

New Models for Learning Disability Day Support Collaborative

Design Persona: Robin

Designed by the Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities

February 2022

Improvement Hub
Enabling health and
social care improvement

Introduction

My name is Robin, I am 26 years old and I live in Dunfermline. I live on my own with a little bit of support, they come twice a day to make sure I take my epilepsy medicine and to help with budgets and bill paying. I live near the centre of town and I am able to easily get to places I want to go in Dunfermline and go to the bus station where I regularly travel independently to Edinburgh and Glasgow. I went to a mainstream school but when I went to college I wanted to study politics and was told I was not allowed as I could not get the support I would need to do a mainstream course. Instead I was offered a course on horticulture for students with additional needs.

My communication

I can read and write well but I do have some trouble being understood when I am speaking. I have autism and I can find it hard to understand other people sometimes. If people talk to me in a very clear way then I understand them fine but if they use too many words or do not get straight to the point I can get lost.

My motivations

I have one very good friend and we are both members of the same political party and that is how we met. We are both interested in politics and making the world better. We play online and board games together.

My frustrations

I go to the gardening group even though I do not really like gardening. Because I studied horticulture people assume I like it. It is better than being stuck in the house and it means I get to socialise with people. But it is not really what I want to do. I really enjoy stand up comedy gigs but I don't like to go on my own and my friend doesn't enjoy it.

My short-term ambitions

I think it would be good for my plans to be a councillor if I was better at getting my point across clearly. I would like to see my parents more often, since I moved to my own flat it is hard to see them as I need to take two different buses and I get stressed out if one is late and I worry I will miss the second one. They are both getting a bit older and are not keen to go places where they need to walk a lot.

I would like to go to a party conference one year and I have told my parents that is what I would like to do, and they said maybe when I am a bit older.

My long-term ambitions

I would like to be a local councillor. I am already a member of a political party and I put myself forward for selection in the last elections but I was knocked back. I think I would be good at it because I have experience that is different from other people and I really want to make a difference and to help people. And I think it would be good to have a councillor who is interested in disabled people's issues.

I would like to go on holiday to USA to visit Washington, the home of democracy.

My experience of how I spend my day

I go to the gardening group two mornings a week because it gets me out of the house and I get fresh air and get to see some people. I don't really like gardening. I walk round the town on other days and go to the shops or the park, usually just to have a walk around. I always come home for lunch because that is when my staff come. I like to watch TV documentaries that are about political issues in the afternoon after the staff have left. I do things with my friend usually once a week in the evening because we either have meetings for our political party or we do something we both enjoy.