25 and over
- £7.70 per hour for ages 21 to 24
- £6.15 per hour for ages 18 to 20
- £4.35 per hour for school leaving age to 17
- £3.90 per hour for apprentices

The new rate will apply to the next pay reference period that begins on or after the date:

- a rate increase begins
- an employee reaches a new age bracket

For example: an employee paid on the 20th of each month will start to receive the new rate of minimum wage from 21 April onwards.

If a worker receives above NMW there is no legal obligation on an employer to increase their pay when the NMW rate increases.

personal assistant (pa) register

Our PA Register lets employers post their job advert by creating a profile containing the relevant information and also to browse active PA profiles. They can then make contact to potential PAs using the messaging function.

Personal Assistants (PAs) are able to publish their profiles and apply for jobs by contacting potential employers using the same messaging function. We have now added a new Vacancy Board on the home page to enable job vacancies to be advertised for employers who request extra support with recruitment



Vacancy Board

The vacancies can be viewed without the need to register on the site—although there are more vacancies available to those who do choose to register. The vacancies on the new Vacancy Board are given a unique reference number and we at Wiltshire CIL act as the point of contact.



www.wiltspa-reg.org.uk

FREE training for Personal Assistants



Help protect the future of the Personal Assistant (PA) workforce and invest in their personal development.

We recently held three successful training sessions for PAs during February and March 2019: Autism Awareness, Basic First Aid and Manual Handling in Trowbridge and Chippenham.

We are currently seeking to secure funding for further FREE training sessions and these will be advertised on our [website](#) along with details on how to book a place.



user engagement



Since November the User Engagement team has worked with over 200 people!

Some of these people have been involved in a new piece of work based on their experience of housing, care and support. It has been a great opportunity for people across Wiltshire to have their voices heard and share their experiences and ideas.

You can view the full report [here](#).



Exciting things have been happening with the Wiltshire-wide Autism and Learning Disability Forums. Forums are now

taking place in Warminster (developed in partnership with WAVE) and Chippenham. There are plans for forums in other areas very soon... so watch this space. People's experiences and ideas discussed at the forums are taken to the Autism and Learning Disability Board meetings. We also have a brand new Autism Forum on Facebook for those who like to engage through social media. If you'd like to find out more or get involved, then please get in touch.

The Safeguarding Service User Group meets with the Chair of the Safeguarding Board and Wiltshire



Council officers to provide lived experience of safeguarding matters. Recently they have been giving their experiences of hospital discharge and safeguarding and will be exploring this in more detail during their May meeting. They have also been busy finishing the new leaflet design and content. Once printed there are plans for a big launch with group members promoting awareness in their own communities.

Last month Mary M worked with Diane, who wanted to tackle an issue with wheeliebins. Diane had noticed that on bin collections days, it was difficult to get out on a mobility scooter because the bins were sometimes left obstructing the pavement. She thought that the biggest issue was that people were simply not aware how much impact an obstructing wheelie-bin could have on someone's ability to be independent. Diane and Mary worked together to get in touch with Wiltshire Council and ask if they would raise awareness of this issue amongst the kerbside bin collectors. Wiltshire Council spoke with the manager at Hills and they agreed to take it to their next team meeting to raise awareness with their staff.



make someone welcome



The Make Someone Welcome Project (part of the campaign and working one to one with people), has had a very busy first six months.

Poppy and Nicky, our Connectors, have had 120 referrals – they have supported them to live the life they want. The Connectors work alongside people, helping them to set and achieve their goals. So far they have walked, jogged and swam with people. They have also gone shopping, tidied cupboards, got on trains and buses and attended groups for the first time with people. There is no set time for how long we can work with someone, but we find that people don't need us after their confidence grows and they get back to doing what they love.

If you or someone you know would like our support give us a call on 0300 1233442, or email mary@wiltshirecil.org.uk. We look forward to hearing from you.

The #MakeSomeoneWelcome Campaign is going from strength to strength with groups signed up from Wiltshire, Swindon and Bath and North East Somerset. There are over 150 groups so far, with more groups signing up on a regular basis. We have 6 Men Sheds, community choirs, sports facilities, Cafes, play schools and Girl Guides / Scouts to name but a few. We are always on the lookout for new groups to sign up, particularly venues that people use on a daily basis, such as pubs, local shops and hairdressers. If you are interested in getting involved in your brilliant campaign to “Make Someone Welcome” in their local community, then please get in touch by emailing abbi@wiltshirecil.org.uk Here are a few photos of groups that we have signed up recently:



Brunel Men's Shed



Stanley Park, Chippenham



Warminster Community Choir



Zumba Gold, Trowbridge



We also have a brilliant new Make Someone Welcome Toolkit to support all our groups. If you haven't received yours yet and you are signed up to MSW, we will be emailing one to you soon. If you would like us to go through it with you we can come out and have a chat.

community
Get Together

Pewsham Community Centre
Lodge Road SN15 3SY
Wednesday April 10th 2019 1pm–3pm
Refreshments provided
Hosted by: Wiltshire CIL
PLEASE JOIN US

Join our inclusive community festival to celebrate what a good life is for people in Wiltshire

Festival of the FUTURE

1ST JUNE 2019

1PM - 5PM

THE SCOUT CENTRE
POTTERNE WICK
SN10 5QT

SPORTS
PHOTO BOOTH
BEAUTY ZONE
COMMUNITY ART
MUSIC
QUIET AREA
REFRESHMENTS
GAMING ZONE
... AND MUCH MORE

EVERYONE
WELCOME!

More information:

info@wiltshirecil.org.uk 0300 1233 442

Following on from the success of the ImaYDiT Project, Wiltshire CIL has gained funding from the Wiltshire Community Foundation to run the Festival of the Future.

This is an inclusive community event celebrating the young people's achievements and showing the local community that they can do it too!

The event will take place on 1st June 2019, 1 - 5pm at the Scout Centre, Potterne Wick.

Proudly supporting youth social action

#iwill

Everyone welcome please do come along and celebrate with us!



Working in partnership with
Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters



THE 3RD SECTOR CARE AWARDS 2014 FINALIST



Find us on Facebook



www.wiltshirecil.org.uk

Disclaimer: The information in this newsletter is provided by Wiltshire CIL as a service to readers. Wiltshire CIL cannot guarantee that the information provided is accurate, verified, comprehensive, or complete. For this reason, you should not rely, nor act upon any of the information contained in these pages without professional advice. If you do so, it will be entirely at your own risk. The views expressed in these articles are those of the individual author and are not necessarily endorsed by Wiltshire CIL.

Use of external links on the Wiltshire CIL website: Wiltshire CIL accepts no responsibility for the content of external websites. The decision to include these links should in no way be seen as an endorsement of the views expressed, they are those of the author or the organisation.



Subscribe

to receive our e-newsletter