



SHROPSHIRE Parent
And
Carer
Council



Joint information event

17th June 2014

**Parent and Carer Council Shropshire
(Pacc)**

And

**Parents Opening Doors Telford & Wrekin
(PODS)**

Summary of Event

The information event on 17th June 2014 was the first joint information event between Parent and Carer Council Shropshire (Pacc) and Parents Opening Doors Telford (PODS) and was funded by the Big Lottery.

The event was held at the Shrewsbury Town Football Club and was an opportunity for parent carers to gather information on local service provision for their families and was also a networking opportunity for providers.

The event saw 43 organisations attend from Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin to hand out information on their services for parent carers or children with a disability or additional need. Organisations attending the event included The Family Fund, Shropshire Short Breaks Team, Surestart, Face 2 Face befriending, Carers Support, SEN Team, Whizz Kidz, Tickwood Farm, Parent Partnership Service, Empathy, Scrappies, Family Information Service and lots more.

50 parent carers attended the event along with 10 professionals.

We asked parent carers to give feedback on the event. In total, 24 feedback forms were received.

Parent carer feedback

Do you feel better informed?

67% of parent carers said this had greatly improved after attending the event and 33% said that this had improved a little.

Do you feel more connected?

58% of parent carers told us that this had greatly improved after attending the event and 42% told us that this had improved a little.

Are you more able to support your family?

54% of parent carers said that this had greatly improved and 46% of parent carers said that this had improved a little.

Do you feel that you have a great ability to influence services?

54% told us that this had improved greatly and 46% told us that this had improved a little.

Of those who gave feedback forms – 79% of parent carers were from Shropshire and 21% of parent carers were from Telford & Wrekin.

Some feedback from parent carers included:

“Great event to network and meet local organisations”

Feedback from exhibitors

What worked well at this event?

- "What a brilliant venue, well organised, so helpful for our organisation. Met many lovely people and got useful information for us. Thank you"
- "Good venue, easily accessible. Great to have tea and coffee"
- "Great event, well organised. Having drinks was really appreciated. Good attendance"
- "So well attended, very useful in meeting families"
- "All worked well, met lots of new people and networked"

We also asked for areas of improvement for future events

- "Help delegates with disabilities to get a drink – although we should have brought more volunteers"
- "More publicity to encourage greater visitor numbers"
- "Similar stands together would have been good for networking"
- "Details of where and how to order lunch"
- "Well organised although a little cold"

Feedback was also received on Twitter and Facebook and is provided below.

Shropshire Disability Network

It is also Thank You to all at Shropshire Parent and Carer Council from us. We had a great morning. So sorry that due to illness and/or volunteers out elsewhere we could only stay until 12.30. So pleased we took this opportunity up. We met many people, have engaged with new organisations which helps us in our work of sign posting. It was a fantastic, well organised event and we are delighted to have been part of it. Thank you from all at SDN

Orkid Ideas @OrkidIdeas 2h

[@ShropsPACC](#) Congratulations on the informative and well organised event yesterday. It was great to showcase [#TomTag!](#)

Workshops

2 workshops were held at the information event. One workshop was with the Continence Team and gave details of what products were available for children and young people and how parent carers get access to the service.

The second workshop was held in the afternoon and was led by representatives from Irwin Mitchell Solicitors on the Mental Capacity Act. These workshops were available at no cost for parent carers.

Publicity

The event was covered live by BBC Radio Shropshire, with live interviews given by Sarah Thomas (PACC), Sarah Wilkins (Shropshire Council) and Jayne Stevens (PODS). An interview was also recorded with Shana Weare (PACC/PODS Face 2 Face Co-ordinator) about what it is like to parent a child with a disability and the value of peer to peer support.

Total cost for the event

The total cost for the information event was £558.00 which included hiring the Sovereign Suite for the information event, hiring a small room for workshops in the morning and afternoon and the provision of teas and coffees throughout the event.



Thank you to
everyone who
supported and
attended this
event