

Telling the Health Service what we think

Last year the Kent Good Health Group did a survey on people's experiences of using health services. They used information to try and make health services better.



This year the GHG are asking people to keep a health diary. The diary will record people's experiences of using different parts of health services eg doctors, hospitals, chemists and dentists.



Speaking Up Group

Jerry and Gill told us what has been happening in the Speaking Up Group. The group meet on a Wednesday in New Romney from 1030—1230 at the Marsh Academy School Youth Centre.



Anyone who would like to join the group is welcome to come along.

Valuing People Now

This is the Government's plan for making things better for people with learning disabilities. It says people should have:

- The same rights as everyone else.
- The support to live the life they choose.
- Be able to have a say in decisions made about their life.



- Be involved in everything going on in the community.



Valuing People Now says people think the following things are important to them:

- Planning how to spend money for your own care and support.



- Better Health

- Housing and being asked about local housing plans.



- Work, education and having an ordinary life.



- Relationships and having a family if they want.

- Advocacy and getting the right support and information.



- Transport



- Keeping safe.

How will all this happen?



Lots of different departments in the Government and Local Councils and other organisations should work together to make sure things happen.



We talked about what people thought had changed, or not changed. The DPG Planning Group will write a report about what we said and give this to the Kent Partnership Board.



The report will also be on the Shepway DPG Website at

Community Network:

United Response told us about their new Community Network.



This is a place for people to meet. The Network will be a place for people to show others things they can do, such as drama, photography, film making, poetry. There may be a health slot.

People can offer things to the network and get help with something different.

It will be a place to feel safe, relax and have fun. Hopefully the Network will be open at weekends and evenings in the future. More work has to be done around this.



The Network is not just for people with learning disabilities. It is a place for the whole community.



Song Starz

Home Farm Trust will soon be starting this on Tuesdays 7-9pm at Lympne Place.