

## HAVE YOUR SAY

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# SGDEN

South Gloucestershire Disability Equality Network

## SGDEN August Newsletter

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Experiencing inequality? We want to hear from you  
Can't wait scheme - open to individuals, businesses and groups

## HAVE YOUR SAY

Do you feel safe in South Gloucestershire?  
Exploring the lives of disability claimants - Call for participants  
Travel Improvements - Warmley to Longwell Green

## NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES

South Gloucestershire Parent Carers  
Free emotional health and wellbeing courses  
Cool Ventures - free business workshops and advice  
The Diversity Trust - free 'Lunch & Learn' sessions

## VOLUNTEERING AND PAID ROLES

Volunteer for us and find out about other opportunities

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## SGDEN NEWS

### We want to hear from you...

We want to hear from you about your experiences of inequality in South Gloucestershire.

- How can we work with the council to address these inequalities?
- Do you have experiences that highlight issues in the area?

Please email your thoughts and comments to [info@sgden.org.uk](mailto:info@sgden.org.uk) and we will include your feedback in our discussions with the Council and other groups.



### Can't Wait Scheme

Do you know of any businesses/venues that would be interested in joining the [Can't Wait](#) scheme? Please do let them know about it and they can get in touch for more information by visiting our [website](#) or emailing [admin@sgden.org.uk](mailto:admin@sgden.org.uk).

## HAVE YOUR SAY



### A CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON SAFETY

South Gloucestershire Community Safety Team are asking a series of questions to understand people's feelings about crime and safety in their area. Working with partners, including the Police, they will use the results from the survey to help make South Gloucestershire safer.

To take part in the survey click [here](#). All responses are anonymous and will feed into the councils Crime and Disorder Strategy. The survey will close on 31st August and should take no more than 5 minutes to complete.

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# Research Project

## Call for Participants

**'Exploring the Lives of Disability  
Benefit Claimants in the UK'**

Lilly, a PhD researcher at the University of Bristol, is exploring the experiences of individuals with disabilities in claiming disability benefits in the UK.

As of 2023, over 6.3 million people in the UK are claiming disability benefits, according to the House of Commons. Lilly, drawing from personal and shared experiences, recognises that applying for benefits can be a stressful, intricate, and lengthy process.

Lilly is seeking to understand the perspectives of individuals in Bristol and South Gloucestershire regarding their experiences with disability benefits, including the application process, tribunals, or awards, and the overall impact on their lives.

Lilly invites individuals to share their stories with disability benefits. If you belong to any of the categories below and are interested in participating in the research project, please contact Lilly:

- a) You are currently applying for or receiving disability benefits.
- b) You have previously applied for or received disability benefits.
- c) You have assisted someone in applying for disability benefits (e.g., as a carer).

### **Contact Lilly to take part on:**

Phone, text, or WhatsApp: **07497237176** or email: **[lilly.buonasorte@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:lilly.buonasorte@bristol.ac.uk)**

Your experiences are invaluable, and your contribution could make a significant difference.

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UK Government

**Have your say**

CRAVEN WAY, LONGWELL GREEN

**WARMLEY TO LONGWELL GREEN  
ACTIVE TRAVEL IMPROVEMENTS**

We want to hear your views on proposals to improve cycling, walking and wheeling, including:

- Improved shared-use paths for cyclists and walkers
- New and improved signal-controlled junctions
- New and upgraded cycle crossings
- Priority road crossings for cyclists and pedestrians
- Reduced speed limit
- Improved signs and lighting

Tell us what you think at [www.southglos.gov.uk/warmley-longwell-green](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/warmley-longwell-green)

Or you can find out more at these drop-in sessions:

**MONDAY 22 JULY • 3PM – 7PM**  
Warmley Community Centre, Dewdney Road, Warmley, BS30 9JG

**THURSDAY 8 AUGUST • 3PM – 7PM**  
Online webinar Register at [www.southglos.gov.uk/warmley-longwell-green](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/warmley-longwell-green)

**WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER • 3PM – 7PM**  
The Centre, Shellards Road, Longwell Green, BS30 9DU

**Before 10 Sept**

WEST OF ENGLAND  
SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL

**Reminder - South Gloucestershire Council would like to hear your feedback on proposals to improve cycling, walking and wheeling on the Ring Road Path from the A420 in Warmley to the A431 Stone Hill in Longwell Green, and Craven Way in Barrs Court.**

This is an opportunity for people to influence the decision-making process and help shape the future of these proposals. To learn more about the proposals, pop along to their final event:

**Wed 4 September - 3pm – 7pm – The Centre, Shellards Road, BS30 9DU.**

**Can't make the event?** Have your say on the proposals by visiting: [www.southglos.gov.uk/warmley-longwell-green](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/warmley-longwell-green) to leave your feedback.

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## NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

with special educational needs and disabilities. They run free weekly term time face to face drop-in support sessions from the Kingswood Centre on New Cheltenham Road (BS15 4FS). Details on the drop in session and how to book can be found [here](#). They also hold events and workshops, to find out more visit their [website](#).

### September Sessions

- \*Face 2 Face Support - Thursday, Sept 5 at 10.00am
- \*Online Cuppa & Catch up - Thursday, Sept 5 at 7.30pm

#### \* Booking required

The Kingswood Centre is fully wheelchair accessible and has an accessible toilet which also has a changing bench. There is access to a Sensory Room which has a hoist.

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Your online space for nurturing emotional wellbeing

**South Gloucestershire | inourplace**

South Gloucestershire Council, in partnership with the Solihull Approach, are offering free access to online courses for all parents, carers, grandparents and teens.

The courses cover how to nurture emotional health and wellbeing from bump to 19+ years. Sign up to understand your child's feelings, as well as your own, as you go through life as a family. Learn to understand the changes in your child's development and how to support them, whilst also strengthening your relationship.

To find out more and to sign up visit their [website](#).

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## Are you looking to start or grow your business?

Cool ventures have helped hundreds of South Gloucestershire small businesses over the years. They can listen and understand your aspirations and challenges before developing a programme of support with you to meet your needs.

So, if you are looking to grow or start your business, check out their programme of free practical [workshops](#) or get in touch with them to find out more on either 08000 418293 - email: [info@coolventures.co.uk](mailto:info@coolventures.co.uk) or visit [coolventures.co.uk](http://coolventures.co.uk)



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The Diversity Trust are specialists in equality, diversity, equity and inclusion and they support all minoritised and marginalised communities.

The Trust is offering a number of free 'Lunch & Learn' sessions, open to all.

## Would you like to know more about the Menopause, Transgender or Disability?

The first Lunch & Learn session is Menopause Awareness and takes place on Thursday, 24th October 1.00pm - 2.00pm. To RSVP for this free online webinar, please email [info@diversitytrust.org.uk](mailto:info@diversitytrust.org.uk).

This taster session will include:

- An overview of menopause, including its symptoms and how it impacts both work and personal well-being.

- How to develop empathy and effective communication skills to create a more understanding work environment.

To find out more, visit [diversitytrust.org.uk/events/](https://diversitytrust.org.uk/events/)

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## Volunteering and Job Opportunities



### **VOLUNTEER FOR US!**

**We are seeking a marketing volunteer to create this monthly newsletter and assist with our social media. Monthly commitment around 6 - 8 hours.**

#### **Skills you could develop**

Confidence, communication and planning skills, grow your marketing knowledge and social media planning awareness. Skills that could lead to a different career path.

#### **What difference will you make?**

Your support will help us reach a wider audience and allow us to share vital information with our members.

You will have the personal satisfaction of supporting a good cause and being part of a network supporting those with disability or experiencing inequality.

Full training and support will be given. For more information or an informal chat, please email [info@sgden.org.uk](mailto:info@sgden.org.uk)

**Below are some links which may be useful for volunteering or job searches:**

[Paul's Place](#)

[Cerebral Palsy Plus](#)

[Thornbury Volunteer Centre](#)

[Southern Brooks](#)

[Voscur](#)

[CVS South Gloucestershire](#)

[South Gloucestershire Council](#)

[The Care Forum](#)



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## SGDEN NEWSLETTER

At SGDEN, we are always keen to provide a platform for local disability groups to share what they have been doing and events that they are running.

If you would like us to share your story or event in the newsletter, please send details to [news@sgden.org.uk](mailto:news@sgden.org.uk)



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Serridge Lane, Coalpit Heath

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