

Thursday 17th March 10am

**Session 5: 'Being seen Being heard – how do we get more people to understand what is needed?'**

	<p><b>'Making a bigger difference, together'</b></p> <p>We speak more powerfully when we speak as one – there is such a clamour around social care that if you are a policymaker it can be hard to cut through the noise. The sector's message to government needs to be crisper.</p> <p>We know that MPs and journalists want to hear from people with lived experience – the voice of lived experience can be so powerful.</p> <p>That is why, for example, Dimensions runs the Leaders List in association with LDE and VODG. The List helps give experts by experience who are making a difference, a bigger platform.</p> <p>But still, those Leaders are individual voices.</p> <p>What if we could help those leaders network with each other?</p> <p>What if we could encourage leaders to discuss important issues and raise those issues, speaking as one?</p> <p>What if we use the power of social media to build a networking group for all those experts by experience who want to achieve change – like the people on this call and our Leaders List winners – a place where we can discuss difficult issues safely and then emerge with a single, powerful voice?</p> <p>Might this be a good idea, and how can we make the most of it?</p>
---	---

	<p>Speakers:</p> <p>Duncan Bell, Head of External Communications, Dimensions</p> <p>David Hoskins, Co-chair, Dimensions Council</p> <p>All social media: @DimensionsUK</p>
 <p>Ben McCay</p>  <p>Lisa Watchorn</p>	<p><b>Valuable not vulnerable: working with the media to change perspectives</b></p> <p>In 2021 3 Learning Disability England spokespeople met with people from the media in a series of ‘round table’ meetings.</p> <p>The meetings looked at how they could work together to challenge the media stereotype of people with learning disabilities being seen as ‘vulnerable’. And begin to tell more stories led by people with learning disabilities themselves and the valuable contributions they make in all walks of life.</p> <p>The spokespeople who were part of these ‘round table’ meetings will talk about their experiences and answer questions.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Ben McCay and Kev Rodgers, LDE spokespeople and Lisa Watchorn, LDE Communications Lead</p>
	<p><b>‘Disabled People’s activism’</b></p> <p>Clenton Farquharson MBE is a disabled person with lived experience of health and social care. Clenton employs his own personal</p>



Clenton Farquharson  
MBE

assistant, and he looks after his 85 year old mum's personal budget.

He is Chair of the Think Local Act Personal partnership board, SCIE trustee, member of the Coalition for Personalised Care, and a member of the Social Care Sector COVID-19 Stakeholder Group.

Speaker:

Clenton Farquharson MBE  
Chair of Think Local Act Personal (TLAP) Board

Twitter: @TLAP1

Facebook: @thinklocalactpersonal

Youtube: Think Local Act Personal (TLAP)



NHS England & NHS Improvement

### **'Making policies real as part of the NHS'**

What it's like to be a Policy Officer in the NHS and how our work as lived experience policy officers makes a difference in planning for the future.

Speakers:

Katie Matthews  
Lived Experience Policy Officer Learning Disability and Autism Programme, NHSE/I

Emma-Jane Clark  
Lived Experience Policy Officer Co-Worker Learning Disability and Autism Programme, NHSE/I

@NHSAbility

Facebook: NHS England Learning Disability and Autism Engagement closed group