

## Who is involved?

- Argyll and Clyde NHS
- Capability Scotland
- Disability Resource Centre
- Dyslexia Scotwest
- Enable Scotland
- Jobcentreplus
- Live Life Network
- Reid Kerr College
- Renfrewshire Autism and Asperger Group
- Renfrewshire Community Health Initiative
- Renfrewshire Council
- Renfrewshire Enabling Disability Sports
- Renfrewshire V.I. Forum
- Shopmobility Paisley and District
- Unity Enterprise



## Quotes

“This plan offers a real chance for the community and agencies to work together to meet the needs of disabled people”

*(Senior Social Worker, Renfrewshire Council)*

“Disabled people need more opportunities to have fun”

*(Volunteer working with people with disabilities)*

“It is very important that people within the disabled community are involved in planning and making decisions about what is going to directly affect them”

*(Service User)*

“Change is happening and progress is being made but we need to make sure it continues to be made”

*(Service Manager in Voluntary Mental Health Service)*

“It is good that disabled people are being involved in planning what work is done and how it is done”

*(Service User)*

## People with disabilities in Renfrewshire



### What are Community Learning and Development Plans?

The plans concentrate on local people and agencies working together to identify what is important to their community.



The plans help communities to work together to deal with issues raised through consultation.



Plans identify key action priorities within communities and clearly state what local agencies will do in each community within a specific time period.

### Community Learning and Development



The Scottish Executive and Renfrewshire Council through the Community Learning Strategy Partnership group support Community Learning and Development plans.



In Renfrewshire two plans have been produced covering the geographical areas of Foxbar and West Johnstone. Two further plans in Cart Corridor and Ferguslie Park have been drawn up to explore issues for young people. The fifth plan covers people with disabilities within Renfrewshire.

## Area covered

Renfrewshire is the fourth largest local authority area in the West of Scotland. It is mostly urban and made up of the large town of Paisley, with smaller towns such as Renfrew, Johnstone, Elderslie and Erskine and a number of smaller villages such as Houston, Lochwinnoch and Bridge of Weir.

There are almost 173,000 people living in Renfrewshire. Within this population, there are a number of groups who may need extra attention to make sure their needs are met.

These groups include:

- 5,838 people aged 16 – 64 years affected by some physical disability
- some 3,500 – 4,000 wheelchair users
- up to 3018 people with a visual impairment
- up to 1612 people with a severe hearing impairment
- up to 30,000 people with mental health problems
- up to 3622 adults with a learning difficulty.

## Further Information

**For further information relating to this Community Learning and Development Plan, or if you wish to volunteer, have a say or get involved in any way with any of the issues raised please contact:**

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# Points for action



## Consultation - what you told us

Consultation for the plan began in December 2002 when we started to ask people what things they thought were important to people with a disability in Renfrewshire. We held group meetings to allow people with disabilities and people representing groups that operate within the disability sector, to talk about this. We also asked people with disabilities and people representing disability groups to fill in questionnaires.

This is only the start of the consultation process and it will be carried on throughout the time the community learning and development plan is in place and being implemented.



### The main things people told us about are that:

- most people asked do not feel they know what is happening within the community
- people feel there is a lack of funding and other resources within the sector
- people should be more aware of people with disabilities and better understand the problems they face
- there is a need for more accessible shops, buildings and transport
- there is a need for more sports and leisure activities which disabled people can take part in
- there is a need for more consultation with disabled people who use services.

## What we are going to do

The partners involved in the Community Learning and Development Plan for people with disabilities in Renfrewshire will focus on the following aims and actions.

### Improve how agencies within the disability community work together and tell people about what is happening:

- By developing the Renfrewshire Disability Network. *Renfrewshire Council for Voluntary Services (RCVS) by March 04*
- Producing newsletters for the Disability Network. *RCVS by March 04*
- By offering training courses in marketing and promotion to help local voluntary organisations and other agencies, to get better at telling people about what they do. *Stakeholders by March 04*
- Develop the Live Life Network website ([www.live-life.net](http://www.live-life.net)) and Renfrewshire Community Health Initiative website ([www.rchi.org.uk](http://www.rchi.org.uk)) to give disabled people information on health issues and where to get further help and information. *Live Life Network and Renfrewshire Community Health Initiative (RCHI) by September 03*
- Write a directory of Community Learning and Development Plan stakeholders with contact details and brief description of their organisation's activities. *Stakeholders by September 03*

### Increase awareness of disabilities:

- Continue to try to promote awareness and understanding of disabilities through training and other events. *Stakeholders by March 04*



### Think about ways to increase accessibility:

- Establish demand for an access guide for Paisley town centre or other similar information resources. *Renfrewshire Council by September 03*

### Help more disabled people to get involved in sports or other leisure activities:

- Up to 30 new coaches will be trained to teach disability sports. These coaches will then be involved in teaching disability sports in the community. *Renfrewshire Enabling Disability Sports (REDS) by September 03*
- Development of Live Life Network and RCHI websites to give disabled people information on things which are happening in the community. *Live Life Network and RCHI by September 03*

### Encourage efforts to let disabled people join in all events and activities:

- Produce an access checklist for service providers arranging events/training to ensure disabled people are able to attend. *Stakeholders by March 04*

### Tell people about the community learning and development plan:

- Tell people what is being done, who is doing it and about successes. *Stakeholders by March 04*

