

# Parent Carer Voice Herefordshire

## How associate support helped embed coproduction in Herefordshire

Max Bassett, Vice Chair of PCV Herefordshire  
and Contact Associate, Kate Rowe 13/7/20



# A new way of working in coproduction

*“There were a number of different agencies represented on the (forum) steering group yet it didn’t feel like we were all working together for the greater good. We knew we needed to be hearing more from the parent carer voice and less from the agencies voices.”*

*Debbie Hobbs, Steering group member (now Chair of Herefordshire PCF)*

*“The forum is in many ways starting from scratch, building its identity and decision making processes. This is an opportunity to work in a more parent led way and to adopt a more strategic approach and a stronger relationship with the LA and CCG”.*

Associate Support referral; Sue Mennear (Contact Participation Adviser) March 2019

**WELCOME AND CARE**

**VALUE AND INCLUDE**

**COMMUNICATE**

**WORK IN PARTNERSHIP**

Developing and nurturing  
each of these to build

**TRUST**

[www.genuinepartnerships.co.uk](http://www.genuinepartnerships.co.uk)

- **Co-production** is an equal and reciprocal relationship where everyone's knowledge and skills are used to create better outcomes.
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- **Inclusion** is a universal human right that is about embracing all people, irrespective of race, gender, disability or other attribute which can be perceived as different.





# The aims of the associate support

- Parents will feel confident in their roles
- The forum is confident they are representing the views of the wider membership and are working on the right priorities
- The forum feels on a surer footing with the LA as a strategic partner
- There is an agreement of how they will work together and priority areas identified where they need to work on together
- The forum develop a strong identity and experience a growing membership during the year
- The forum is in a position to hold the DFE grant.

# The difference it made

- **Kirsty:** We have set up a coproduction group with the local authority which has produced a fantastic two-way relationship on an equal basis, we have already made changes to the family conversation on the EHCP forms. It has been interesting to speak to different professionals from various partnerships and feel that we are being listened to which has given me confidence that we could make changes on behalf of our parent carers that will support them.
- **Sian:** I am the newest member of the steering group but now feel more comfortable in my role than at the start due to all of the support from other members and the fabulous training from Kate from Contact. It is good to know that there will always be 2 of us attending meetings with the local authority (safety in numbers!).
- **Clare:** The Co-production Quality Indicators meeting with our Strategic Partners on the Council was being taken seriously and not just as a 'tick box exercise'. These have now been a year in the taking part of, we are now in the process of finalising a Co- Production Agreement.
- **Debbie:** We have reached the point where these are now "everyday" relationship . At every meeting the indicators are used and have become common practice amongst partners."

## Support for Forums

Contact's Support Offer to Forums [https://contact.org.uk/get-involved/parent-carer-participation/how-we-support-forums-\(england\)/](https://contact.org.uk/get-involved/parent-carer-participation/how-we-support-forums-(england)/)

Associates who support forums [https://contact.org.uk/get-involved/parent-carer-participation/how-we-support-forums-\(england\)/](https://contact.org.uk/get-involved/parent-carer-participation/how-we-support-forums-(england)/)

Coproduction framework to use with partners and/ or within your forum  
[Quality Indictors of Co-production and Inclusive Practice](https://genuinepartnerships.co.uk/) by <https://genuinepartnerships.co.uk/>

Lots more resources here [https://contact.org.uk/get-involved/parent-carer-participation/resources-\(general\)/](https://contact.org.uk/get-involved/parent-carer-participation/resources-(general)/)

Or contact your Regional Adviser [parent.participation@contact.org.uk](mailto:parent.participation@contact.org.uk)

# Questions and Resources

If you have any other questions arising from this webinar please contact your **Regional Adviser** for guidance or email [parent.participation@contact.org.uk](mailto:parent.participation@contact.org.uk)

Webinars and other resources can be found on our **participation pages** [https://www.contact.org.uk/get-involved/parent-carer-participation/resources-\(general\)/](https://www.contact.org.uk/get-involved/parent-carer-participation/resources-(general)/)

Or get in touch via **Contact's free helpline** 0808 3555 (9.30 – 5pm Mon-Fri) or [helpline@contact.org.uk](mailto:helpline@contact.org.uk) or visit our advice pages on our website [www.contact.org.uk](http://www.contact.org.uk)

