



Report of the November 10th, 2010 meeting of the Learning Disability Forum in Haddington & Nungate Community Centre.

➤ If you receive this report in PDF format, you'll be able to click on the words highlighted in this colour of **red** to link to the relevant site in your web browser.

Who was there?

Sue Green	Local Area Co-ordinator
Michael Jenney	Smart Talk Group
Colin Nicoll	Smart Talk Group
Margaret Cessford	Planning Group Representative
John Cessford	Forum member
Seonaid Steven	Planning Group Representative, Carer
Vikki Brock	Day Service Officer
Tracey Ferrier	Service User
Fiona MacDougall	Service User
Michael Foley	Day Service Officer
Lesley Aitkenhead	ELCCF Development Manager
George Paterson	ELCCF Information Worker

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Planning Day Activities:

There was much talk on what kind of day activities people would like to do and what kind of difficulties they face.

This is important as **East Lothian Council** is reviewing its services at a time when the council is thinking of cutting its spending.

Post-its were handed out and stuck on a chart showing everyone's comments.



The comments will be passed on to members of the Learning Disability **Planning Group**.

So, what do Forum members get up to, how do they spend their time, and what do they want to do?

There is wide range of individual activities from going to stock car racing to playing music, cycling, and even going to the pub. Forum members also took part in organised Day Centre activities. One Forum member wanted to learn how to improve his reading and writing. But there were problems, too.

Here's what Forum members said on the Post-its:



Some constructive ideas for activities also came on the Post-its:

How about a social networking website?

Forming a music group

ELCCF to try out 'social networking' on its website

the new 'Cessford Trio' is read to play and raise money

We need an Adventure Club



We could use Assertiveness Training!

a music group would be a great idea

ARC to give training in campaigning linked to advocacy

Some ideas were put forward for the Day Centres:

How do you offer more choice of things to do at Day Centres?

How about a gardening team?

More work flexibility for weekend and evenings in day centres

organising cycling trips



Points raised included:

Housing:

If sharing, it was other people that decided with whom you shared.



Transport:

Private transport staff should be trained to treat people with respect.

Respite:

East Lothian Respite Services manager Tony Segall should be invited to the next forum to hear members' issues. Tony is in charge of redesigning respite services.



Day Centres:

There should be better communication on services between the three East Lothian Day Centres so people knew what was happening and where.

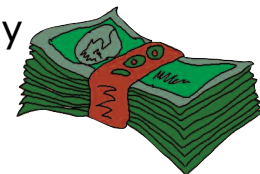
Link-ups:

The Learning Disability Planning Group should consider an event where service providers and smaller groups could come together to share information.



Procurement - how the Council 'buy in' services:

Service users should have a more effective way of delivering questions to be put to service providers.



Information:

ELCCF will help chart what's going on for learning disabled people in East Lothian and try to give a 'map' for the next meeting of what activities there are.

The same kind of map is being made for the Mental Health Forum.

Forum members thought publicity is the key to spreading information.

An online social networking site for East Lothian could help bring people together to pass on news on what's happening.



This could act as a 'hub' where people could organise themselves for outings or form clubs for different interests.

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ELCCF has moved!

**ELCCF's office can now be found at 3/4 Sidegate,
Haddington EH41 4BT.**

Tel: 01620 822212, email info@elccf.org.

Visit www.elccf.org.