



PORTSMOUTH

We had a Q&A with Charlotte an Individual Employer who has hired 2 PAs to support her to access the community.

Q1. What has changed for you since getting a PA?

1. I feel since I've had a PA, I've grown in confidence and I'm more able to express myself with someone behind me. Someone other than family, a good way of meeting new people, making new friends, as I've made with my previous PA, sharing new experiences.

I've been fortunate enough to have two very supportive PAs one who I've had previously and one I have now who are an amazing support to me.

Q2. What support do you get from your PA?

2. Having a befriender and having the support, having to look at things in a different way, a positive way.

Q3. What do you do with your PA?

3. What didn't I?? Lol!! Portsmouth summer show, Jason Donovan concert, Sam Bailey. Caroline and I love a bit of cheese lol, Tractor ride, feeding animals at Longdown Dairy Farm. To name but a few!

Q4. What does having a PA mean to you?

4. They have meant a lot to me, they have increased myself confidence because of the friendship and the support, I feel very happy knowing someone is there for me when I need them. Even if it's not necessarily in their job description they would still help me.

Q5. Have there been any difficulties in having a PA?

5. The difficult parts were the paper work, the initial set up to get a PA.

Q6. Did you always know you could have a PA?

6. No. I didn't think I'd be eligible to have a PA and where I've lived before this service wasn't available.

Q7. Would you recommend having a PA to other people?

7. Yes I would recommend it. It's given me more opportunities that I might not have had before and has given me a broader outlook to enable me to go to different places and try new things with PAs support.

Q9. How could we improve the process of finding a PA?

8. You could simplify the process of hiring a pa by giving the applicant wanting a PA more support and less paperwork.