



# Carers And Parents of adults with learning disabilities in Enfield

## CAPE NEWS – AUGUST 2020

I hope all CAPE members and their families are doing as well as they can under the current circumstances. Recently, many lockdown rules have eased, but things are still very difficult for families of people with learning disabilities. CAPE members have continued to meet with Enfield officers and still attend various 'remote' meetings, such as the Focus Group, the Health Sub Group, and the L.D. Partnership Board, and the Charging Reference Group. We are still unable to plan our return to our normal CAPE meetings.

### Local Covid19 Swab Antigen Testing

The Covid19 testing is still available, even for those who do not have symptoms, and we are grateful to Enfield for providing these. They are available on Mondays and Wednesdays at Park Avenue Resource Centre. If you, your D.P. staff, or the person you care for would like a test, even if you have already had one, please ring Rosemary Mann, on 020 8360 1195 or email her at Rosemary.Mann@enfield.gov.uk . Please take advantage of this important facility, the test only takes a few seconds.

### Day Services.

We are still unclear as to when day centres will re-open. You will all have been asked to take part in surveys for service users and carers about their re-opening. We have been told that the results will be published very soon. We have had more meetings with ILDS managers and ASC commissioning, focusing on this issue, and there is now a plan in place to try to ensure safe opening of day services as swiftly as possible. We shall be monitoring this very closely.

### Integrated Learning Disabilities Service - Q&A Meetings, 31/07/2020 & 14/08/2020.

These meetings took place at Park Avenue Disability Resource Centre between ILDS managers and the CAPE Committee (Wally Walawalkar, Jane Richards, Bernadette Reigar and myself). You should have been emailed the answers to our questions for the meeting on 31/07/2020, and I have attached the questions and answers from the meeting on 14/08/2020, with this newsletter. The second meeting focused on the re-opening of day centres.

### Charging Issues.

The revised charging letters were sent out, but unfortunately the Financial Assessment Team were unable to send out breakdowns of how the charges were calculated. We were told that this was due to I.T. difficulties, and I find that very disappointed. If you wish to receive a breakdown of your charge, you can ring 020 8379 8177, and ask them to send you one. I would suggest that you do that. Please make sure that you claim all your DRE. If you are unhappy that you are not receiving services, and yet you are still being expected to pay, then you should contact 020 8379 5075 (ILDS Duty), and ask for some, or all, of your charges to be waived. The following rules are being applied to charges, whilst services have been reduced due to the pandemic:

- No service being provided:
  - Charge waived.
- A service being provided, but which would cost less than your financial contribution:
  - Charge set at the cost of the service actually provided to your family member (properly assessed).
- A service being provided which costs more than your financial contribution:
  - Charge remains as financially assessed.

### Sad Announcement.

We were so very sorry to hear the news that Ertan Taner passed away. Ertan had been a CAPE member for many years, and often attended meetings, even bringing his son Kaya, on one occasion. He had been ill for a while. Ertan was Chair of Enfield Mencap for many years and was instrumental in organizing the move to their current base at Bounces Road. Ertan had always been a strong advocate for the rights of people with learning disabilities and their families. His extensive work through the Downs Syndrome Association and the NHS has benefitted learning disabled people on a national level. He will greatly missed, and I am sure you will join me in offering our sincere sympathy to his family.

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