

# Partners in Policymaking

An extensive range of innovative training and support programmes



**Partners in Policymaking leadership courses have been running successfully in the UK since 1996. They're designed to respond to the needs of families, carers and individuals.**

Historically, families and individuals have not been included in training or in the design and implementation of policy, even though they know what is working and not working and most often have the solutions. These courses give families the strategies and skills to work in partnership with local authorities locally, regionally and nationally.

Collectively and individually, Partners graduates inspire change for inclusion for people who need support and those that love and care for them.

## The benefits

In Control's leadership programmes give families and professionals the latest cutting edge information and build a network of well informed and well connected people who can truly work in partnership with local authorities to effect positive change.

Graduates of the programmes report that the experience is "truly life changing", helping them to get employment, gain and use personal budgets in innovative ways, employ their own staff and integrate their children in mainstream schools.

These programmes help people develop ideas, opportunities and tools which engage and excite local people and local authorities, and leave a lasting legacy.

**[www.in-control.org.uk](http://www.in-control.org.uk)**

## What's on offer?

A wide variety of tailored courses which not only help build individuals' self-confidence and skills, but also shape policy and services on a local level.

The courses are aimed at people with disabilities or long-term health needs, family carers and frontline social care and provider representatives.

### They usually cover:

- The history of the social care and health systems, changing perceptions and why things are the way they are.
- Current context and best practice around personal budgets, self-directed support, inclusion and independent living. Who does what within the social care and health systems and what is working and not working from all stakeholder perspectives.
- Self direction and how to develop person-centred approaches to support and planning, and how to support others to self-direct.
- How to move things forward including national and local

policy context, change management, creating a shift in culture and making positive change happen on a local and national level.

### Programme outcomes include:

- **A culture shift** by bringing individuals and a variety of professionals and frontline staff together to work in a positive, co-productive way.
- **An investment in peer support and partners in local policymaking** by establishing a network of champions and advocates actively working together to help effect positive change within their local communities and on a national level.

- **Enabling people to plan a better future** by providing people with the right skills, knowledge and confidence to plan a better future and ensure they have greater choice, flexibility and control over their care and wellbeing needs.

- **Enabling people to plan better support** through best practice person-centred planning techniques.

- **Increased knowledge** about how the social care system works, including what 'good support' looks like and how this all relates politically and in practice.

- **Inspired and motivated participants**, committed to making real change happen on the ground.

***"If services really are to change in ways that mean they reflect the genuine wishes and aspirations of people with disabilities and their families, then it is crucial that those people are enabled to become full and active partners in policymaking, planning and development processes.***

***Programmes such as 'Partners in Policymaking' and 'Sharing the Challenge' are important and creative ways of helping this to happen. As I hear of innovative and creative service change across the country, I am struck by how often this is associated with the presence of someone who is a Partners graduate. We need more of them."***

Alan Colhoun, Former Project Manager, Community and Personalisation, Croydon Council

This programme is bespoke and tailored to the needs of each locality. Please contact us on **01562 821 650** or email [admin@in-control.org.uk](mailto:admin@in-control.org.uk) to discuss your needs.

### To find out more...

For more information about our family leadership courses operating under Partners in Policymaking, please visit:

[www.in-control.org.uk/what-we-do/partners-in-policymaking](http://www.in-control.org.uk/what-we-do/partners-in-policymaking)