



**‘A world where people with a learning disability and their families are valued, listened to, treated equally and included.’**

### **Vacancy: Chair of the Board of Trustees**

Braintree District Mencap Society is an independent charity, established in 1955 and registered with the Charity Commission. It is **not** a subsidiary of the Royal Mencap Society but is affiliated to that organisation which acts as a source of support and information. Braintree District Mencap Society seeks to work in co-operation with other Mencap Societies in the County and consequently participates in the activities of Essex Mencap Society.

The search for a new Chair at this time arises as a consequence of the impending retirement of the present incumbent, Janet Brown. The Society has engaged on a vigorous programme of expansion during recent years and needs a visionary Chair to continue and enhance its development in the future. The position is unremunerated.

The Society had a turnover in excess of £170,000 during the financial year 2016/17. Our income is mainly derived from short-term grants, which are the subject of regular bid applications submitted by the Chief Executive, and from local fundraising activities.

### **Where we are**

The Society recently commissioned an Organisation Strength Review by the CASS Business School (funded by the National Lottery) and the recommendations of that review are currently being addressed.

The Society acquired its headquarters premises at Charles Leeks House in 1966 and exists to support people with a learning disability and their families/carers in the Braintree District. Currently the Society has one whole-time staff member, 5 part-time and 20 sessional staff. We have over 60 volunteers and a Board of 11 Trustees.





Braintree District Mencap has over 300 paid members, and those with a learning disability have a wide range of different needs, including autistic spectrum, Asperger's, epilepsy, Down's Syndrome, speech and language difficulties, physical disability and life limiting conditions.

People with a learning disability have a real voice in the organisation, being present on the Board of Trustees and committees which report to the Board as well as making up the Gateway Members' Committee and Self-Advocacy group.



### Where we'd like you to take us

The vision of the organisation is a world where people with a learning disability and their families are valued, listened to, treated equally and included, with the opportunity to make independent choices to fulfil their ambitions with regard to what they want to do and achieve.



Our Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring good governance, clear direction and maximum achievement of the charity's objectives. We are looking for someone with the knowledge, passion, expertise and enthusiasm to build on our rich history and ensure we are here in the future for people in our area living with a learning disability.

As the Chair of our Board you will lead our Trustees, offering vision and commitment. In return, you will gain huge learning, fulfilment and the opportunity to work with a dedicated team who support the running of the charity at a strategic level.



### For further information

Please contact Peter Brown (President) via email on [trustees@braintreemencap.org.uk](mailto:trustees@braintreemencap.org.uk) or telephone 07932157403.



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