

Learning Disability Partnership Board Knowledge Café



Issue 2
January 2020

Feedback from January 13th 2020 Knowledge Café

Inclusion!

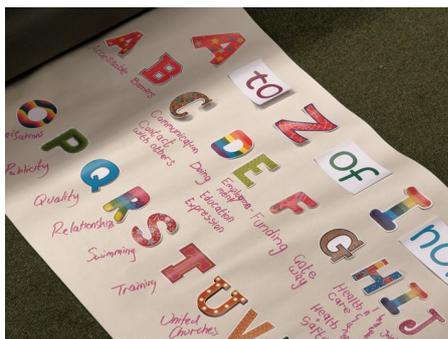
We had a brilliant Knowledge Café on 13th January, there was a great energy in the room. The topic of the day was Positive Inclusion—what this means, what this looks like to you and how we achieve it.

Some brilliant ideas for the focus group and how we move things forward to start influencing and making changes in our communities to make them great were thought up.

You will find all of the information from the Knowledge Café pulled together here and also the date for the next one.

Inside this issue

- The A to Z of Inclusion
- How inclusive is your community?
- What do you want to tell Wiltshire?
- Focus Group
- The next Knowledge Café



Is Your Community Inclusive?

We had representatives from all over the county at the Knowledge Café who were able to share their experiences about how inclusive they felt their community where they live is.



We had a few from further afield too including Frome, Bath and Southampton — they travel far and wide for our Knowledge Cafes!

There was an overwhelming sense of community that came through when people talked about the things that make where they live inclusive.

Local shops, pubs, clubs, banks, cinemas, schools, hairdressers were all assets and important to have in a local community.

Having places to go to in your local community such as **restaurants, pubs** and **coffee mornings** are important as it means that people are involved in their local communities and **feel safe** and happy to go to these places.

The relationships that people have where they live contributes towards a feeling of inclusion — **neighbours, friends, girlfriend, police** where all important.

Local facilities and services such as **buses, shops** and the **high street being accessible** were highlighted as things that made where you live inclusive.

“I feel part of the neighbourhood”

Quote from a participant at the Knowledge Café

How Inclusive is Your Community Headlines

Belonging to your local community = inclusive community.

Having things to do and places to go in your local community make people feel included.

Poor accessibility hinders peoples feelings of being included in their local community.

“Lots of friends live there”

Quote from a participant at the Knowledge Café

This is what you said —

Good

- Feel safe
- Pub, shops
- Church social groups
- Eating places
- Buses—drop down access
- Easy to get to town
- Neighbours
- Facilities—banks, cinemas, schools and restaurants
- Beautiful scenery
- Police support
- Lots of friends live there
- Community Centre
- Neighbourhood Watch and website
- Swimming Pool
- Level access shops
- Accessible high street
- Coffee mornings, Village Hall
- Hairdressers



Poor

- Not much to do
- No leisure centre
- No lift at the train station
- Shops closing down
- Lots of crime, drugs, gangs
- Pavements aren't accessible
- Police Station not manned 24/7
- No information on what's going on
- Don't feel safe at night
- Public transport
- Unfriendly people
- No community
- Not able to access things in the evening outside of where I live
- Landlords not letting to people on benefits
- No train station
- Narrow roads/pavements
- Gateway Club—closed
- Poor lighting and road quality

Some common themes arose when looking at what made where people live less inclusive for them.

Crime, gangs and drugs were things that were mentioned in many of the places where people lived especially the bigger towns and cities throughout Wiltshire. This also led to some commenting that they **don't feel safe at night**.

Whilst there was praise for many areas having accessible facilities and services there were some places where poor accessibility such as **no lift at the train station, pavements aren't accessible, narrow roads and pavements** caused problems for people and made their communities less inclusive for them.

Relationships as we have already seen play a huge role in promoting inclusive communities but there were however some who felt that where they live that people could be **unfriendly**.

“We have a sports hall and a swimming pool but nothing for learning disabilities and wheelchair users”

Quote from a participant at the Knowledge Café

In some areas a lack of things to do or **not having information about what was going on** led to a feeling of isolation. **Shops closing down** and **clubs closing down** were all mentioned as ways in which communities were shrinking.



What do you want to tell Wiltshire?

Each table was asked to suggest two things that they would like to tell Wiltshire about making communities more inclusive.

They were also asked to think about how they would tell Wiltshire — being creative and imaginative about ways to get their message out there.

Think **BIG**, start **small**

As a group we voted on the most important things that we wanted to tell Wiltshire, these are—

Employment/Work

What we want to say —

People with a learning disability should be given the same opportunities to have paid employment—we don't want to just do voluntary work!

How we tell Wiltshire —

Train employers to be aware of the needs of people with a learning disability.
Do an awareness video and posters

Transport

What we want to say —

Improvement to public transport in rural areas, which would involve accessibility and inclusion

How we tell Wiltshire —

Educate transport staff about learning disabilities and how they can make travelling on public transport a better experience for all

Information Sharing

What we want to say —

Need to share and give information about what is going on and where — an information hub

How we tell Wiltshire —

Local council site would be a good option. Advertise on local Radio, on public places on buses, trains so a lot of people would find out about what's going on quickly.

More Support for Adults

What we want to say —

Don't forget adults with disabilities. Lots of help to 0-18 but then it seems adults are out on their own they don't matter anymore.

How we tell Wiltshire —

More communication, more organisations talking to one another
Speaking out coming to these workshops.

Focus Groups

A Group of Knowledge Café members have volunteered to be part of a focus group to steer the work of the Knowledge Café. The focus group will be looking at what we want to tell Wiltshire and will be leading on making this happen.

The focus groups will be setting the themes and content for the Knowledge cafes and will be co-producing the work that we will be doing at the Knowledge Cafes. In between the cafes they will be meeting, looking at what was said in the cafes and producing materials to be used by all of the Knowledge Café members and Wiltshire to use to make our communities work better for us.

The focus group has had its first few meetings and the first topic they will be focusing on is **work**.



Some of the Focus Group Members



The next Learning Disability Partnership Board Knowledge Café will be on -

Tuesday 7th April 2020 10am - 12 noon

Paxcroft Mead Community Centre

17 Hackett Place, Hilperton, Trowbridge BA14 7GW

We will be looking at

Work — what is work, why its important, what we have to offer and what will help us achieve our work goals and dreams.

There are only 50 places available, to book a place email kate@wiltshirecil.org.uk or call 0300 1233 442

If you use services, we can help you to attend by providing transport and having someone there on the day to support you to take part

If you have any questions or would like to know more about the Wiltshire Learning Disabilities Partnership Board contact -

Kate Tutssel: kate@wiltshirecil.org.uk or call 0300 1233 442

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