

Whose Social Care is it Anyway?

From permanent lockdown to an equal life

Easy read

#socialcarefuture



Meet the social care future Inquirers.



Welcome

We are a group of people who have used or our loved ones have used social care.

We are leading as we have experience and knowledge to create positive change.

We get people to help on areas such as research



Anna Severwright

We have started talking about what we would want to look at and how we are going to do it.

We will soon be inviting people with ideas to join in.

We will be hosting a session, so register to come along to hear more and be involved.



Ossie Stuart



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Jordan Smith



Katie Clarke



Miro Griffiths



Lara Dowd



Isaac Samuels



Meg Lewis



Lynn Elwell



Sally Percival



Scott Watkin



Clenton Farqharson

Introduction.

We need to be heard. Who's Social Care is it anyway?



Hello, I am Anna Severwright.

I would like to talk about what makes life worth living.

To start with here is Social Care's vision for the future



We all want to live in the place we call home with the people and things that we love, in communities where we look out for one another, doing things that matter to us"



During lockdown we were unable to lead the lives we wanted to. It was hard being stuck at home, not seeing friends and family.

I remember feeling that things were not that different for me.



When people go back to their normal lives we need to protect the things that we value. We do not want to go back to feeling left out.



How has your life been restricted?
Have you had to leave loved ones or your home and go into care.
You may not be able to choose what time you go to bed in your home.



Over 500 people were questioned about their experiences.
We have pulled out 5 key changes to help achieve our future vision in Social Care.

5 Changes to achieve our Social Care Vision



I have listed below the **5 key changes** to achieve our vision.

We want to use any resources we have in a better way and ensure that we have equal rights.



1. **Communities where everyone belongs.**

We want to be part of our communities, to have relationships with people we trust, to share our gifts and talents.

We want access to places in our community, share our interests with others and contribute to our areas of interest





2. Living in a place we can call our own home.

People told us that they did not always have a choice over where and with whom they live.

Some people said that they share their living space with other people who they have not chosen to live with in order to access support.

We should be supported to live in our own chosen home, plan ahead, have the correct equipment and support with a good choice in housing.



3. Leading the lives we want to live.

People told us that the services they receive are very limited with support with personal care only.

We need to be trusted in making our own decisions and manage our own support, we want choice and control in all our support including our personal budgets, what support we get at home and in the community.



We want to use any resources we have in a better way and ensure that we have equal rights.



4. More resources better used.

People told us that the support agreed by their councils is often inadequate and does not meet people's needs.

It does not cover even the basics such as a persons care needs and are quick to take away money that could be used for living a life like everyone else.



Government resources must increase to allow people to live their chosen life. Excessive charges must stop.

Support people to live good lives in their chosen communities where people find their own solutions and supported in ways that work for them



5. Sharing power as equals. Sharing decision making and choices

People told us that they felt that local councils set too many rules and restrictions on how they could organise their support leading to less choices.

They also talked about not being trusted by councils and that they felt like they did not have the power or the means to challenge decisions.



To increase powers to people who get the worse deal we need to be heard more, given the chance to be creative in equal partnership with all teams supporting them. This is called co production (what-is-co-production)

Glimpses of the future



There were a lot of positive experiences that we would like to share and carry on in the future.



This included

“ ‘The council have sorted us well. Sometimes we find the bureaucracy tricky’.

“ ‘My care package does give me the freedom to do these things but I had to fight to get this care and I live in fear that I will lose the care again’.

“ ‘The home carer from the agency is wonderful (always goes above and beyond)’.

“ ‘I have direct payments which help me be independent and give my husband a break’.

“ ‘The good news is we know we can do this. Here are a few examples and places to look. Get in touch if you want to know more or be connected’.





Some useful links:

[Direct Payments - working or not working?](#)

[Making it Real.](#)

The Social Care Innovation Network Starter for Ten [Commissioning for a better future](#)

Great guides on making direct payments better Self-directed support



The Housing Learning Improvement Network is a great place to look for different kinds of housing with support. [Resources - Housing LIN](#)

Our Next Steps



There were a lot of positive experiences that we would like to share and carry on in the future.



1. Take a closer look at the 5 key changes in more detail and think about what action we and others can take.



2. We will be working with the wider Social Care Future movement to make sure the 5 key changes are built into the movement's plans for action.



Want to help?

Get in touch : socialcarefuture@gmail.com



3. From this work we will set short and medium goals for real change.



4. We will be growing a movement for change – bringing our voices together to demand change.

Are you in?

Do you want to avoid permanent lockdown?



Many of us are frustrated and tired at the lack of change.



Giving up is not an option because this is about our lives now.



We need to look at change in a different way.



The movement will be led by the voices of people who draw on social care.

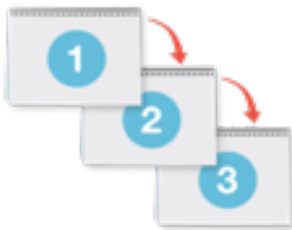


We know change is possible, but the kind of change that is needed will only come if we demand it, together.



We must raise our voices and demand change. So, if you support our vision join us.

Take Practical Steps



Everyone can take steps to support and champion our 5 key changes.



We know people who use or work in social care and want this change. But there are many challenges making change hard.



Our first ask is:

For people who draw on social care and families, workers and professionals, concerned others:



Be part of our movement by signing up. Tell others who you know on social media.



Challenge when you see practice and behavior that keeps people in permanent lockdown.



If you want to get involved, please tell us:
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