



ENDING INSTITUTIONAL CARE

Moving away from institutional models towards
neighbourhood-based, person-led support.



Thursday 2 July 2026



St Michael's Centre The Green
Stoke Gifford Bristol BS34 8PD



- 09:30 **Arrival, registration and coffee**
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- 10:00 **Welcome and introductions**
Michael Grimmert, Disability Inclusion Trainer & Speaker and
Jake Banbury, Co-chair Learning Disabilities and Autism Commissioners Network
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- 10:10 **How we got into this mess?**
Why we seem unable to end institutional care.
Dr Simon Duffy, Director, Citizen Network
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- 10:30 **The conditions for an ordinary life:**
What to commission, what to look for
Vinesh Kumar, Founder of I Direct Independent Living
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- 10:50 **How can we get to a place where we don't**
commission any institutions?
Chris Watson, Founder, Self Directed Futures and Co-chair Learning Disabilities
and Autism Commissioners Network
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- 11:10 **Break, coffee, networking and sponsor conversations**
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- 11:40 **'Support Circles' as a solution**
to unlocking hospital discharge
Nikki Henderson, Elemental Health & Care, and **Catherine Nolan**, West Midlands
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- 12:00 **Real life stories – innovative**
approaches to avoiding hospital admission
Benjamin Andrew, PBS Lead, Catalyst Care Group
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- 12:20 **World Cafe style workshop session**
Facilitated problem solving and group feedback session
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- 13:00 **Lunch networking and sponsor conversations**
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- 14:00 **Increasing housing options in our communities – what are**
the sector challenges and the commissioning opportunities
Emily Collinson, Director of Development, Golden Lane Housing, and **Clare Skidmore**,
National Strategic Housing Lead, Learning Disability and Autism Programme, NHS England
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- 14:30 **Innovative technology in housing and support,**
where technology genuinely adds value and where it does not
Amy Lewis, Managing Director, Just Checking Ltd
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- 14:50 **How we get out of this mess?**
How we finally end institutional care for real.
Dr Simon Duffy, Director, Citizen Network
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- 15:20 **Audience reflections round**
Dr Simon Duffy & Jake Banbury
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- 15:45 **Thank you and close**
Michael Grimmert