

Vote for Café Leep in poll



Café Leep are in the hunt for the prize of being called Britain's Best Cafe! The competition sees cafes from all over the UK compete for the accolade of being called the best in Britain. It is being run by SIG, a building supplies company and has attracted a lot of attention from Café Leep's many customers.

The campaign to have Café Leep top the poll has gained plenty of traction thanks to the hard work of the staff and volunteers behind their entry.

Even famous faces including Hilary Benn, Labour MP for Leeds Central (pictured top left with Susan Hanley, Leep1 Chief Executive), have got behind it!

For much of the campaign so far, Café Leep has been in the top three, even being top of the poll for a short while. At the time of writing, Café Leep is currently third, but they still have a very good chance of winning. By voting for Café Leep in the poll, you are voting for the staff, trainees

and volunteers who help to make it such a successful, welcoming and supportive place to have breakfast and lunch.

To vote for Café Leep, all you need to do is visit **britainsbestcafe.co.uk** and, next to 'Cafe', click on 'Café Leep, Roundhay' and fill in the rest of the form.

Voting closes for Britain's Best Cafe on **Friday 29th September**, with the result to be announced in due course, so get voting!

What is Advocacy?

“Advocacy is taking action to help people say what they want, secure their rights, represent their interests and obtain services they need. Advocates and advocacy schemes work in partnership with the people they support and take their side. Advocacy promotes social inclusion, equality and social justice.”

The Advocacy Charter, 2002

Advonet in Numbers: Stats reveal diversity of client base

Advonet staff recently collated data for the 2016/17 financial year about the number of people who have been supported in various ways.

All the stats were then put together charity-wide this summer, with many fascinating numbers coming from the work. The main one was that, in the year up to and including March 2017, we have supported 4,368 people.

Across the same period, we provided advocacy support to 3,861 people, amounting to 90% of Advonet's work. The diversity of Advonet's client base was evident from the final stats. We found that, of those who disclosed it

to us, 54% of people who were helped by Advonet are disabled.

40% of clients who disclosed to us had a mental health issue, with 20% saying they had a learning disability.

11% of clients who disclosed identified themselves as black, with 9% who did describing themselves as Asian. 30% of clients who disclosed are from BME communities.

50% of our clients said they heard about Advonet through word of mouth. The top issue people came to us with was medical issues, closely followed by finances and restrictions in freedom while in care.

Comings and goings Looking for trustees SPA team vacancy

Leeds Autism AIM have a new team member! Owen Walker is their new Volunteer Coordinator, taking over from Flora Harvey, who now has a full-time role with the STARS Team. Owen is responsible for overseeing all of the project's volunteers, including our volunteer autism mentors. Health Complaints Advocate Pauline Nisbeth is leaving for a new full-time role elsewhere. We would like to thank Pauline for all of her hard work with the LIHCA Team.

Advonet are currently looking for new members of our board of trustees. The trustee's role involves making sure that we are doing the best possible job of delivering independent advocacy services for the people of Leeds.

We're looking for people experienced in leadership, strategic planning and business development. If you are interested, send an email to either philip.bramson@advonet.org.uk or hilary.ashton@advonet.org.uk.

Our Single Point of Access (SPA) team has a job vacancy for an Advocacy Assistant. The role is a part-time one for 28 hours per week and involves answering phone calls from clients, signposting to relevant services and providing one-off advocacy interventions.

If you are interested in applying for the role, please visit advonet.org.uk/support-for-you/jobs. Please note that applications close on **Monday 2nd October** at Noon.

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER?

Every
Monday

**Bilingual
advocacy drop-in**
Unit A4, Unity
Business Centre
9:30am-10:30am

Friday
22nd Sept

**Cafe Leep Harvest
celebration - fun,
games and food**
Cafe Leep
11am to 2pm

Tuesday
26th Sept

**Talk by LTHT on
hospitals and
autistic patients**
Lovell Autism Hub
4pm-5:30pm

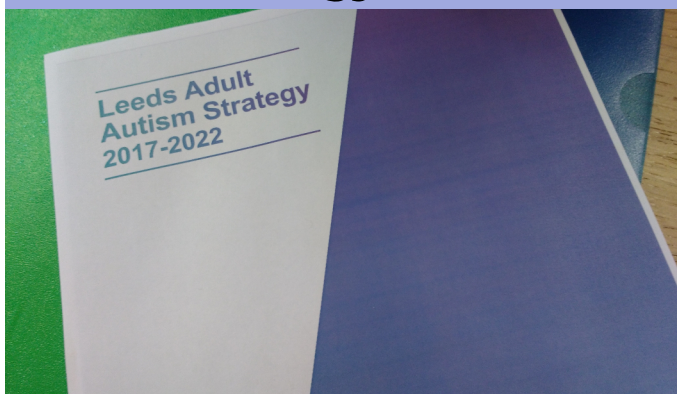
Latest People's Parliament meeting gets our vote



The latest staging of the quarterly **People's Parliament** for people in Leeds with learning disabilities took place on Tuesday 12th September. It was held at St Matthias' Church in Burley and attracted one of the biggest crowds to ever come to such an event.

Facilitated by our Asking You! project, the topics discussed on the day included healthcare and safe places. The meeting was co-chaired by Susan Hanley, who is the chief executive of Leep1.

AIM project's role in new autism strategy for Leeds



The 2017-2022 Leeds Adult Autism Strategy has been unveiled, with our Leeds Autism AIM project playing a big role in its' creation. The strategy was fed into by a reference group for autistic adults, which is held once every three months at the Lovell Autism Hub.

Much of what has been raised at the meetings is inside the document. People who work and volunteer for AIM have been present at the Autism Partnership Board meetings leading up to the new strategy.

Contact us



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