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|  | **Be part of a national self advocacy convention in February 2020?** |
|  | Last February some of us from across England were in Blackpool for a big meeting about self advocacy |
|  | We were there thanks to the North West Regional Self-advocates forum and NWTDT / Pathways team who agreed to host a national self-advocacy convention with Learning Disability England.  This happened at the same time as their very popular annual North West Region self-advocates conference. |
| A close up of a logo  Description generated with very high confidence    Speak Out Brighton & HoveA picture containing clipart  Description generated with very high confidence  A picture containing clipart  Description generated with high confidence  A close up of a logo  Description generated with high confidence | There were people there from  10 self-advocacy or human rights organisations from England,  one from Wales.  [Sunderland PF](http://sunderlandpeoplefirst.com/)  [[Brighton and Hove](https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/a-z/a-z-pages/learning-disability-team) Speak out](https://www.bhspeakout.org.uk/)  [Rotherham Speak Up](http://www.speakup.org.uk/)  [Cumbria PF](http://www.peoplefirstcumbria.org.uk/)  [Kent Bemix](https://www.bemix.org/)  [Leep 1](https://leep1.co.uk/)  [Change](https://www.changepeople.org/)    [Inclusion North](https://inclusionnorth.org/)  [My Life, My Choice](https://www.mylifemychoice.org.uk/)  [Northamptonshire People First](https://www.peoplefirst.org.uk/) |
| C:\Users\SamanthaClark\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.MSO\4AB7A0A7.tmp | 2 self-advocates working for LDE provider member organisations were there too.  The people who came said it was really good to work together and meet people from other areas.  You can read about the conference and what happened [here](https://www.learningdisabilityengland.org.uk/what-we-do/our-work/helping-to-make-self-advocacy-stronger/national-self-advocacy-gathering/)  You can watch some films from the conference [here](https://youtu.be/JxIs-xJ1EYw)  We know lots more people wanted to come but could not because of time or money |
|  | **Could you be part of it in 2020?**  The North West have said they will host another national conference.  This will happen alongside their North West Regional conference again. |
|  | It will be in Blackpool from 25th – 27th February 2020  You can see the flyer [here](https://www.learningdisabilityengland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Conference-dates-flyer-July-2019.pdf)  There will be room for up to 50 people to come from all over England. |
|  | **What it will cost**  Last year it cost £200 per person for 3 days at the conference including 2 nights in the hotel and meals  It will cost the same for next year.  Groups will need to work out how they can pay for it and travel costs to get there. |
|  | **Fundraising**  In the North West groups and individuals fund raise to help pay for going to the conference.  They will include groups from other areas in their ‘All about me’ fundraising if you ask them to  You can find the fundraising pack [here](https://www.learningdisabilityengland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/all-about-us-fundraising-pack-2019-1.pdf)  We know some groups are asking their local commissioners if they can help find the money or applying to small grant pots.  If we find any funding opportunities we will let you know too |
|  | **Keep in touch**  What do you think?  Will you let us know if you are interested?  Contact Gary or Sam  [Gary.bourlet@LDEngland.org.uk](mailto:Gary.bourlet@LDEngland.org.uk) or  [Samantha.clark@LDEngland.org.uk](mailto:Samantha.clark@LDEngland.org.uk)  That way we can keep an eye on how many people are getting the chance to be part of this and help share it out.  Places can be booked from 9th October onwards – it will be on a first come first served basis.  We will keep sharing information on the plans as they develop. |