

The Mencap Strule Buzz Group is a self-advocacy group made up of 9 adults with a learning disability who campaign to have the voices of people with a learning disability heard and to work in their local area to raise awareness, break down barriers and increase the visibility of people with a learning disability.

The group were formed in 1999, which highlights the strength of the group and the dedication of its members to their work. The group have developed and maintained a great relationship with local councillors, MLA's, Health Trust officials and the wider Omagh community.

Summary of activities and achievements

- Various social activities to build and maintain relationships within the group and to promote confidence and independence.
- Members have been involved in working groups within Omagh and Fermanagh District Council to represent people with a learning disability in various consultations and town planning.
- Worked with the Open University on their Mabel Cooper Collective research. We worked on looking into the history of learning disability in the area and what information was available in our local archive (Omagh library).

Public Benefit Statement

The Mencap Strule Buzz Group actively promotes the inclusion and empowerment of individuals with a learning disability by ensuring their voices are heard in key decision-making processes. Through participation in consultations, focus groups, and public speaking engagements, members share their lived experiences to raise awareness and advocate for positive change. By engaging with policymakers, organizations, and the wider public, the group helps shape more inclusive policies, improve services, and create a society where people with a learning disability have equal opportunities to participate, contribute, and thrive. Additionally, the group organizes inclusive social activities and events, fostering a sense of community and belonging while increasing the visibility of people with learning disabilities in society. In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries

Financial Review

The charity has no debt or depreciating assets.

Charity Constitution and Governing Document

The charity is affiliated with the Royal Mencap Society. The charities governing document is its constitution which was last revised in 2014.

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees:

Joanne Mc Donald 13/6/23

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