



If you have a child or young person from 0 to 25 with a disability/and or additional needs then this information is for you.

committed to finding out what you think, listening to what you have to say and getting your views and voices heard by the Local Authority, Health and Government – those who are making the decisions about the services we all need and use.

Please Join Us

Because

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Somerset Parent Carer Forum Objectives:

- To make parent carer participation an integral part of services in Somerset.
- To ensure that there is parent carer involvement at all levels of decision making in the Local Authority and in Health in Somerset.
- To influence Government through the National Network of Parent Carer Forums

What we do:

- Consult Parent Carers regarding changes to services and policy and feedback your views to those who make the decisions.
- Identify issues that affect a number of parent carers, raise them with the appropriate department and feedback the results.
- Provide on-going information regarding parent carer participation in Somerset and developments within the services that YOU use.
- Develop a website with information, links and news of both participation events and any other relevant activities.
- Develop an on line forum to seek parent carer views

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- Give parent carers the opportunity to exchange thoughts, ideas and useful information with other local parent carers on the online forum.
- Work with the Local Authority to provide parents with a relevant and up to date Directory of Services for Somerset.
- Produce a regular newsletter

What we are *not* able to do

- Our grant from the Department of Education is for parent carer participation, so what we cannot provide is one to one support or advocacy.
- What we **can** do however is sign-post parent carers to other people, organisations and support groups who may be able to help.

Benefits of Membership of Somerset Parent Carer Forum

- Ensure your voice is heard through:
 - Opportunities to influence decision making
 - Opportunities to participate in decision making
 - Regular newsletters
 - The chance to express your thoughts and feedback on current issues.
 - The chance to share your views and ideas via our online forum:
 - Discover what other parents are saying on the on-line forum
 - Receive up to date information – fast
 - The opportunity to join the steering group and represent other parents
 - Access to 'Finding Your Way', a directory of services, via our Website

Together we *can* make a difference

Somerset Parent Carer Forum

Contact us on: Tel: 01278 699397 or Email: info@somersetpcf.org.uk

www.somersetpcf.org.uk

