

All About REACH



What is REACH?



REACH is the name for the 11 standards people with learning disabilities have said they expect from Supported Living.

What are the 11 standards?

- 1 I choose who I live with
- 2 I choose where I live
- 3 I have my own home
- 4 I choose how I am supported
- 5 I choose who supports me
- 6 I get good support
- 7 I choose my friends and relationships
- 8 I choose how to be healthy and safe
- 9 I choose how to take part in my community
- 10 I have the same rights and responsibilities as other citizens
- 11 I get help to make changes in my life

Why is REACH important?

The REACH standards are important because they can help people with learning disabilities understand if the Supported Living service they are getting is good enough.



The REACH standards can be used by people to check how good a service is, and what can be done to improve it.

Is Advance using REACH?



YES! Last year some people with learning disabilities in Worcestershire started working with staff from Advance Support to try out the REACH standards. They wanted to see if they could be used to improve the services in Worcestershire.

Grapevine spoke to some of the tenants to find out more .

5

What happened first in Worcestershire?

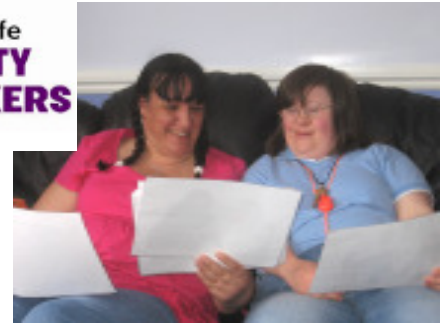


A group from Newcastle called Quality Checkers came and carried out a review of the services with tenants, and Advance staff. This picture is of

Suzie Fothergill, from Quality Checkers, and Dave Young from Advance.

6

What did Quality Checkers do?



They spoke to Advance tenants about the Supported Living service they were getting. They asked questions about what was good, and what could be better. Then they gave a report about the results.

7

What happened next?



The tenants and staff formed a Reviewing Group in 2007. The Group talked about what could be changed in their Supported Living. They made a plan so the changes could happen.

8

Simon's story



Simon was part of the REACH Review. Then he joined the REACH Review Group. Then he asked for training to help recruit staff. This is Simon with his training certificate. He has interviewed lots of staff since!

9

A GOOD RESULT



Now Greg (on the left) and Simon are employed by Worcestershire County Council for REACH. They go all over the county interviewing other service users about REACH standards. They did training for this in November.

10

What's good about REACH?



Greg and Simon say being involved with REACH has made them feel more confident. They have liked meeting people and hearing their interesting stories. They have done 2 roadshows for Worcester Supporting People to explain about their work. And the services in Worcestershire are better because of the REACH standards.