

Run by people with disabilities, for people with disabilities



Skills and confidence boosting training for meetings

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Development Officers



Cambridgeshire Alliance for Independent Living

We are a pan-disability organisation run by people with disabilities for people with disabilities, their families and their carers.

We work to empower people to raise their Voice and improve the services that they receive



Cambridgeshire Alliance

Cambridgeshire County Council has made a commitment to listen to and support the voice of local people to be involved in the design and delivery of their local services.



Cambridgeshire Alliance

As part of this they have commissioned Cambridgeshire Alliance for Independent Living to run four 'Partnership Boards' to work together to improve services.

- Carers
- Learning Disability
- Older People
- Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment



Who is on a Partnership Board?

The Boards are made up of:

- Independent Representatives
(Carers, Older People, or people with a disability)
- Health and Social Care Providers
- Voluntary Organisations

The Boards are Chaired by an Independent Representative



Service level agreement requirement

The Alliance will devise a training programme to support the personal development, skills and confidence of Chairs/Vice Chairs and Board members to enable them to undertake their roles successfully. This may include such topics as:

- Being more confident at meetings
- How to chair a meeting
- Dealing with conflict
- Equality and Diversity
- Confidentiality



So what we did:

We invited the Independent Members to a Task and Finish Group. We wanted to know:

- What do we already have in place that you find helpful
- What do you need to know to help you fulfil your role
- What skills do you think a board member needs
- What skills do you think a Chair or Vice Chair needs
- What support would you like from Cambridgeshire Alliance
- How would you like this



What we did

We listened to what people said!!

Members said they wanted:

- Better explanation of the role of the Partnership Boards in relation to the work of the Council
- Committee meeting skills
- Time for peer networking



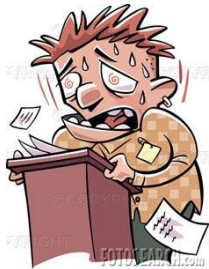
And then...

We put on a workshop with interactive group work sessions to explore:

- What happens in a meeting
- What is the role of the Chair
- What skills the Independent members bring to the Partnership Boards
- How the Partnership Boards 'fit in' with the work of the Council

We included:

Skills Practice



BEFORE



AFTER



We asked:

What else would help you in your role?

And we gave time for:

Peer networking
and
Tea, coffee and a slice of cake



What did people think of the workshop?

- 14 people attended
- 10 evaluation forms were fully completed
- 71% response rate

- Did you enjoy the session?
 - 80% said yes a lot
- Did it meet its objectives?
 - 80% said mostly or fully

What were the comments?

- What part of the session do you remember as good?
 - Networking
 - Realisation of how much knowledge the Board members have
 - All was interesting and useful
 - Learning how the Boards interact
 - Skills required for an effective Chair and board member
 - Skills practice

What were the comments?

- What part of the session did you not like?
 - The Role Play (skills practice)
 - The need for an evaluation form!





Partnership Boards

Cambridgeshire Alliance for Independent Living

Thank you



Cambridgeshire Alliance
for Independent Living