

Monday 7 March 2022

## Let's hear it! My Views

Unlocking people's potential to lead a happy, independent and fulfilling life, based on individual strengths and aspirations, is the right thing to do. As the BOBL programme continues at pace, please do reflect via [My VIEWS](#). Let us know what we can do together, to ensure you're supported to maximise the independence of Manchester's residents.

Thanks to the reflections they've added to My VIEWS, **two lucky colleagues have been awarded a highly prestigious Our Manchester water bottle!** Pamela Lewis (Hulme, Moss Side and Rusholme) shared her experience empowering a citizen and their family by understand their collective strengths and listening to what was important to them.

*"The new form helps me to reflect better. Filling in My VIEWS makes you think, and I reflected and revisited an assessment – I thought about what more I could have got out of the assessment and went back to it."*

Dave Bradley (Charlestown, Higher Blackley and Harpurhey) shared his reflection on the benefit of [Community of Practices](#) (CoPs) to develop relationships with colleagues and understanding what would support practitioners to adopt strengths-based approaches day-to-day.

You've also told us that challenges remain with some homecare providers in terms of both capacity and prioritising strengths-based approaches. It's important to keep raising these issues with Commissioners. There are a number of key initiatives starting soon that will begin to address these issues. This level of insight supports us to maintain a clear dialogue with homecare providers as we set out our strategic and operational aims.

Senior Social Worker, Ellie Atkins, highlighted the challenges she's experiencing in putting appropriate services in place for people with complex neurodevelopmental needs. She was recently invited to the Responsive Commissioning Working Group to provide detail on her experience, following which she told us:

*"In my 20-year career as a Social Worker, it was the first time I've sat with a group of commissioners and been able to articulate some of the front-line challenges."*

*It felt that people were engaged, and I was happy to come out with some contacts."*