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Rochdale Parent Carers Voice Newsletter: May 2021



We need passionate forum members to volunteer their time, ideas and expert knowledge to shape the future for children and young people across Rochdale. We need fabulous people to attend meetings, represent parents on job interview panels and help us with lots of events and schemes. Could it be you?

If you would like to get involved, please email us at RochdalePCV@outlook.com



Rochdale Town Hall update

At the last Disability Forum, Rochdale Highways department came along to answer questions on planned changes around the Town Hall. These plans will result in the loss of 21 accessible parking spaces nearby. We asked if these parking spaces would be reallocated to nearby streets and were assured they would be. Some of these parking spaces will be accessible spaces during the day but taxi spaces in the

assured that there would be 5-6 accessible parking spaces in this car park.

As mentioned in the April edition, a Changing Place and accessible toilets are also proposed in the Town Hall. We submitted a list of concerns and, as a result, some changes have been made to these plans. We await further information about the concerns not yet addressed. We asked if people needing to use the Changing Place will be able to access the car park behind the Town Hall if they are not attending an event. We are waiting for an answer about this.

We are also waiting to hear if an Equality Impact Assessment has been completed around the loss of the accessible parking spaces next to the Town Hall. An Equality Impact Assessment **must** be undertaken by councils to ensure planned changes do not impact certain groups in the local population more than others.



Have your say for local services

In 2021/22, Rochdale health providers and the local authority are planning to deliver new integrated services for children and young people with SEND and their families.

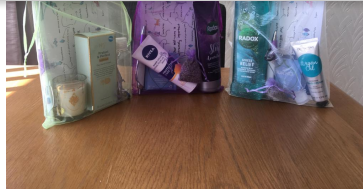
The Council for Disabled Children (CDC) need your views on these plans:

<https://iassn.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/developing-an-outcomes-framework-for-rochdale-survey>

Please fill in the questionnaire and have your say.

You said...we did

Thank you to everyone who completed our survey on accommodation and support for young people with disabilities. We had a fantastic response from members with children and young people aged 11+ and we'll be sharing the date of the meeting with our consultant as soon as it's confirmed. This is all part of the great work we achieve together. With this work we are helping to shape the right accommodation for people with disabilities across Rochdale.



Care packs

Thanks to generous donations from local businesses, we've created some beautiful care packs for our lovely members. The forum has been delivering them to addresses over the last few weeks. These care packs are our way of saying well done for getting through the last year. We hope you get ten minutes pampering time so you can reflect on how great you are! And if you haven't had one yet, don't worry! It will be with you over the next few weeks.



Open consultations

The Big Ask is the largest ever survey of children and young people in England. It's a chance for children to show the government what they think and what they need to live happier lives.

The closing date is Wednesday 19th May 2021.



Come and have a chat with us...

Our next virtual Coffee Morning is on Tuesday 11th May at 10.30am. We will have a guest speaker from #Thrive. There will also be a virtual Coffee Evening on Thursday 13th May at 7.30pm.

These are the Zoom links you need to click on to join each chat:

Tuesday 11th May at 10.30am: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87534369607?>

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Thursday 13th May at 7.30pm: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81384381805?pwd=RXBLTHFtSUMxbWN2UXdza0c2TEU2QT09>

Share your story

The Disability Forum is looking at how we can help people with disabilities tell their lived stories through video. They hope to build a video library to help get messages to decision makers in the Local Authority and Health Services.

If you are interested in telling your family's story please get in touch at RochdalePCV@outlook.com

Local Offer - Individual Needs Help & Support 0-25

[Rochdale Local Offer COVID-19 Help and Guidance](#)
[Rochdale's Local Offer information and Documents](#)

Find services by subject

- Accessible activities
- Benefits and advice
- Equipment and resources
- Education and learning
- SEND support
- Preparing for adulthood
- Transport
- Join our 0 - 25 Disability Register**

Find services by age

- 0-4 Birth to Pre-School
- 4-10 Primary School
- 11-16 Secondary School
- 15-18 Transitions into Adulthood
- 18-25 Young Adults

Find services by Supported Condition

- Autism
- Communication difficulties
- Deaf / hearing impairment
- End of life
- Learning difficulties
- Multi-sensory impairment
- Physical disability
- Social, emotional and mental health needs
- Visual impairment
- Other

See our Local Offer videos here

Give us your feedback **You said - We did**

Jargon buster: What is the Local Offer?

The Local Offer is an online resource containing information and advice about help available for children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND), their families and carers. Each council district has this resource for parent carers. You can find information about services by type or by age or search for different medical conditions. There is also information about short breaks and respite.

You can access the [Local Offer for Rochdale](#) here.

SUGGESTION BOX

What would you like to see more of? What things should we be looking into?

Email us at RochdalePCV@outlook.com

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