

# **The Joint Learning Disability, Autism and Carers Service Users Event**

**Held on 7 September  
2021**



# Who was there

Name	About them
Mike Hooper Helen Newton	Healthwatch Cornwall
Amanda Wilton	Derriford Patient Council & Carer
Christopher Burns	Self-Advocate
Chris Jordan	Self-Advocate
David Allkins	Cornwall Council & Self-Advocate
David Burns	Self-Advocate
Heather Davison	Divas, Independent Cornwall Autism Network & Parent Carer
David Burns	Self-Advocate
Jayne Kirkham	Cornwall Councillor and Chair of Learning Disability Partnership Board
Kay Riley	Divas & Self-Advocate
Michelle Lobb	Parent Carers Cornwall
Penni Charteress	The Women's Centre / Divas
Sandra Ward	Chair of Carers Partnership Board, Director of Parent Carers Cornwall & Carer
Steph Isaacs	Cornwall People First
Tazmin Hook	Independent Cornwall Autism Network & Service User

# What we talked about at the meeting



People wanted to know what services were being offered in each building.

What transport was available to Newquay Town Hall for people with no family or car?

Mike would ask Ann Smith at Cornwall Council.



The Council would talk about Direct Payments at the Autism Partnership Board.

Mike would ask what people could use their money for.

How many people had bought IT equipment with their personal budget?



Ann Smith at Cornwall Council would talk about the Autism Strategy and the Learning Disability Strategy at Partnership Board meetings at the end of the year.

The group said that they wanted the meetings to stay online.



It was still very hard for people with communication issues to see a doctor.

GP staff were not trained to communicate with people with LD or Autism.

They did not understand.

People were in a lot of pain but could not see their GP to explain.

Doctors were prescribing anti-depressant medicines because no therapy was available.

People were treated like their lives were worthless.

Mike would play the recording at the Partnership Board meetings.

The Divas were still meeting online.

They were making some short films about their work. Mike would share them with the Partnership Boards.

They were giving lots of training. They would train the Police on sexual abuse and domestic violence next month.

# DIVAS



People were worried about the Spectrum 10k project.



It collected DNA samples from Autistic people.

The project was paused three days after this meeting.

Mike would update when there was new information.



The group looked at the latest hospital passport and said how it could be made better.

Mike would send the ideas to Jane Rees at RCHT so that RCHT and other acute hospitals could look at them.

There would be an update at the next meeting.



The group were worried that people could not get to food banks because they were not getting support from a carer.

This meant that people were not eating properly or showering enough.

Kay had raised £310 for a foodbank in Liskeard.

**The next meeting will be on Zoom at  
10am on 23 November**

