

Valuing People Beacon Newsletter

What is Beacon Status?

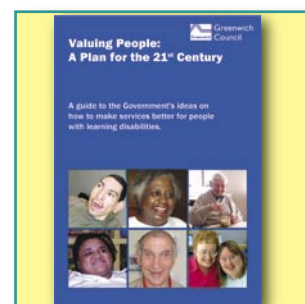
The Government runs the Beacon scheme. The award of Beacon status is given to councils when they show that they are providing really good services.

In April this year it was announced that Greenwich Council won Beacon Status for the theme of **Valuing People**. This was for all of the services it provides to people with Learning Disabilities.

Only three other councils; Norfolk, Wiltshire, and Rotherham won the award in the whole country.

Councillor David Grant, Cabinet Member for Adults and Older People says:

"It's great that Greenwich is now a beacon borough for Valuing People. Congratulations to everyone who worked hard to get this. We are all very pleased, but we know we have to live up to this. I hope this newsletter will help us to do this. Let us know what you think, so we can improve our work, in this newsletter and in the rest of what we do."



Valuing People - our accessible booklet



Councillor Grant



Fraz working in CJ's Café



Why did we get the award?

The panel of judges said that there were many good things about our services. Overall, the panel said that we are good at involving people in the community in everyday services and having the chance to do your own thing. They thought that the Council had done well because we see services to people with learning disabilities as the responsibility of the whole council and **not** just social services.



Paul out for a meal

What have we done so far?

We set up a Beacon Steering group. This group guides all the work to do with our Beacon status. A special worker has the job of developing all the Beacon work. We have started a **Valuing People Beacon Network** with the other successful authorities to learn from one another and share the good work we have done.

In May, we had a coffee morning. **Mary Ney**, the chief executive of Greenwich Council and **John Nawrockyi**, the Director of Adult and Older People's Services both said that getting Beacon Status was a great achievement and thanked everyone for their work.

We made a **DVD** to show all of these excellent services.



Dino chairing a meeting.
Dino is on the Beacon Steering Group



Evette, Lisa and Trevor - out and about in the community

What Next?

We need to share with other councils across the country the good work that we are doing in Greenwich so that other services in the country get better whilst making services even better here in Greenwich for local people.



- We are working together with **Working with Words** to set up a Beacon Website.
- We will be inviting people from other councils to come to Greenwich. Hopefully they may learn from our good work and use this back in their own areas.
- We will put together a friendly pack about all the services in Greenwich. This will be on a DVD.
- In November, there will be a **Greenwich Open Day**.



Meena, Nikki and Robert - relaxing at Working with Words

Greenwich Open Day

We would like your ideas about the Open Day that we are holding on **2nd November**. The main things we will talk about on the day are; being an active citizen, improving access to public services and better access to mainstream services.

- We are going to have some speakers and workshops on the day. Is there anything else that you think it is important to talk about?
- Do you have any ideas of how we can make the day more interesting for people?
- Is there anything that you think is good in Greenwich that we should be telling other councils about?



What you think of this newsletter?

- Is it helpful? Does it give you enough information?
- Do you have anything that you would like to see in the next edition?
- Tell us about the good services you receive from the Council, and we can tell everyone else.



If you have any feedback or ideas or if you would like more information about Beacon Status, please

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or

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