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|  | **This easy read tells you about the:**  **Better Together**  **Working towards co-production across adult social care.** |
|  | Better Together is the plan for how we will work towards co-production across Adult Social Care in Nottinghamshire. |
|  | It has been written with Our Voice. They are a group of people and carers with lived experience of using adult social care services. |
|  | **Our Vision**  How we would like to see people working together. |
|  | We want services, policies and plans in Adult Social Care to be developed together with: |
|  | * People and carers with lived experience |
|  | * Our staff |
|  | * Other stakeholders (people and organisations we work with) |
|  | **What is co-production?** |
|  | Co-production brings together people and carers with lived experience, council and health staff other organisations. |
|  | People and carers with lived experience have skills, knowledge and experience that can help to make services better. |
|  | Finding solutions together means that they are more likely to work the first time around. |
|  | **Where does co-production happen?**  It can happen in lots of different places and different situations. For example: |
|  | **1 to 1** when a social worker helps a person design their own support. |
|  | **In a team** when a manager asks people with lived experience to help them improve services in the local area. |
|  | **Strategically** where people and carers with lived experience work together with staff to design a new service or policy. |
|  | **What are the important values of co-production?** |
|  | Good co-production makes sure the voice of people and carers with lived experience are heard equally alongside other people. |
|  | **Honesty**  People take time to build relationships and information is shared to help people understand. |
|  | **Equality**  Staff share power with people by involving them from the start. This allows everyone to learn together about what works and what doesn’t work. |
|  | **Accessibility**  Staff use different ways to make communication accessible. They think about what they can change to make it easier for people to be involved. |
|  | **Respect**  Each person is respected and valued.  There is clear information about:   * Expenses and pay for being involved. * People understand what they are being involved in and how this will be used. |
|  | **Diversity**  Where people are brought together and have a range of different experiences, skills, and views that will help to find solutions to problems. |
|  | **How will our co-production plan work?** |
|  | There are the steps that we need to take to work in a co-productive way. |
|  | To help people to understand these steps we use the **‘Ladder of Participation’** it shows the different things we need to do. |
|  | Each step shows the different ways we can work with people. Co-production is at the top and is the way we should aim to involve people. |

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|  | **How will we start to do things differently?**  We have used a picture that shows how different areas of work fit together like cog wheels. |
|  | Each cog wheel shows you the groups of people we must include.  All the cogs are joined to show how we must all work together. |

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|  | **What each area is about.** |
|  | **Listening Spaces, what are they?** |
|  | People and carers will use listening spaces to tell social care services what is important to them. |
|  | Staff might have a listening space at the start of a new project to find out what is important to people. |
|  | Staff might have a listening space to find out what is working and not working for people who use their services. |
|  | **What we will do to create listening spaces for people to join.** |
|  | * We will have regular listening space meetings where our senior staff can hear from people using the services they are responsible for. * We will use ‘You Said, We Will’ after listening meetings. We will tell people what we heard and what we do because of this. |
|  | **Projects, how will they work?** |
|  | Co-production brings people together to find the best ways to sort out problems or issues. |
|  | **Projects should:** |
|  | * Be about issues and things that aren’t working or need changing. |
|  | * Have clear aims saying what the project wants to do. |
|  | * Be co-chaired by a member of staff, a person or carer with lived experience. |
|  | **What we will do to support people to be part of co-production projects.** |
|  | * Advertise to tell people about new co-production projects on our internet page. People can go there and see if there is something they would like to get involved in. |
|  | * Start by looking at projects where co-production can make the biggest changes towards getting better services. |
|  | * As we learn and get better at co-production we will use it in all the work we do in adult social care departments. |
|  | **Our Voice Co-production Group** |
|  | This is a group of people with lived experience of using adult social care services.  They have been a big part in helping us write our co-production plan. |
|  | They will have an important job supporting and checking how we are developing co-production now and in the future. |
|  | **What we will do to support Our Voice.** |
|  | * We will support Our Voice to include more people in the group.   This will help us to represent the different people that use social care services in Nottinghamshire. |
|  | * We will support Our Voice members to get the training and support they need. |
|  | * We will support our voice to share news about the work they are doing to support and check co-production in Adult Social Care |
|  | **Staff Learning.**   * Staff need support and training to understand what co-production is and what they can do to help make it happen. |
|  | **What we will do to support staff learning.** |
|  | * We will provide training and a toolkit on co-production. |
|  | * We will have an online forum. This a place for staff to ask questions, share what has worked well and learn together about co-production. |
|  | * We will look how we can use different technology to help people learn, share ideas and work together.   Things like video meetings and Twitter |
|  | **Developing People** |
|  | People and carers with lived experience also need support to learn about co-production and develop their skills, knowledge and confidence. |
|  | **What we will do to support people with lived experience to learn more about co-production and get involved.** |
|  | * We will ask voluntary organisations to support us to get together a group of people and carers with lived experience who want to get involved in co-production projects. |
|  | * We will offer training and support to people and carers with lived experience. |
|  | * We will work together to write a policy saying how we can pay people’s expenses and pay for their involvement in co-production projects. |
|  | **How can I find out more?**  You can visit our internet page where you can see our Action Plans at: |
|  | <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/adult-social-care/co-production> |
|  | You can email: [workingtogether@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:workingtogether@nottscc.gov.uk) |