



Craven and Harrogate

May 2020

Dear friends



This is a letter from Christopher and Katie. We are the co-chairs of the Craven and Harrogate Local Area Group.

We hope you are all OK during the lockdown. It is a very strange time for everyone.



Sadly we have to cancel the meeting in Skipton in June because of Coronavirus.



Even though there is no meeting, our work will carry on. This letter has information about how we are staying in touch and keeping our work going.



Our last meeting was in Harrogate in February. The minutes are attached to this letter.

We talked about what home means to people. We asked the Partnership Board to add this to the big work plan and this has been done.



We have decided not to have the election for the new co-chairs in June.

We want everybody to be able to have a say and vote. We hope we can do this in September.



Karen from KeyRing has been in contact with self-advocates to make sure everyone is OK.



Even though we can't meet in person there have been lots of phone calls, emails and even sending letters in the post.

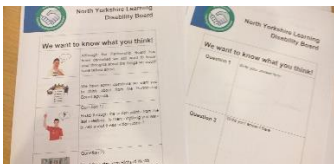


KeyRing have also helped self-advocates to do fun trivia parties on Zoom.

It is nice to see people's faces!



The Partnership Board meeting in March was also cancelled because of coronavirus.



KeyRing sent self-advocates some questions about the Partnership Board work and talked on the phone. People had great ideas.

This will also help us keep our work going until we meet again.



We are sending **Keeping Safe Activity Packs** to everyone. These include our new easy read Keeping Safe guides and some puzzles and questions to help people think about safety.

Services can get copies for people you support by visiting here: safeguardingadults.co.uk/keeping-safe/easy-read-guides/



North Yorkshire Health Task Group

Christopher is the new self-advocate co-chair of the North Yorkshire Health Task Group.

He has been helping North Yorkshire County Council to think about the future of the Health Task Group and how to make work it better.



In Craven we have also been busy talking to self-advocates about what they are doing.

The Craven Gazette has lots of stories of what self-advocates are doing during lockdown. You can read the latest bumper copy here:

<https://www.facebook.com/cravengazette/>



Our next Local Area Group meeting is planned to be in Skipton in September.



We do not know if our September meeting will happen. We will listen to the Government and follow advice so that everyone can stay safe.



If you have any questions please contact:

Karen at KeyRing: karen.murray@keyring.org

Jamie at North Yorkshire County Council:

jamie.bannister@northyorks.gov.uk

Take care and please stay safe!

Christopher Porter and Katie Peacock
Co-Chairs, Craven and Harrogate Local Area Group