

Brian

Lamb

OBE

Event Feedback

of

21st September 2011

Brian Lamb

Brian is a Communication and Public Policy consultant specialising in SEN and disability issues. His recent projects include work with national charities including RNID, Mencap, UKCOD, New Schools Network, NatSip and the Council for Disabled Children. He has also worked with parent partnership services and local authorities on aspects of SEN and parental involvement.



He led the independent Lamb Inquiry into Parental Confidence in Special Education Needs (2009) and has also served on a number of Government working groups and inquiries into education and disability rights including the Disability Rights Task Force. For the last 10 years he was Chair of the Special Education Consortium, which campaigns for better provision and legislation on SEN. A special advisor to and founding board member of Every Disabled Child Matters, he has also published widely on SEN and disability issues.

He is also Chair of the NCVO Campaign Effectiveness Advisory Board and author of the Good Guide to Campaigning and Influencing published by NCVO and a number of other guides on campaigning. Brian is a member of the College of Reviewers for the Economic and Social Research Council.

Brian's visit to Lincolnshire

Brian was invited to Lincolnshire by the LPCC to talk to parents and professionals about the current developments in Special Educational Needs and how parents can become more involved.

Brian's presentation covered the following subjects:-

- The background to SEN
- The Green paper
- SEN and over identification
- Assessment
- Joint Planning
- Personalised budgets
- Parental Involvement
- Parental Satisfaction
- Local Offer



Parents were made aware of the numerous changes surrounding the Green Paper and the fact that these changes are going to be a long slow process. He also highlighted the importance of Parent carer forums, like the LPCC, in shaping services for families of children with disabilities and SEN.

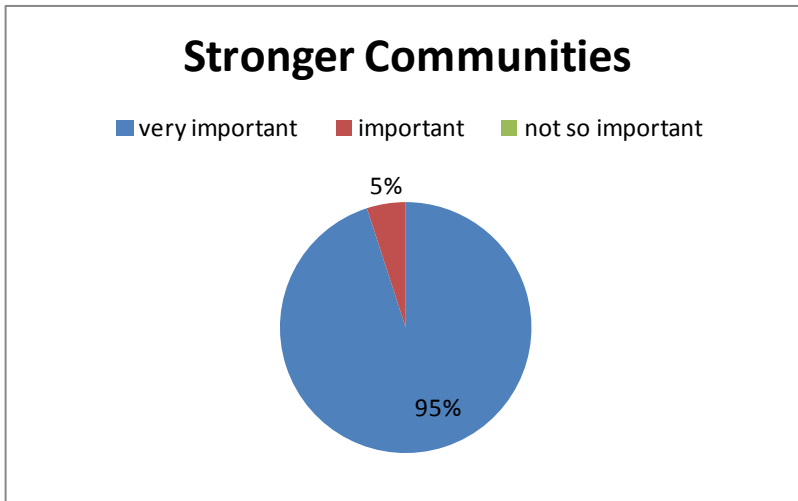
Through forums like ourselves, parents have a voice.

Positive response

We had over 50 parents and professionals attend our two sessions and from these we received 32 feedback forms.

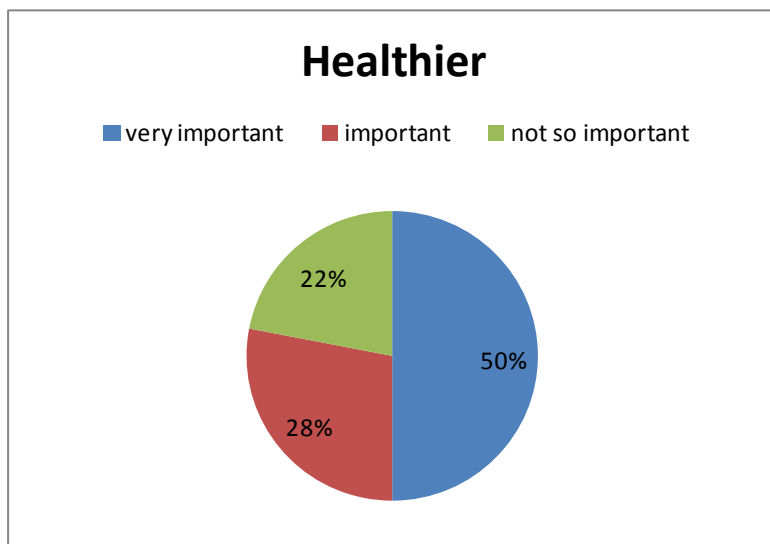
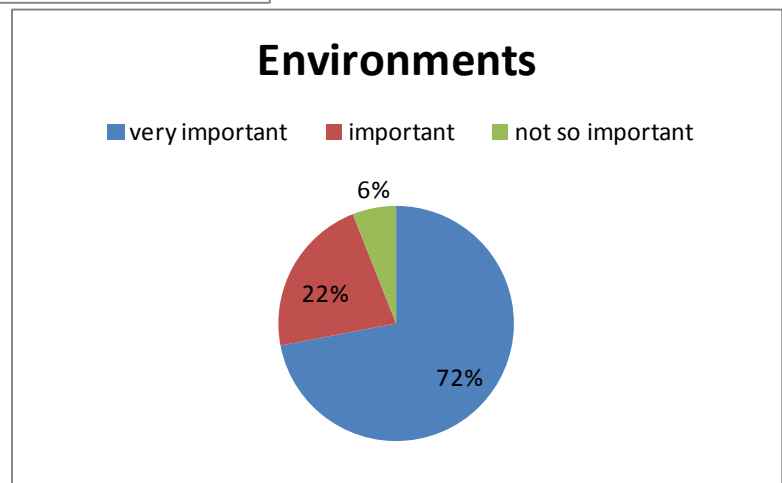
We have collated feedback on a number of areas which is the key to our success as a parent carer forum. We asked the following questions:-

How important are these things to you and your family?

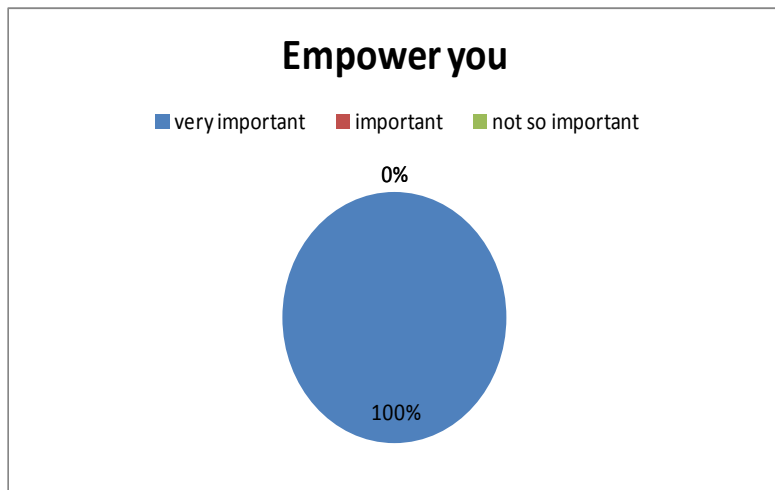


Events that create stronger communities working together to tackle problems (e.g such as small group meetings to share ideas with professionals working with families of disabled children)

Events that help improve environments, access and employment (e.g raising awareness about disability to help make the environment welcoming)



Events with information to enable you and your family to be healthier and more active



Events like this that empower you and your family.

Parents were also asked, if we were to hold events or activities to support you and your family, what kind of things would you be interested in?

Suggestions were as follows:-

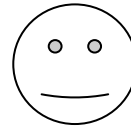
- Events for teachers rather than parents
- Knowing your rights
- Information events on policy changes but at a human level
- Education Rights & Social Care
- Meeting other parents with similar issues for a chat
- Anything that will help my child with SEN
- Social Care; what is their Statutory duty
- Parental rights across Education, Health and Social Care
- Negotiation and dealing with difficult people
- Dyslexia and rights of child
- Training and how to work with the system
- To keep up to date with legislation
- Another talk when the White Paper is out

Professionals were also asked if we were to hold events for professionals working with families of children with disabilities and SEN, what kind of events would you be interested in?

Suggestions were as follows:-

- Legal discussions
- Information about up-to-date developments.
- Professional development programmes
- In-house training event
- Topic focused workshops
- Health, Mental Health, Autism, ADHD, Visual Impairment
- Information events and speakers
- Networking events.

Feedback from the event



	Happy		OK		Unhappy	
	Parents	Professionals	Parents	Professionals	Parents	Professionals
Speaker	100%	93%	-	7%	-	-
Information Provided	100%	86%	-	14%	-	-
Venue Facilities	61%	79%	39%	21%	-	-
Time of the event	89%	86%	11%	14%	-	-

100% of parents and professionals would like to know about other events.

Other comments about the event:-

- We support LPCC and do our best to pass on up to date information events etc (professional organisation)
- I enjoyed Brian's personal take on it.
- I promote LPCC and events via newsletter to families I work with (professional organisation)
- I develop the links between our school and the families who attend our school by promoting your team which I have been doing in any Annual Reviews, Open evenings etc. (Senco)
- I enjoyed the very informative talk and gained a lot in the background given (professional)
- I have taken some leaflets to provide to parents who may need your support (Senco)
- I just try to tell other people about LPCC whenever I can! (parent)
- Very interesting –could do with him coming back
- Very informative; parents need to have more events like this.
- Weekend courses are good. I have childcare responsibilities.
- Excellent talk –thank you so much



Pictured above: Brian Lamb and Thérèse Lord perusing the LPCC many published documents.

A big Thank you to Brian for his excellent and informative talk; we now have a lot to think about!

Also thank you to all the parents and professionals who attended the day making it another resounding success.

Many thanks for all the feedback you completed. Hope to see you at our next event.

The LPCC Team