

# Steve Broach

29th & 30th June 2011

## **Steve Broach**

Steve is a public lawyer who focuses on the rights of children (in particular children with disabilities) and adults with disabilities. Steve is co-author of 'Children in Need, Local Authority Support for Children and Families' and co-author of 'Disabled Children: A Legal Handbook (Legal Action Group, April 2011 and October 2010 respectively).

Steve was also awarded Young Barrister of the Year at Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year Awards 2011.



## **Steve's visit to Lincolnshire**

Steve was invited to come to Lincolnshire by the LPCC to talk to parents and professionals about the law surrounding children with disabilities and special educational needs.

The subjects he covered during his four sessions were as follows:-

- Education
- Social Care/Health
- Human Rights –Article 8 (family and private life)
- Consultation
- Disability Equality Duty
- Welfare Duties
- Transition
- Equality Act 2010
- The Green Paper

Due to the subject of the event being the law we were unable to take notes and prepare a report due to possible misinterpretation of the content.



Steve however stated that the key chapters of his book could be downloaded from the CDC website ([www.ncb.org.uk/CDC](http://www.ncb.org.uk/CDC)). This also provides a list of solicitors known to specialise in cases involving disabled children.

He also stated that 'Cemented to the floor by the Law' a paper written by himself, which gives detailed coverage of the Legal Duties that may be used to fight cuts to disabled children's services is available to download free of charge at:

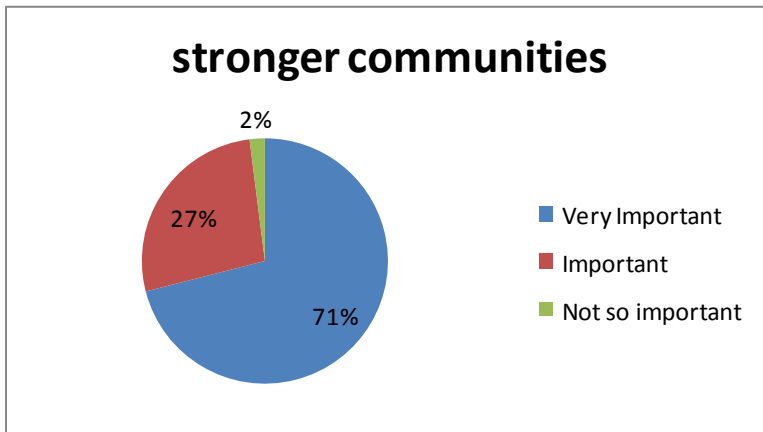
[http://www.ncb.org.uk/cdc/resources/cemented\\_to\\_the\\_floor\\_by\\_law.aspx](http://www.ncb.org.uk/cdc/resources/cemented_to_the_floor_by_law.aspx)

## Very positive response

We had over 100 parents and professionals attend the four events, which was a very positive response and from these we received 71 feedback forms.

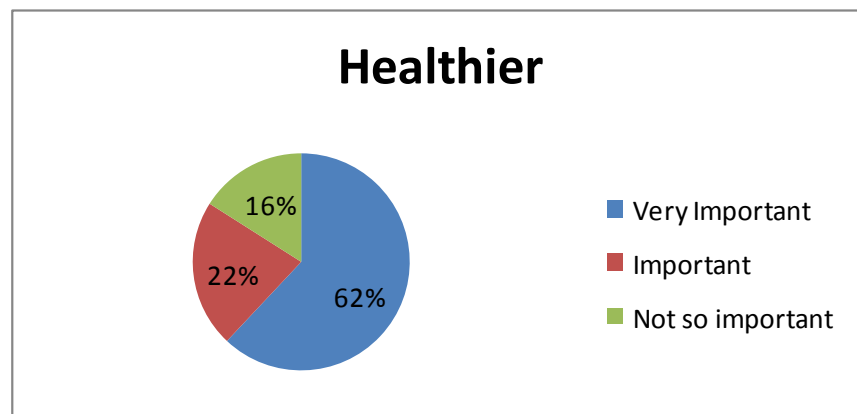
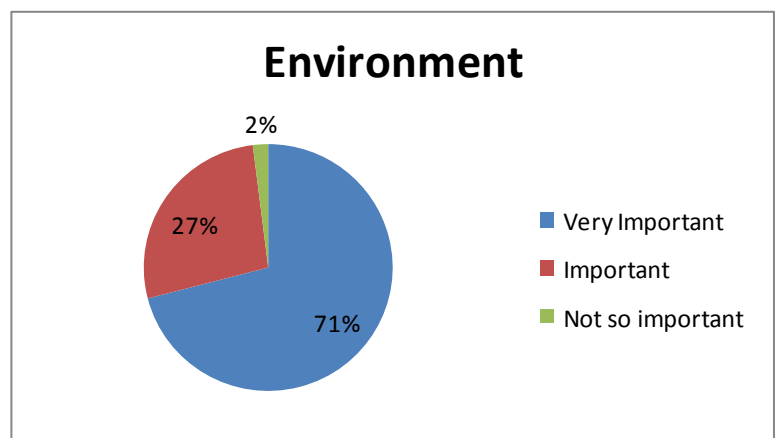
We have collated feedback on a number of areas which is key to the success of our Parent Carer forum. We asked the following questions:-

### How important are these things to you and your family?



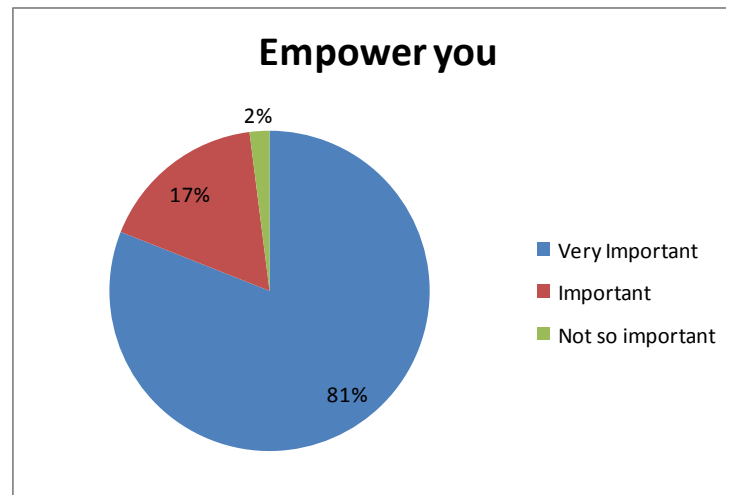
Events that create stronger communities, working together to tackle problems (e.g such as small group meetings to share ideas with other parents of disabled children).

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



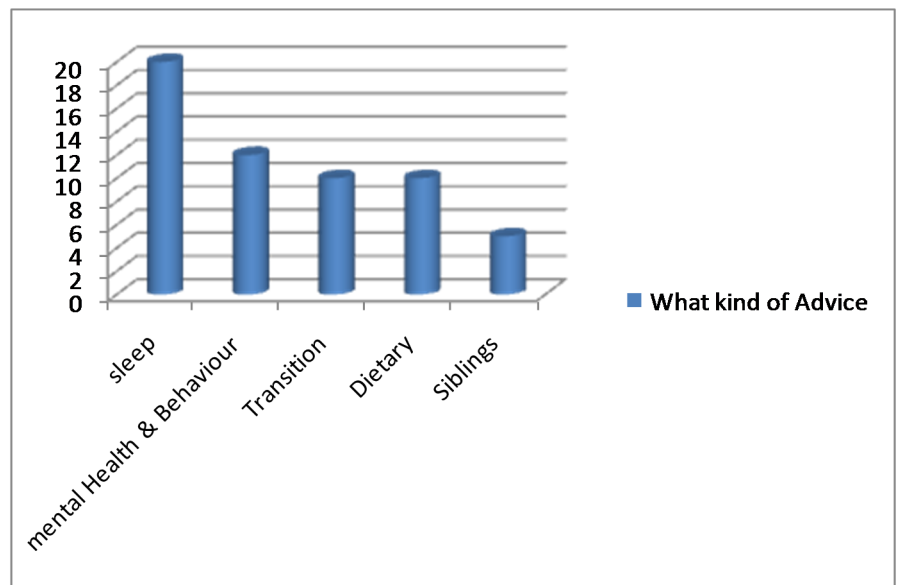
Events with information to enable you and your family to be healthier and more active.

Events like this that empower you and your family



**We asked parents, if we were to hold events with health professionals, what kind of things would you like us to consider (e.g dietary advice, sleeping advice etc).**

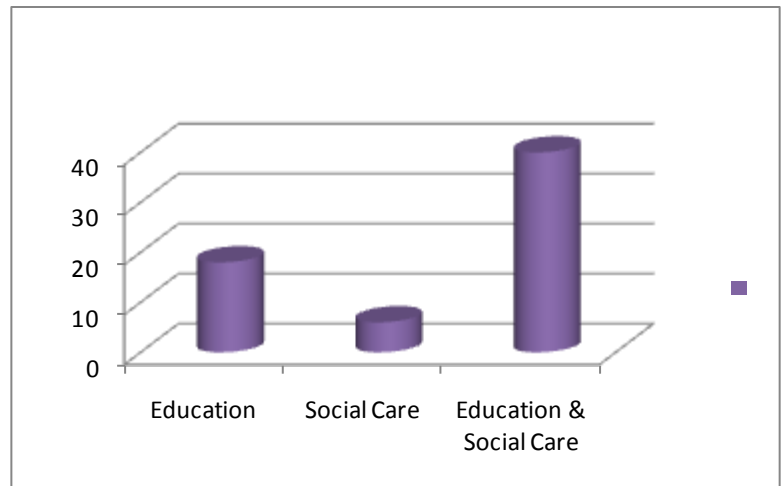
These were the top 5 topics listed by parents.



Other suggestions were:-

- Continuing care
- All therapy services
- Dental
- Personal care
- Health and fitness
- GP's responsibilities
- Your rights as parents
- Sensory disorders
- Dressing
- Chief executive of health

**We then asked parents if we were to hold events with education specialists and social care professionals which would they like to attend?**



**Other Suggestions were:-**

- Sense
- CAMHS
- Post 16
- Senco
- Head teachers
- Director of Education
- Direct payments
- Transitions
- Adult Services
- Educational Psychologist
- Social Worker
- Salt



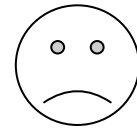
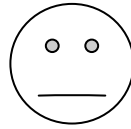
Parents' Conference

**Parents were also asked what other information they would like to know more about:**

A diverse range of topics were mentioned including:-

- Life after residential college
- Social Care
- Transition
- My rights as a single parent of a disabled child
- Advice on services for young adults over 18
- DLA and criteria
- Disabled young adults and employment rights
- What types of special schools are in Lincolnshire. Easier access to information about these.
- Statementing
- How to hold my child when he is in a temper
- The Law
- Who Social Services are answerable to, what is the process of assessment of needs.
- Parental Rights across Education, Health and Social Care.

## Feedback from the event



	Happy		OK		Unhappy	
	Parents	Professionals	Parents	Professionals	Parents	Professionals
Speaker	95%	100%	4%	-	1%	-
Information provided	96%	92%	2%	8%	2%	-
Venue facilities	89%	62%	11%	38%	-	-
Time of the event	86%	77%	11%	23%	3%	-

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

### Other comments about the event

- *Very informative-just sorry I hadn't had a lot of info sooner –however I have it now – Thanks*
- *Absolutely outstanding , I am now filled with new and useful knowledge*
- *Excellent speaker, pity it was not enough time. Maybe a day would have been better. Where were the biscuits!!*
- *Felt some parents were using this as a free service for their specific cases which took up a lot of time and stopped info being given on more topics.*
- *Informative, useful seminar, attended in capacity of my work role.*
- *Very interesting and good to get opportunity to talk with someone who is an expert on Law and Disability.*
- *A lot of information to take in but very useful*
- *Brilliant talk, very, very useful and in clear 'English Speak'*

**A big THANK YOU to Steve for providing us with such useful information and giving us all a lot to think about. The fun part is putting it all into practice.**

**Also thanks to all the parents and professionals who attended the event , making it a very informative and positive experience.**

**Thanks to everyone for all the feedback we have received from you. We hope to see you at our next event.**

*The LPCC team.*