

# local area coordination network

# NEWS

## Spring 2015



### Welcome

We are now well into 2015 and have already raced through Spring!

Much has happened in Local Area Coordination since the last Newsletter, with new Local Area Coordinators in Derby, Thurrock, Cumbria and the first Local Area Coordinators in Wales (Swansea).

Ralph Broad  
Director  
Inclusive Neighbourhoods  
Local Area Coordination  
Network

In the next few weeks, **the new report on Local Area Coordination “People, Places, Possibilities”** will be published by Centre for Welfare Reform. It shares the journey, stories and outcomes since the 2012 report “From Service Users to Citizens”, as well as reflections from service leaders around the

challenges and opportunities of Local Area Coordination to drive cultural and systems change. Turning the system upside down.

In this issue, Heather Rowell talks about the role of Local Area Coordination in driving Public Health outcomes and building healthier, inclusive communities. Brian Frisby talks about the Leadership Challenge and Opportunities in Derby City.

We also welcome many new Local Area Coordinators in England and Wales!!

There is also a LOT of news to catch up on - stories, stories, stories.

Finally, the **Local Area Coordination Network** is emerging as a Community Interest Company!! Hooray!! This is our shared Network – a chance to keep Local Area Coordination strong, relevant, innovative and influential.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this Newsletter - I hope you enjoy this issue.

**\*\*\*We'll let you know when the new report is published.**

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## Editorial – Time to Act!

Over the past few months, the growing social and health inequality being faced by many people and their families/carers has become more and more apparent.

Now, more than ever, supporting individuals, families and communities to stay strong (rather than waiting for crisis or “fixing” people with hard to access services) is becoming more and more vital.

The dominant service model of waiting for people to fall into crisis, assessing what they can’t do (their “deficits” or “needs”), testing eligibility (the way that services exclude people to save money – it waits for situations to get worse before listening and acting) is neither just, nor affordable.

It stores up problems and high costs for the future, but more importantly, has a significant individual, family and community cost. It increases risk of isolation, exclusion, harm and family breakdown.

It’s also needless - a more human approach to helping people, families and communities to stay strong and to nurture local solutions (rather than asset stripping families and communities) with services as highly valued back up is just sensible.

The big question now is “can we afford to not do it?”

Local Area Coordination is building conversations and actions across England and Wales around the value of a very connected, “human” approach to helping individuals and families stay strong, nurturing more welcoming, inclusive and supportive communities and contributing to reform and systems change.

We know that where Local Area Coordination is designed effectively and supported by strong, contributing leadership, there are highly consistent positive outcomes – **let’s just get on with it and make it happen.**

### The Learning Disability Alliance

We also welcome the emergence of the Learning Disability Alliance – a great organisation supporting people with disabilities and their families/carers to have a voice and to champion disability rights at a time when those rights are being severely undermined.

Whilst the election is now long gone, I thought the link to Learning Disability Alliance “Totally Wrong List” may be of interest - something to reflect on.

<http://learningdisabilityalliance.org/totally-wrong-list/> . Check it out!!

**There is a role for all of us** to support people and their families/carers to be heard, to be welcomed and included as valued citizens and to be leaders and contributors in their communities.

## Improving Health and Well-Being — Reducing Inequality

### Local Area Coordination on the Isle of Wight

We are very excited to be working alongside Isle of Wight Public Health, statutory partners and local communities to develop Local Area Coordination on the island. It is forming part of the Council system wide approach to building resilience, prevention and early intervention. Helping people and communities to stay strong.

Here, Heather Rowell (Senior Public Health Practitioner) talks about the role Local Area Coordination is playing in nurturing inclusion, contribution, social justice, systems change and better health and wealth being for all.

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*Hello, I am Heather Rowell, Senior Public Health Practitioner for the Isle of Wight Council, and have been working in Public Health for about 8 years, on a range of prevention programmes and health improvement services to support the wellbeing of Islanders. Now, I am privileged to be leading the development of Local Area Coordination on the Isle of Wight.*



So why is Public Health leading this community approach to supporting people (children and adults) with mental health needs, disabilities and older people and their families to stay strong, safe and connected as contributing citizens? Is this the business of Public Health?

The Faculty of Public Health defines Public Health as *'The science and art of promoting and protecting health and well-being, preventing ill-health and prolonging life through the organised efforts of society'*. Or maybe, through building more inclusive and supportive communities!



Public Health cannot promote and protect health and wellbeing without addressing the health and social inequalities in society, that determine the health and wellbeing of our communities. Inequalities are not only a matter of life or death but also health and sickness and well-being and misery. Social inequalities in health are driven by the context of people's lives, their environment, employment, education and the freedom to participate equally in the benefits of society.

If the conditions in which people grow, live and work are favourable, then they will have more control over their lives. They will be in a better place to look after their own health and health behaviours, and those of their families. For older people, individuals with disabilities or mental ill-health, life may not be so favourable. They may feel powerless and not in control of their lives or their futures.

Approaches that promote health and wellbeing in all its forms and focus on what a good life looks like, rather than needs or deficits, and prevent or delay the need for intensive services make a significant contribution to reducing health inequalities. "Local Area Coordination is a central plank of the system-wide agreed prevention and early intervention approach. It is fully evidence based with proven cost saving and quality improvement outcomes for health and social care" Professor Rida Elkheir, Director of Public Health, Isle of Wight Council.



In the Marmot Review (2010) Fair Society Healthy Lives, a key recommended policy goal to reduce health inequalities is "To create an enabling society that maximises individual and community potential".

**This is why Public Health on the Isle of Wight is proud to lead Local Area Coordination!**

**What's Next?** Local people are leading the recruitment of the first 3 Local Area Coordinators in Ryde, The Bays and Freshwater in July. Fabulous!!



## New Paper Out Soon : People, Places, Possibilities

Following on from the 2012 paper “From Service Users to Citizens”, the Centre for Welfare Reform is publishing our new report on Local Area Coordination. It explores the developments, stories, outcomes and leadership/reform opportunities since 2012.

In an extract from the report, Brian Frisby reflects on the leadership challenges and opportunities presented by Local Area Coordination in Derby City

### The Leadership Challenge - Brian Frisby

*Brian Frisby is a registered social worker with over 35 years' experience in adults and children's services. His current role is Director of Prevention, Personalisation and Professional Standards at Derby City Council. Prior to this he implemented self-directed support in Northamptonshire and supported the implementation of personalisation at the LB Southwark - working closely with In Control at each site. Brian is a member of the Think Local, Act Personal (TLAP) self-directed support forum, the ADASS Continuing Healthcare National Reference Group, a founding member of the national local area coordination (LAC) network and a member at ABCD Europe. He has written and contributed to a number of publications about service quality in the personal social services, the use of assistive technology to support people with dementia and their carers, personalisation and local area coordination.*



The background to the development of local area coordination at Derby City Council three years ago was set out in the first report on Local Area Coordination (Broad, 2012). Rooted in the Council's personalisation programme, local area coordination began as an authentic attempt to understand how the Council could meaningfully support citizens to build on and build up – or even establish for the first time – their own social capital, based on relationships and connections with their family, neighbourhood and wider community.

Eager to reduce transaction costs by not 'reinventing the wheel' we committed to faithfully repeating the methodology of Local Area Coordination developed in Australia that had demonstrated evidence of positive outcomes for citizens and savings to the public purse. We did this by drawing upon the work of Eddie Bartnik in Australia, the support of Ralph Broad, Inclusive Neighbourhoods and the connections between Local Area Coordination and asset based community development (ABCD) expounded so well by Cormac Russell.

Taking a social scientific approach we set out to replicate the known methodology and to:

1. Work out how to begin to move on from supply management towards demand management
2. Find out how we might reform the front end
3. Work out what were the right questions to be asking
4. Connect service 'silos' and reduce duplication
5. Start with meaningful relationships and partnerships
6. Support communities to be and stay strong
7. Start small but think big – using action learning to work out the next steps and how to make wider systems changes

As such, the development of Local Area Coordination in Derby was never a 'pilot' project, but the first step of a journey – the final destination of which we could not know and indeed, had we attempted to define could well have restricted opportunities that we may never dared to anticipate. The maxim at the outset was to start small but think big. This action learning approach was underpinned by a commitment to co-production with people living in the two wards where we had decided to commence and to establishing partnerships at the local level – both intended to drive a 'bottom-up' approach.

*“...never a 'pilot' project, but the first step of a journey”*

*Start Small  
Think Big*

Local area coordination is essentially about working with individuals in need in the context of their immediate and extended family, neighbours and wider community. It sign-posts people to local solutions, not in a 'case finding' sense, but by supporting and sometimes challenging them to draw upon their wider family network and connecting them to sources of support that are already freely available. We saw ABCD as being complementary to Local Area Coordination and therefore brought Cormac Russell in to work directly with residents within one of the localities. Cormac taught the group how to undertake a community asset survey of their ward, which they went on to do. The survey found people who wanted to play a more active part in their community and facilitated many introductions to people who were in need of support. The group went on to form The Alvaston Residents Association (TARA) which now plays an active role in identifying needs, assets and solutions to issues that have been identified by local people.

We engaged our local university to evaluate the work, to test out whether Local Area Coordination was transferable from Australia to Derby, how it compared or contrasted between Alvaston and Arboretum, what benefits it had for citizens, how we might begin to reform the front end of the adult social care system and what financial benefits there may be. The latter is often the benchmark for success with business cases focusing upon financial savings as opposed to other social benefits. Yet the financial savings produced by diverting people from the system are notoriously difficult to demonstrate.

The University of Derby evaluation delivered entirely predictable results – that implemented according to its core values, principles and methodology, local area coordination produces the same outcomes for people in a city such as Derby as it does in rural outback Western Australia. Over a period of 10-12 months (formative

stage), working with approximately 50 people, the evaluation estimated a £800,000 saving to the health and social care economy as a result of people's use of the formal system being delayed or diverted entirely. The data was used to produce a business case.

However, what proved to be far more persuasive in winning over the hearts and minds of politicians, board members and executives within the local authority and the NHS (commissioners and providers) was the qualitative data that the programme was producing. Often, customer stories, case studies and narratives are dismissed as less value than quantitative financial information. Yet it was the powerful accounts of the way in which local area coordinators had been introduced, built relationships, established trust, worked to the person's strengths and aspirations and built connections with family members and other citizens in the locality to create simple, person centred and inclusive solutions to situations that convinced strategic resource allocators of the need to invest.

*“Over a 12 month period, the evaluation estimated a £800,000 saving to the health and social care economy”*

Putting it simply, sharing the learning grabbed people's attention. We used this to cultivate conversations with key colleagues in adult social care and in the NHS about the potential role that Local Area Coordination might play in a reformed system. In the summer 2013 we began a review of assessment, enablement and support planning within the Council and shared the learning about Local Area Coordination with staff and partners, with two unexpected outcomes.

First, CCG colleagues encouraged us to be bold in our thinking about reshaping the system. They challenged our view that a wider extension of Local Area Coordination was a 'leap of faith' – and asserted that with the results of the evaluation it was much more a 'leap of fact.' Set against the challenges faced by the reform of health and social care, with no other 'game changer' in sight, to not expand the scope of Local Area Coordination was less risk than 'doing nothing!' Second, in the comprehensive consultation with our staff about the future shape of their service, they strongly endorsed the expansion of Local Area Coordination - making posts part of the establishment, in place of social work posts.

As a result, the original two grant funded posts, plus two others are part of the assessment, enablement and support planning service from 1 April 2014 – funded from the base staffing budget. A further three posts have been funded by the CCG from 1 April 2014 with a further three posts being recruited in June 2015. Ten in total, across the city, working as part of virtual, multi-disciplinary community support teams – working with clusters of GP practices to avoid hospital admission and facilitate return home. The role of the Local Area Coordinators in these teams is to shape a connected approach to integration and empower strong, inclusive & healthy communities.

Key to the success in developing our strategic approach to Local Area Coordination has been developing the role of senior leaders alongside operational management. Over the past year a group of senior managers from adult social care, the CCG, NHS providers, acute hospitals, special education, public health

and neighbourhoods has been nurtured and developed. This is not a hierarchical relationship, because the senior managers are not the experts, but a more clearly defined role in learning about the work, thinking through the strategic connections and opportunities for system wide innovation. The current unprecedented financial and integration challenges are making the space for creative solutions where the risks associated with innovation are lessened when compared to the risk of just doing more of the same.

*No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it.*  
Albert Einstein

We are facing an unprecedented financial burning platform. The typical solutions to efficiency won't deliver the saving we need – they'll just salami slice to the point where we 'fall over.' In these circumstances it's more of a risk to do nothing or to salami slice than to innovate with things that may be previously untried and untested. The challenge remains:

*The typical solutions to efficiency won't deliver the saving we need – they'll just salami slice to the point where we 'fall over.'*

*how do we reform the front end of the system that delays or avoids people needing to come to paid services and keeps those who do to a minimum by squeezing the most out of the universal offer and supports people to build on and build up their social capital – and where they have none, to establish it and shifts resources from the back end of the system to the front end*

Local Area Coordination, done well, has demonstrated the ability to do this in Australia and now in the UK (**when it's done well**). It may well be the closest thing to a panacea that we will see – but it's not an overnight solution.

*When the forms of an old culture are dying, the new culture is created by a few people who are not afraid to be insecure.* Rudolf Bahro



## Welcome to new Local Area Coordinators!!!!

With Local Area Coordination growing, the last few months have seen many new Local Area Coordinators being recruited by their local communities in England and Wales.

The see their stories and backgrounds - check out the Local Area Coordination Network Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/LACNetwork?ref=hl>



***We also look forward to new Local Area Coordinators in Derby City, Isle of Wight, Suffolk and Derbyshire in the coming months!***

### **First Local Area Coordinators in Wales!**

We are really excited to have the first Local Area Coordinators in Wales joining us - with the communities of Sketty, Gorseinon and St Thomas in Swansea recruiting Dan, Jon and Ronan.

A great opportunity to work alongside local communities to make a real difference and build Local Area Coordination in Wales.

Dan, Jon and Ronan start on 1st June!



Jon Franklin



Dan Morris



Ronan Ruddy

### **New Local Area Coordinators in Thurrock**

Following the very positive outcomes in Thurrock, they have now worked with local communities to recruit 3 new Local Area Coordinators - Helen Catterick Pauline White and Karen Dobson.

Welcome to the family and as part of a great team in Thurrock.



Helen Catterick



Pauline White



Karen Dobson

## New Local Area Coordinators in Cumbria

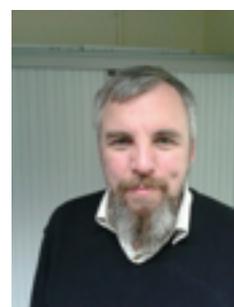
Yes, we also have 3 new Local Area Coordinators in Cumbria - great to have you on board and part of the national Network. I look forward to keeping in touch and seeing you soon



Jess Davidson



Lauren Gray



Kevin Bell

## Welcome to new Local Area Coordinator Managers too!

We are also really excited to welcome new Local Area Coordinator managers to the national Local Area Coordination Network Managers Group.

Great to have Jane Tonks (Swansea), Marie Billyeald (Derbyshire) and Stephen Watt (Suffolk) joining the family!

### Introducing.....



#### Jane Tonks

Hi, I'm Jane and I am the Local Area Coordination Implementation Manager here in Swansea. We have just recruited our first three Local Area Coordinators, the first in Wales, and they will be starting in post on June 1<sup>st</sup>. I feel really excited, and a little nervous, about getting to this stage after many months of preparation, but I know that members of the Local Area Coordination Network are there to help with vast amounts of experience for us to draw on!

What has struck me most about this work since I started last

November is the positivity of everyone involved and how refreshed and powerful that can make you feel. I guess it mirrors what Local Area Coordination can mean to people and communities – with support and friendship there is no limit to what we can do!

### Introducing .....



#### Marie Billyeald

Hi, I'm Marie and I am a Service Manager specialising in Prevention and I work for Derbyshire County Council Adult Care.

I am extremely excited to be leading on Local Area Coordination in Derbyshire. Derbyshire is a large county and I am beginning the development in our Bolsover District Council area, concentrating on

two specific wards: Creswell and South Normanton/Pinxton.

I am looking forward to learning and using best practice from colleagues from other areas of the country who have had this in place for a number of years, and particularly Neil from Derby City Council, where, I am sure we will both mutually benefit from linking together. In Derbyshire, Prevention is the golden thread through all of our services and support, however, as well as helping us to continue to build on this existing important work, Local Area Coordination is an opportunity to shape a new front end, which will allow us to support people to achieve a good life focussing on the skills and talents of people and communities. What could be better than that!

I have been working hard to obtain buy-in from key stakeholders and setting up a strong, connected and integrated Leadership Group and my next step is to begin recruitment of the Local Area Coordinators.

I am looking forward to involving the local community and benefitting from their engagement in the recruitment process. Local Area Coordination is an excellent way of supporting health and social care priorities, reducing demand, building community capacity and supporting people and their families.

Watch this space, Local Area Coordination is coming to Derbyshire!!

### Introducing.....



#### **Stephen Watt**

I currently work in Business Development in Suffolk. I have three main roles, these are:

- I lead on developing the relationship between the council and the Voluntary and Community Sector
- I play a locality role covering the middle of Suffolk
- I am supporting the implementation of changes to Adult Social Care in Suffolk

Because of these three roles it makes sense for me to manage the implementation of Local Area Co-ordination in the county. I

am really excited about implementing this as it has been shown to work and deliver outcomes. I am driven to make things happen and believe in empowerment and that individuals with appropriate support are best placed to develop solutions to improve their own lives.

### **Local Area Coordination Network Managers Meeting**

Last week, it was great to have the opportunity for Neil (Derby City), Tania (Thurrock), Paul (Cumbria), Heather (Isle of Wight), Stephen, Jane and Marie (all above) and I to all meet up for the national Local Area Coordination Network Managers Group last week in Thurrock.

We were pleased to be joined by Sian Roderick (Institute of Life Sciences, Swansea University), Chad Oatley (Isle of Wight Public Health and Southampton Solent University) and Hannah Marsh (SROI Practitioner, Kingfishers Project management Ltd) to support us as we build a shared, national approach to evaluation, monitoring and ongoing improvement.

This will build opportunities for shared learning, comparative studies and also to form supportive relationships for us all - **it's all about relationships.**



## Halgarth Pop Up Café - May 2015

Congratulations to Paul, Lucy and local people for coming together to make a wonderful pop up café for the community of Halgarth in Kendal, Cumbria.

It shows the great power of conversations, relationships and the passion and commitment of local communities.

A positive partnership between Local Area Coordination, local people and local businesses to make a difference...together.

Well done to Paul and Lucy (pictured with Louise) for supporting the local community to make this happen - I can't wait to see what happens next.

The soup and bread was fabulous!

The place was packed.



## Derby Community Allotment - May 2015

Thanks to Simon Hancox, Local Area Coordinator Derby City, for sharing an update about the allotment scheme in Abbey

“Well, it looks to be a lovely day here in Derby. The community allotment over in Abbey ward will be seeing some action this morning. Local residents coming together to reduce isolation, make friends and to grow healthy food. Are any other Local Area Coordinators involved in community allotment schemes?

Feel free to share some of your examples, both highs and lows”



## Isle of Wight – Strengthening Communities

Great two days hosted by Isle of Wight Public Health with Cormac Russell talking about Asset Based Community Development (ABCD), exploring the great possibilities, abundant strengths, opportunities and contribution of local people.

Also thinking about the value of Local Area Coordination and ABCD working side by side – strengthening communities and making it real for ALL citizens.



Really good to have Heather Rowell (leading Local Area Coordination on the Isle of Wight), Stephen Watt (leading Local Area Coordination developments in

Suffolk), Jane Tonks (Local Area Coordination Manager Swansea), pictured above with Cormac Russell.

Local Area Coordination and ABCD - powerful partners alongside local citizens and communities: valuing, nurturing and supporting the contribution of all citizens.

## Introduction to the Inclusive Change Programme - April 2015

Inclusive Change is a new collaboration between Shared Lives Plus, Community Catalysts, Inclusion North, In Control and Inclusive Neighbourhoods, alongside local authority partners.

Very exciting and very pleased to be working alongside Wakefield Council  
*We all want to live in places which feel friendly, welcoming and safe. We want the places we live to be good places to bring up kids in and to grow older. By themselves, neither public services nor local people can make a neighbourhood a great place for everyone who lives there. We need to find different ways to talk to each other, to plan and to work together to create a neighbourhood which allows all of us to have a good life.*

<https://inclusivechange.wordpress.com>

## First Local Area Coordinators in Wales!!

Great that Swansea Council, in partnership with local people from Gorseinon, Sketty and St Thomas has recruited their first 3 Local Area Coordinators.

The first Local Area Coordinators in Wales! Big thanks to Peter (from Asda Gorseinon, pictured with Jane Tonks and El Evans) for hosting interviews - local people coming together



to choose their Local Area Coordinator and building a positive vision and action for the future.

Now, looking forward to hearing stories about building real partnerships to make a difference alongside local people, families, communities and services.

Go for it!

**Local Area Coordination Conversations with Delegation from Netherlands**

I had the great pleasure of joining Les Billingham, Tania Sitch, Francis Allie, Cllr Rice and Roger Harris in conversation with a delegation of leaders from the Netherlands - talking about Local Area Coordination and reform in Thurrock.



Inspiring to hear the stories from Local Area Coordination in Thurrock over the past 2 years - positive outcomes for individuals, families, communities and supporting systems change.

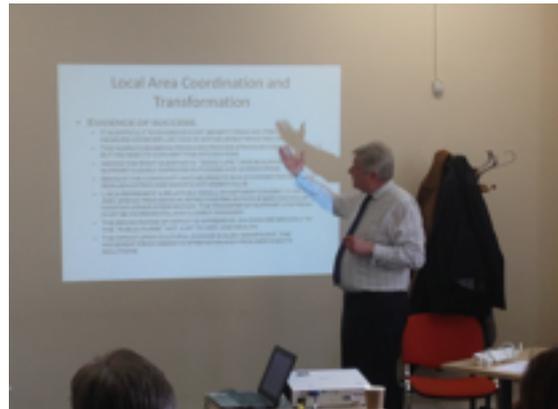
It is moving from being a new idea to being central to how the council works alongside local citizens.

Well done to everyone involved - wonderful.

In line with long term evidence - **strong design (take time to build it with integrity) and strong, inspiring leadership = consistent, positive outcomes.**

Very proud to be a part of the team and the journey.

Now we need to keep moving forward and making it real for the long term!



**Healthy Communities Conference - Southampton**



Congratulations to Jessica Sheldrake (Health and Well-Being Coordinator, Southampton Solent University) for coordinating the great Healthy Communities Conference on 20th March.

An important conversation that included thinking about the positive impact that inclusion, control, personal relationships and contribution

Local Area Coordination can make to health and well-being.

It was great to work alongside Heather Rowell to talk about Local Area Coordination, especially around the opportunities alongside people on the Isle of Wight and to improve health and well-being.



## Learning Disability Alliance Survey

Check out the Quality Checking Government Results from the recent LDA conversations.

"Over recent weeks people with learning disabilities, their families, friends and their allies were surveyed by LDA England. About 2,000 people completed the survey 50% disabled people and 27% families. The results reveal the deep level of shock and outrage felt by many. The survey asked people to score the Government in 12 areas: rights, advocacy, family life, community, income, education, work, home, support, health, safety & justice."

You can find out more via....

<http://learningdisabilityalliance.org/.../quality-checking-g.../>

Local Area Coordination - walking alongside individuals and families/carers to build and pursue their vision for a good life.

Get Involved.

## David Boyle Report

Check out this report from David Boyle - where he "suggests that all service contractors, public and private, need to be asked the following questions: How do you plan to rebuild social networks? How do you plan to encourage mutual support among users? And how do you plan to reduce the level of need for your service year by year?"

<http://www.theguardian.com/.../welfare-exhausted-professional>

## Local Area Coordination and Social Work - Powerful Partners. Jan 15

In a recent article in Community Care <http://inclusiveneighbourhoods.co.uk/local-area-coordination-and-social-work-powerful-partners/>, a conversation between Frances Leddra (Principal Social Worker, Thurrock Council) and Rachel Carter from Community Care highlighted a number of key positive outcomes for social workers by working in partnership with Local Area Coordinators.

This included having greater local community knowledge and connections, joint working to positively support people out of safeguarding, as well as releasing social workers to concentrate on supporting people with complex needs, issues, such as managing mental health crises.

Long term reports and studies have shown the positive impact that Local Area Coordination can drive, through strong partnership working at the individual, family, community and service levels. This includes joint working with social workers, health, GPs, housing and community organisations.

It reinforces the importance of design integrity (fully designed, no short cuts or diluting roles and principles) and strong, integrated leadership across service partners.

## Oz trip Dec 14

Brilliant to catch up with Bronia Holyoak, CEO Valued Lives Foundation Inc. We had a great chat about Local Area Coordination, the importance of maintaining design and principles (let it do what it's meant to do...**don't dilute or cherry pick bits** - it's powerful because of the connected approach).

Great to finally meet up again after so many years (we were on our induction at the same time way back in 1985!).

It is a great reminder of the importance and value of relationships, mutual support and shared vision building - thanks Bronia!

Inspiring to hear the stories and the difference Local Area Coordination has made.

Let's keep in touch, share stories and support/nurture best practice - citizenship, inclusion and contribution for all.

### Thurrock 14 Month Evaluation

Check out the Thurrock 14 month evaluation of Local Area Coordination.

<http://inclusiveneighbourhoods.co.uk/.../Thurrock-141119-LAC-...>

Huge congratulations to Tania and the whole team for great work, an attention to supporting local people to build and pursue their vision for a good life and supporting more inclusive communities.

Starting with the understanding that individuals and families are the experts in their own lives and that we are privileged to be invited into their lives is central.

Early days, but shows the benefit of strong design integrity, connected/ contributing leadership and a real belief in citizenship, inclusion, contribution and social justice.

Well done and keep up the great work.

### LDA Wrong List Nov 14

Whilst the election is now long gone, I thought the link to Learning Disability Alliance "Totally Wrong List" may be of interest - something to reflect on.

<http://learningdisabilityalliance.org/totally-wrong-list/>

### Social Services and Well-Being Act (Wales) 2014

Big thanks to Ceri Jones for links to information about the new Social Services and Well-Being Act (Wales) 2014 and emerging conversations in Wales.

Check out the Wales Online article - link below.

<http://www.walesonline.co.uk/.../welsh-communities-can-prospe...>

In England, also worthwhile looking at the Inclusive Change blog about the Care Act 2014

Tyson, A. (2014). Dream or delusion: How fit for purpose is the Care Act guidance? <http://www.in-control.org.uk/.../dream-or-delusion-how-fit-fo...>



# local area coordination network

I am really pleased to announce that the The Local Area Coordination Network is now starting to take shape, with it formally becoming a Community Interest Company (CIC).

With the Local Area Coordination movement growing across England and Wales, it is now important to build a long term legacy and positive outcomes.

The Network will not only support new areas to develop Local Area Coordination, but also nurture joint working, relationship development and mutual support to keep it strong, relevant and local long into the future.

It will also build connections and partnerships with other strength based approaches and organisations - this is about making the most of our shared strengths to help individuals, families and communities stay strong, connected and in control.

The Network will also be the central point of reference for

- Information, resources, publications
- Sharing Learning
- Interactive web site
- Support networks for Local Area Coordinators, Managers, Leaders, Elected Members and local people
- Induction, training, learning
- Workshops and conferences

The Local Area Coordination Network can play a significant role in supporting individual rights, aspirations, citizenship and contribution, plus support the development of more local, personal, flexible services as a back up to local solutions.

Let's work together to build OUR Network and make the most of these opportunities!

## **COMING UP**

**1st National Local Area Coordination Network Conference - Autumn 2015**

**New Local Area Coordinators in Isle of Wight, Derby City, Derbyshire, Suffolk**