

Essex Coalition of Disabled People

Strategic Plan Summary 2008 – 2012

Our vision and mission

Our vision: Enhancing the everyday lives of disabled people in Essex and beyond.

Our mission: Essex Coalition of Disabled People is an organisation run by and for disabled people. We empower disabled people to have independence, choice, flexibility and control.

We do this by:

Actively involving and engaging with disabled people

Delivering a range of high quality services, projects and programmes.

Working in partnership with a range of stakeholders in the public, private and voluntary sectors.

Shaping and influencing strategy, policy and practice.

Creating a professional, effective and efficient organisation that can and does deliver.

To deliver our vision and mission, we have three strategic aims for 2008-2012, which provide the overarching focus for all of our work:

To consolidate and develop further a range of effective and personalised support services to meet the day to day needs of disabled people.

To consolidate, develop and establish strands of work which will shape and influence the future life chances of disabled people

To align our structure to deliver quality outcomes for disabled people

Our values

Our values underpin everything we do and shape our behaviour both as an organisation and as individuals working within ECDP.

Inclusive: We include anyone who has rights under the Disability Discrimination Act. This includes anyone with a physical or sensory impairment, mental health condition, learning disability or long-term health condition (such as HIV/AIDS or cancer). We also recognise anyone who declares themselves to be a disabled person.

Expert: As an organisation run by and for disabled people, we have a unique and insightful perspective. Our history and work provides us with a depth of knowledge on the inequalities faced by disabled people in Essex. We use this knowledge to add value to our own work and that of the public, private and voluntary sectors in order to effect change for disabled people.

Innovative: We are adaptable, embrace change and try new ways of doing things. We work in an imaginative and flexible way, seeking feedback to help us innovate.

Responsive: We listen to the needs of and work in partnership with disabled people and our stakeholders. We respond in a timely manner and in a way that is enabling, supportive and professional.

Effective and personalised support services

We will provide:

Timely support, information, advice and guidance to clients considering taking up self-directed support.

A high quality personal assistant support service (PASS) and self-directed support (SDS) screening service for disabled clients.

Support planning and brokerage services to disabled people in order to underpin the implementation and effectiveness of self-directed support.

Universal information, advice and signposting services to disabled people in Essex and beyond.

What underpins and informs everything we do is the social model of disability. Furthermore, we will not accept discrimination in our work on grounds of disability, race, age, sexual orientation, gender or religion and will challenge it if it occurs, at an individual or organisational level. We aim to positively promote equality on these grounds.

Shape and influence the life chances of disabled people

Deliver a range of volunteering and mentoring activities which enable disabled people – and especially young disabled people – to achieve their goals.

Build a network of disabled people with knowledge and capacity to represent us at a local level.

Seek member and stakeholder views to inform our own and other's policy and practice.

Develop and deliver a broad range of new and existing relevant training to disabled people and public, private and voluntary sector organisations.

Work with partners to develop and deliver disability-related academic courses and professional qualifications.

Establish a leadership programme.

Develop and deliver a range of disability consultancy services to the public, private and voluntary sectors.

Align our structures to deliver quality outcomes for disabled people

We will

Develop a coherent set of membership services.

Establish a research, policy and development function to underpin our own, and the wider evidence base.

Work in an effective and efficient manner.

Establish strategic alliances with appropriate partners to support the delivery of our strategy

Communicate our position, role and work through appropriate channels, both internally and externally.

Develop and deliver a range of core services – such as Finance, HR and IT – to underpin our work.

We are an organisation run by and for disabled people. Established in 1995 our origins are firmly rooted in a belief that the voice of disabled people, both as individuals and collectively, is vital if the lives of disabled people are to be enhanced.

For more information about who we are and what we do – as well as a full version of this strategy – visit our website: www.ecdp.org.uk

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