

(d) We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

No

Please tick as appropriate

Yes

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

Q. 2 Can you give examples, either locally or nationally, of what you think has worked well over the last 10 years of *The same as you?*

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

I have been working with Interest Link Swarddale for the last 7 years, as a volunteer. I was so impressed with the training I was given. It was fun and informative and all of us on the course felt equipped to deal with situations with our 'service users' when we completed it. Interest Link also provides a very good back up and support service for the volunteers. We can contact our co-ordinator at any time. There are many social events put on - a great way of meeting other volunteers & service users.

Interest Link has grown bigger and better with the youth groups - a huge success.

Good Practice - Individuals

Q.5 What have you done, as an individual, to make positive changes within your local area?

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

Just by meeting people we know when we are out and about in Peebles, on the bus or returning from a trip further afield, has made many of the locals aware of Interest Link and the work that it does. They see our enthusiasm and what fun we are having together. If they are not able to volunteer themselves they often give generously at fund raising events.

Future Priorities

**Q.10 What future priorities do we need to focus on?
(Please list these in order of importance with the most important first)**

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

It would be wonderful if 'Interest Link' could be started up in other parts of Scotland so many people with learning disabilities have no real friends and Interest Link Borders has made this come about for the service users and for the volunteers their service user is a very special friend.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to the questionnaire. Your continued input and support is vital in ensuring that we continue to close the inequality gap that people with a learning disability face daily.

All completed questionnaires should be returned to Sarah Grant either by e-mail or at the address below. The closing date for responses is 30th September 2012.

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