

# Bristol Disability Equality Forum

## E-Bulletin November 2019



## News

### Remember, remember it is NOVEMBER!

Autumn is upon us and winter is almost upon us. While the leaves fall off the trees, the Forum isn't falling behind on workload. We've been busy ~~with~~ working with organisations to highlight the issues of accessibility on the roads and in the city with Urban Movement. So we owe a big Thank you to all the members who helped us do this. Laura, our Forum Manager has also been busy representing the Deaf and Disabled community of Bristol:

- as a speaker covering Disabled people's travel needs at Molly Scott Cato MEP's "Get Bristol Moving – Lessons from Amsterdam" event on 12<sup>th</sup> October;
- on the local NHS's Bristol Patient and Public Involvement Forum;
- on their sub-group drafting a new policy which makes co-production a requirement, whenever it is possible to do so;
- on Bristol Homes Board, where the Forum has persuaded the Council to commit to 10% of all new homes it builds being fully accessible; and
- at the Bristol Housing Festival conference on new homes.

We have also been very busy preparing for the AGM and Disability History Month.

You can keep up to date with all the opportunities ourselves and local businesses have to offer on our online media platforms.

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Instagram](#)

[BDEF Website](#)

## AGM Nominations for Trustees and Rowan Jade Award

The AGM is swiftly approaching which means it is also time for nominations for trustees and the Rowan Jade Award.



If you know of anyone who would be a good candidate for the Rowan Jade Award or a Forum trustee, please return the relevant paperwork and accompanying letter by 15<sup>th</sup> November.

It is important to note that some mailouts have been unsuccessful in reaching some members because of incomplete or out of date contact information. If you have changed any of your contact information, please let us know so we can update our system.



## PROJECT LAUNCH!

Here at the Forum we have been able to secure funding for a brand new project which will need a lot of involvement from Disabled people of all ages!



The project is about disability history and will be launched at our Disability Month Celebration on the 30<sup>th</sup> November, and run until June 2020. There will be two main focuses of this project:

- Oral History of Disabled people's movement between the 1970s-2000s.
- Training Deaf and Disabled people in how to make heritage places accessible to Deaf and Disabled people.

We are looking for 8-10 volunteers of 16-25yrs old to become researchers and be trained in research and interview skills. The researchers will then interview Bristol's main activists between the 1970s and 2000s and present what they have found out in various formats at our next Disability History Month event in 2020. The information will then be used to produce a toolkit for schools and managers of heritage buildings and parks.

A host of 8-10 volunteers are required for a Leadership group who will be trained in doing access appraisals of historic buildings and parks, and support our young Disabled volunteers.

We will be able to provide and pay for volunteers' access needs e.g. BSL interpreters and accessible transport for this project.

If you, or another Deaf/Disabled person you know, might be interested in participating please email us at [\*\*bristoldef@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:bristoldef@gmail.com)



## Have your say about the draft Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) Policy

We at the Forum have been working with others to design the Clinical Commissioning Group's (CCG) new policy on Patient and Public Engagement (PPI). We were delighted when we heard that they wanted to start working with the community on co-producing services and policy (where the community have equal power over the decision-making), wherever possible. So delighted we immediately volunteered to be part of the group drafting the policy on this.

You can have your say too!

You can either visit - [bnsgccg.nhs.uk/.../draft-patient-and-public-involvement-eng.../](https://bnsgccg.nhs.uk/.../draft-patient-and-public-involvement-eng.../)

Or write to - Freepost: BNSSG CCG PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS  
Bristol, North Somerset & South Gloucestershire CCG  
South Plaza  
Marlborough Street  
Bristol  
BS1 3NX

Or email - [ben.carlson-davies@nhs.net](mailto:ben.carlson-davies@nhs.net)

## Sustrans Need Our Help

Sustrans have recently asked for our help make the Bristol Bath Cycle Path a more inclusive and accessible route for the public.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> November we will be going from Easton Community Centre at around 2pm to walk/roll some of the path and make suggestions for improvement. If you are a Forum member who would like to be involved, email [bristoldef@gmail.com](mailto:bristoldef@gmail.com)



## Disabled and Older People Making Change Happen in Bristol

We are looking for a Disabled person to work eight hours a week for as the Project Development Worker. It is a fixed term post, ending September 2020. Click [here](#) to get more information and apply.



**Making  
Change  
Happen**



funded through  South West  People's Health Trust

We are still considering possible changes to the groups and will be

hoping to bring all the members together to discuss this in due course. Attendance has been very low in certain groups so we would like some feedback from our members about why this might be. We don't have a long list of questions for you, all we need is a sentence or two about why the MCH project didn't appeal to you, or any barriers that stopped you coming to the groups. To remind you, the MCH project offers you the chance to meet other Disabled people, in your part of Bristol, for a coffee/tea and chat, to share information and discuss the main disability issues in your local community – including issues that affect every community in Bristol.

Here are some of the most recent points raised in October's Meetings:

- The police aren't tackling the problem of pavement parking.
- Wheelchairs and wheelchair vouchers from the NHS often don't enable people to get out and about – making it almost impossible for many wheelchair users to be truly independent and access nature.
- Waiting times for assessments are much too long. There needs to be more money for wheelchair service employees to cater to the demand.
- It would be good for young Disabled people to meet with older Disabled people (almost like a mentoring scheme, but more casual).
- Airport assistance workers internationally need to be better trained in how to support Disabled people with different impairments and access needs during transit.
- Schools are not meeting the needs of students either because it takes so long to get an assessment, it feels it can't afford to provide the support they do need, or because they don't know how to meet their needs.
- People aren't instructed by professionals how to properly care for their mobility aids.



## November Dates for MCH groups:

Thursday 7th November at 11:30 am – 1:30 pm The Beehive Centre, Whitehall, BS5 7AW.

Monday 11th November at 11.00 am – 1.00 pm  
St Pauls Learning Centre, BS2 8XJ.

Friday 22nd November at 11:00am – 1:00pm The Hub, Lockleaze  
BS7 9FB.

Friday 29th November at 10:30 – 12:30pm Gatehouse Centre Café  
BS13 9JN.

To find out more please get in touch [on: 0117 914 0528](tel:01179140528), or email [bristoldef@gmail.com](mailto:bristoldef@gmail.com)

## New Blog in Town

With lack of enthusiasm from our proposed network for young Disabled people (which we still hope to achieve someday) our Admin worker, Winnie, has started an alternative way for them to have their voices heard, via her own personal blog. **'The People's Blog'** is a place where young Deaf and Disabled people can share their stories and have their say on issues.

If you want to submit anything to be posted, please write up and send an attachment to [winniebywheels@gmail.com](mailto:winniebywheels@gmail.com).



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## Do You Want to Write for This e-bulletin?

Are there changes being made where you live that you think others should know about? Do you have any news or views that

other members may like to hear about? This is your e-bulletin so please get us by email, phone or post with your ideas.

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