

REDBRIDGE

PEOPLE'S  
PARLIAMENT



WALTHAM  
FOREST  
PEOPLE'S  
PARLIAMENT



# Feedback report on

# Campaigning



Written by

  
One Place East  
Where disability matters

June 2018



One Place East is an independent organisation. This means that we are independent of other organisations and of service providers.

All staff providing support on this project have been trained in advocacy and work in line with The Advocacy Charter.

Staff will support service users, to express their views, whether or not these are the views of One Place East or their funders.

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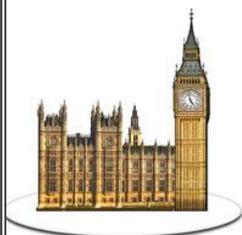
## Who we are



Redbridge People's Parliament and Waltham Forest People's Parliament are both groups run by and for people with a learning disability in the London Boroughs of Redbridge and Waltham Forest.



4 Members of Parliament for each borough who are called MPs have been voted in by their group.



4 big Parliament meetings and 8 smaller meetings are held every year in each borough for people to speak up about things that are important to them.



One Place East provides support for both Redbridge People's Parliament and Waltham Forest People's Parliament.



Redbridge People's Parliament is funded by Trust For London.



Waltham Forest People's Parliament is funded by the People's Health Trust.

## About this meeting



We talked to lots of service users and organisations in Redbridge and Waltham Forest about this meeting. We also sent out lots of information telling people about it.



The meeting was held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018 in the Cherry Tree Café in Wanstead.



**Our guest speaker was:**  
Ellen Clifford from Inclusion London.



22 service users attended. Including staff and advocacy support workers, in total 28 people were there. 3 people gave their apologies as they were unable to come to the meeting.



It was agreed by MPs that Ann and Kweku should lead this meeting.



Ann and Kweku welcomed everyone to the joint big People's Parliament meeting. They went through the housekeeping rules and introduced the guest speaker.

## What we talked about



Welcome

Ellen introduced herself to the group and said she was here to talk about **Campaigning**.



Campaigning is making changes to make things better for lots of people and not just individuals.



Campaigning is important because it is a way for people to get their voices heard when they are not being listened to.

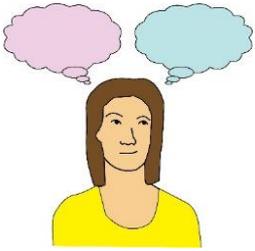
Things we said we need to make better



- People to stop parking where there are signs for blue badge holders.
- The Council not issuing renewals for blue badge holders.
- Making services in the local community more accessible.
- Making stations step free.
- Making public transport more accessible.
- To have more ramps on trains.
- The benefits system.
- Wheelchair access.



## How to campaign



We said we need to be clear about what it is we want to change. It should be something specific. If it is too big or too wide, it will be more difficult to get.



For example, a campaign for an accessible toilet in the local shopping centre will be easier to campaign for than world peace.



## How to build support for your campaign

People in power are more likely to listen if they see there is a lot of support for your campaign.

We talked about the different ways to get your message out to people. We said we could



- Give out leaflets with information about what the campaign is about.
- Hold a stall in the local shopping area.
- Use social media like Twitter or Facebook.
- Get famous people involved such as footballers.
- Talk to local MPs.
- Go on the radio or make TV appearances.





Be clear **who the people are who have the power** to make the change happen that you want and who need to hear your ideas. People in different jobs have the power to make different decisions.



For example, the local Council can make decisions about social care in your area but they have no say in decisions the government makes about benefits.



### Work out your campaigns plan carefully

We talked about different ways that would have the best chance of getting the people in power to listen.



We said this could be done by

- A petition.
- Asking to meet them.
- Getting a story in the newspaper.
- Holding a protest.
- Writing letters.
- Or a mix of different things.





## Things we may need to run a campaign



- Money.
- People with different skills such as leadership skills.
- Equipment.



You will need to work out how you will **check if your campaign is working and how you will know if you have reached your goal!**



We split into two groups and each group completed a Campaign Planning Form.

Below are some of the things you said you wanted to campaign about



- Making public transport more accessible.
- Unemployment. Having more jobs for people with learning disabilities.
- Making our streets more accessible including pavements and crossings.
- Services providing accessible information.
- The DWP having to send out letters to people about their welfare benefits in a way that they can understand.

## What happens next?



Both Redbridge and Waltham Forest People's Parliament MPs will be discussing at their group's future meetings the things you said you wanted to campaign about.

Each People's Parliament will agree any campaigns that they wish to take action on.

## What you said



After the meeting, we asked everyone to fill in a form and answer some questions.

Below are some of the things you told us

**Everyone said they know more about campaigning following this meeting.**

**Everyone said they feel more confident about campaigning.**

**95% of people said they had a say and felt listened to at this meeting.**

**95% of people said this meeting gave them the confidence to speak up**

**Everyone said they felt this meeting helped them make new friends.**

## Who will receive a copy of this report?



This report will be sent out to



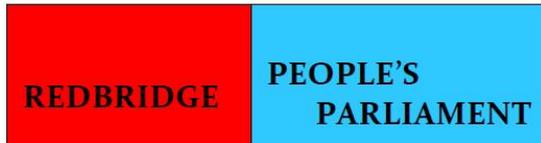
- Everyone who attended the meeting.



- Any other meeting or event that is relevant.

We would like to thank the guest speaker and everyone who came to the meeting for their ideas and contributions.

## How to contact us



### You can write to us at:

Redbridge Disability Consortium  
98-100 Ilford Lane  
Ilford  
Essex IG1 2LD



### Telephone:

020 8925 2435



### Email:

[carol.gardner@oneplaceeast.org](mailto:carol.gardner@oneplaceeast.org)

Pictures used in this report were from

