



23rd August 2023

Maria Caufield MP

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department of Health and Social Care

Dear Maria Caufield

RE: Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training Code of Practice

As we write today, 23rd August, an accessible version of the consultation on the mandatory training code of practice is still not published.

The consultation started on 27 June but 8 weeks later there is still not a version accessible to people with learning disabilities to support their engagement in the consultation.

We are writing to you as Learning Disability England partners and members: groups and organisations that are led by people with learning disabilities or family members or organisations that support people with learning disabilities.

The provision of accessible information is a right under the law as this [guide](#) from the British Institute of Human Rights states.

We believe that the Department of Health and Social Care should provide this adjustment at the same time as the full version. It is not acceptable that people with learning disabilities do not have equal information or time to think about and respond to a code of practice on training that is about their lives.

Not providing an Easy Read or other accessible version in this situation is of extra concern to us as this training is about people with learning disabilities and autistic people. The training is also supposed to be co-delivered by people with learning disabilities and autistic people. These co trainers are less likely to be heard in this consultation without accessible information.

We have been told that an Easy Read version is in development. Can you please confirm when it will be available and that you will give an



extension for responses so people with learning disabilities can be equal part of the consultation?

Signed on behalf of 43 organisations

Association for Real Change, Clive Parry, England Director

BASW England Homes not Hospitals Campaign, Liz Howard,
Professional Officer

Bemix CIC, Matt Clifton and Steven Chapman, Chief Executive and Co-Chair

Beyond Limits, Doreen Kelly, Chief Executive

BILD, Ben Higgins, Chief Executive

Brighter Horizons, Dave King, Chief Executive

Brighton and Hove Speak Out, Emily Barratt, Deputy Chief Executive

Building Bridges Training, Kraig Bayliss, Trainer

CASBA, Ginny Cullen, Chief Executive

Chiron Healthcare at Home, Justin Jewitt, Chair

Choice Support, Sarah Maguire, Chief Executive

Community Catalysts, Angela Catley, Director of Development

Connect in the North, Sarah Wheatley, Training and Development
Manager

Creative Support Ltd, Ray Kendall-Corry, Head of Engagement &
Learning

Dance Syndrome, Julie Nicholson, Managing Director

Dimensions, Rachael Dodgson, Chief Executive

Down's Syndrome Association, Carol Boys, Chief Executive



Fairoak Housing Association, Alison Barnes, Customer Engagement Officer

Grace Eyre Foundation, Eva Eriksson, Chief Executive

HFT, Kirsty Matthews, Chief Executive

Inclusion East CIC, Jo Hough and Matt Howard, Co-Directors

Inclusion North CIC, Karren Parry, Chief Executive

Learning Disability England, Members Representatives Co Chairs

Learning Disability Network London, Gabby Machell, Chief Executive

Lets for Life, Catherine Bennett, Co-CEO

Lewisham Speaking Up, Marsh Stitchman, Director

Mencap, Dan Scorer, Head of Policy, Public Affairs, Advice & Casework

Mencap in Kirklees, Catherine Wood, Chief Executive

My Life My Choice, Ben McCay, Co-Chair of Trustees

Northamptonshire People First, Kelly Edwards, Office Co-ordinator

Open StoryTellers, Alex MacNeil, Charity Director

Our Vision Our Future, Amber Thorpe, Committee Member

People First Forum Bournemouth, Amanda Frost, Assistant Manager with Learning Disabilities

People First Independent Advocacy, Harry Harrison, Inclusion Director

People First Keighley and Craven, Catrina Farnell, Manager

Sense, Richard Kramer, Chief Executive

Sheffield Voices, Kathryn Littlewood and Kelly Scargill, Leaders

The Challenging Behaviour Foundation, Vivien Cooper, Chief Executive

The Essex Carers Network, Wendy Burt, Chief Executive



Learning Disability England

Thera Trust, Matthew Smith and Jenny Garrigan, Group Director-
Learning Disability Leadership

Together Matters, Christine Towers, Director

United Response, Ali Gunn, Head of Public Affairs, Policy and
Communications

VODG, Rhidian Huges, Chief Executive

Please respond to Learning Disability England

Info@LDEngland.org.uk

<https://www.learningdisabilityengland.org.uk/>