

## Getting involved with Making it Real

<b>Organisation name</b>
Always Supporting Your Way Limited
<b>Organisation type</b>
Care and Support provider
<b>Making it Real contact</b>
Name: Alex Spades Job title: Managing Director Email: ASpades@Alwaysupporting.co.uk Telephone: 08705 5678910
<b>Our co-production sponsors</b>
<i>A sponsor is a person with lived experience/carer or group with whom you are working on Making it Real</i>
<i>If your organisation does not provide a direct service you can still provide details of person/people who can verify that the work has been co-produced.</i>
<i>Our co-production sponsor(s)</i>
Name and how to contact: Debbie Grey. Debbie accesses our 'Fun Filled Friday' activities session in Swannington Community Centre and lives in one of the properties in our supported living scheme in Swannington. She chairs our Better Lives co-production group. It's best to speak in the first instance to Debbie's Support Worker Vicky Dale on 08705 5678944
<b>What my organisation does to support people with care and support needs (100 words)</b>
We provide a range of care and support services for people over 18 living in Yorkshire and the Humber. We provide some regulated services in some of the places we operate. Values are really important to us: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Respect and dignity</li><li>• Working together</li><li>• Everyone counts</li><li>• Caring and supporting to improve people's lives with compassion</li><li>• High quality services</li><li>• Being led by the people we care for and support, so they are in control</li></ul>
<b>We commit to the following Making it Real themes (please mark all that apply)</b>
Wellbeing and independence    ✓
Information and advice
Active and supportive communities
Flexible and integrated support    ✓

When things need to change  
Workforce

**What we will do to Make it Real (200 words)**

We decided to start by looking at the way our staff work. Our Better Lives co-production group told us they don't always have the flexibility to support people accessing the service in the way they want them to.

So we chose to explore;

'I can live the life I want and do the things that are important to me as independently as possible' as a focus for people accessing services and;

'We work flexibly to meet people's fluctuating requirements for care and support, enabling the flexible use of personal budgets over time and with minimal restrictions' as a focus for our organisation

In the next three months we will look at what can be done to be more responsive. We will talk to commissioners about the need to flex budgets and care and support plans and believe that Individual Service Funds (ISFs) would help to achieve this.

Within the next year we therefore plan to work with commissioners to be able to work more flexibly using ISFs.

**How we will co-produce and with whom (100 words)**

Our Better Lives co-production group will lead and steer the work. The group meet every three weeks and is made up equally of people who access our services and staff: team leaders, support workers and administrators, and our Finance Director who is the link back to our board.

The team are working on a plan together to make sure everything that needs to happen does so and in a way that people who access services say is best. We have already learnt that working in this way leads to better outcomes for people accessing services and more satisfied staff providing those services.

**When will you complete this Making it Real project- 3, 6, 9 and 12 months?**

12 months