

## Meet Shaun, Mellissa and Tom our South Tyneside Champions



### Our role

- To raise awareness about personalisation in South Tyneside
- To find out whether people have choice and control over the services they use and the support they get
- To be champions around the work of transforming services in South Tyneside

### How we got the job

South Tyneside Joint commissioning team got some money from NHS England for the work they had been successful with around Personal Health Budgets. They asked Your Voice Counts to support them with advertising the jobs to find people with learning disabilities and or autism who would work for them.

In September we went to a Your Voice Counts recruitment day. We were put into groups and worked as teams to see who could manage the tasks and work best together.

There were 19 people all together and we were the three chosen to do the job.

## Our Journey

To start off we were the Personal Health Budget Champions. Then our job role changed to Personalisation Champions, so we could talk to people about choice and control more widely

We got training and support from members of the Learning Disabilities and or Autism **Transformation of Care board** (now the Strategic Alliance) to help us understand Transforming Care and to link up with health and social care professionals and other people in the community.

We are now a key part of the alliance and find it easier to take part in the meetings and have our say because we challenged the board to make the meetings more accessible. They are doing a good job of following our rules.



We are doing a lot of work around the Community model for people with learning disabilities and or autism.



We looked at the old vision for people with learning disabilities.

We found it too complicated to understand so we led a workshop with the board members to make the vision more accessible.

Inclusion North and Commissioning helped us with the planning. We also went to the PHAB club and the YVC Jarrow drop-in to find out what younger and older people with learning disabilities thought about the vision.

We came up with the new vision:

***“South Tyneside wants people with learning disabilities and autism and their families to have a good life. We want people to have their own say about how they live their lives”***

We think people should have:

- good support and care that they can trust
- support to feel safe
- the choice to do things on their own - Independence
- The right to have friends and spend time with friends
- The right to have a relationship if they want one
- A feeling of belonging in their community. This can be joining in with others where you live, feeling welcome where you go, and not feeling left out.
- The right to decide what support is best for them
- The choice to do things that make them happy, healthy and well

We are always out meeting and speaking with people.



We love our job and we are doing a lot more in running workshops, visits, being part of open door drop in sessions, presenting our work at events and meetings and continuing to promote personalisation.

What we think....

The Community Model for people with learning disabilities and or autism will help us **all** to work together to achieve **South Tyneside's Vision** for people with learning disabilities.

We are gathering views from people in South Tyneside about the community model. We have designed a postcard to support with this and we are asking what people think we should call the new service.

There is a lot more to come.....