

- (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

INTEREST LINK provides a service to bring able bodied and people with learning disabilities together. I feel people with a disability were a forgotten part of the population. Interest link provides the means of getting these people together. It gets hearing disability out into their local community, being able to make friendships, attend all the things we take for granted. In the Borders area you are able to see interest link volunteers out and about all the time with their links. This must make such a difference to the person and their carers

### 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

For the past nine years I have been an interest link volunteer taking a lady of 75 out once a fortnight for 2 hours. We also go to shows, dances and party nights. In the better weather we go to seaside, castles and gardens. This lady has no family, staff have limited time so find it hard to meet their needs in this area. Sometimes I feel I could just go home after work but when I see her face at the door waiting it makes it all worthwhile. I also volunteer to do teas at all the blood donor groups

## 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

To provide the means for these groups to go on. They do fund raise & apply for grants but need Scottish Government help. Everyone involved works very hard, many hours over and above paid time. They need support and provide a wonderful service which needs to go on. Learning Disability used to be a hidden group of people and we must keep pushing to get them to really be 'THE SAME AS YOU' NOT THE HIDDEN PEOPLE. THEY ARE HUMAN BEINGS 'THE SAME AS US'

**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 30<sup>th</sup> September 2012.**

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