

Kent Adult Social Care Provider Bulletin



Friday 21 April 2023

Kent Connect to Support - Register for the directory



Our new website, [Kent Connect to Support](#), a one-stop shop for adult social care information, advice and guidance.

To complement the new site, we're launching a brand-new community directory which our residents can use to find services like yours. If you provide services to adults, why not sign up? Being part of the directory is free, so let us know if you'd like us to include your details.

Register for the directory

Joining the directory is free and easy to do. Simply [fill out our online form](#) by **Sunday 30 April** and we'll do the rest! After a quick review, we'll add your details to the directory, send you a login and tell you more about how you can manage your information.

Link not working? Copy and paste into your web browser: www.kent.gov.uk/joinconnecttosupportdirectory

Voter ID requirements: Supporting people to vote in the

2023 English local elections



Please click [here](#) to view the full briefing, which includes information and links to resources to help reach people with a learning disability, autistic people and other groups of people who may face barriers to voting.

LGA briefing: Voter ID – what you and people you support may need to know:

- The UK Government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station.
- This new requirement will apply for the first time at the local elections taking place in some areas of England on Thursday 4 May 2023.
- The requirement will apply to UK Parliament general elections from October 2023, and to UK Parliament by-elections and recall petitions from May 2023.
- The Electoral Commission has launched a public awareness campaign that includes resources to help reach older and disabled people and other groups of people facing barriers to voting. This is likely to be of interest to social care staff and providers.

Resources to help reach people with a learning disability, older people and other groups facing barriers to voting:

- The Electoral Commission has launched a [public awareness campaign on photographic voter identification](#) at the May 2023 local elections.
- The Electoral Commission have also published a range of resources to support individuals and organisations in England to help them raise awareness, and support voters with applying for a Voter Authority Certificate, if they do not have approved identification.
- They have launched bespoke [Voter ID resource packs](#) for partners to use to help amplify messages to underrepresented groups.
- As part of these resources the Electoral Commission has published new easy-read and plain text format resources for people with a learning disability explaining the new election voter identification requirements as well as large print, braille, and British Sign Language formats.
- There are also packs for local authorities that can be co-branded with council logos.

National Emergency Alerts System - 23 April

This page may have been generated using the National Emergency Alerts System on 23/04/2023.

It's important we prepare anyone we support that has a mobile phone that they may receive this alert. Please see below two versions of a tool you can use to help people understand about this. The first is an easy read document, the second is a Plain English version:

[COT Emergency Alerts System Plain English](#)
[COT Emergency Alerts System Test Easy Read](#)

Please ensure you use whichever document is best for the people you support that this may affect.

Have your say on our Local Account



improvements and challenges in adult social care in Kent. In [last edition](#) (reporting from September 2020-December 2021), we've highlighted the hard work of our teams and the resilience of our partners and communities, renewing our commitment to celebrating diversity and equality in Adult Social Care and encouraging involvement in shaping our services. We've also reported on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact of the Black Lives Matter movement on not only the people who draw on care and support, but also the impact on our staff.

September 2020 to December 2021, highlighting the achievements, improvements and challenges of KCC adult social care in Kent



This year, we want to work with our partners, providers and people who draw on care and support to shape the Local Account for 2022 **together**.

If you could take some time to look through the previous [Local account for adult social care](#) and the [Local account for adult social care \(easy read\)](#) and provide some feedback, that would be great.

Please get involved via jasmine.knight@kent.gov.uk and share any thoughts or feedback you have which will help shape our eleventh edition of the Local Account for Adult Social Care.

KiCA Annual Conference

The KiCA Annual Conference will be held on Thursday 18 May at the Mercure Great Danes Hotel, Maidstone. We have a fantastic day planned for you with speakers from the Homecare Association, Care England, KCC, Skills for Care, ICB and Neil Eastwood to name a few.



We will also have an exhibition, giving you the chance to speak to many of our sponsors.

Places for KiCA members: £20pp

Places for Non members: £50pp

(includes refreshments and lunch)

To book your place(s), please email ellie.reynolds@kica.care

Want to have your say on social care? Join the Your voice network!



If you aren't already a member, are interested in hearing more about social care in Kent and would like us to keep you updated about opportunities to get involved, receive our newsletter or link you up with our lived experience groups.

Please [join our Your voice network](#) online or contact makingadifference@kent.gov.uk to speak to a member of the team.

We'd love to hear from you!

Our mailing address is:

Stakeholderteam@kent.gov.uk