



Headway Hull + East Riding News

Improving life after brain injury

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web:
headwayhero.org.uk



email:
Headwayhull@gmail.com



call lesley:
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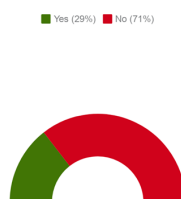
Right First Time: PIP & ESA

The Right First Time campaign is calling on the government to bring in changes to the disability benefit assessment which currently fail a large number of brain injury survivors and their families. We'd like to say a **big thank you** to our members who contributed their experience of the PIP and ESA assessment process in our survey. Your experiences and thoughts make a huge difference and have allowed us to gather information about

PIP: 77% said it was difficult to explain the effects of their brain injury on the form



ESA: Do you feel your assessor understood brain injury?



the process of PIP & ESA applications, which Headway UK have submitted to the Work and Pensions Committee.

Sadly, Headway UK's survey of over 650 brain injury survivors revealed that experiences in applying for benefits have been largely negative.

One member commented:

"It took three weeks to fill in the form, the questions were not specific to the challenges to changes in perception, fatigue, confusion."

This figure was 76% for ESA and members commented that the assessors were found to be lacking in specialist knowledge. Assessors were also reported to lack empathy and patience, and medical evidence was often not taken into consideration.

What does this mean?

The Right First Time campaign is calling for :

- Specialist assessors are needed, who have an expert knowledge of complex conditions such as brain injury.
- To build more trust, we need a system for recording and confirming consideration of third-party evidence by assessors and decision makers.
- Applicants should be offered the option for an audio or visual recording of the face-to-face assessment. They should not have to make special arrangements or provide their own recording equipment for this.

Peter McCabe, Chief Executive of Headway UK, said:

"You cannot underestimate the hardship and deep distress that can be caused to brain injury survivors and their families who are incorrectly assessed for disability benefit...With help from the people we support, our Right First Time campaign highlights what the government should address to ensure brain injury survivors get the decision and support they deserve."

Headway UK are hoping that the Right First Time campaign will encourage a thorough review of the PIP and ESA assessment system, resulting in better emotional and financial support for brain injury survivors.

New Treatment Centres in East Riding

People living in East Riding of Yorkshire will soon be able to take advantage of improved access to care and treatment for their minor injuries and illnesses with the opening of three **Urgent Treatment Centres**, open 16 hours, and two **8 to 8 Centres** in the East Riding.

Urgent Treatment Centres

From Wednesday 4 April patients with an urgent injury or illness that is not serious, life or limb threatening can arrange to go to their nearest Urgent Treatment Centre based in Beverley, Bridlington and Goole. Open from 7am to 11pm, seven days a week, 365 days per year. Urgent treatment centres can treat a number of common conditions such as:

- Cuts and grazes; Sprains and strains; Simple broken bones; Wound and wound infections; Minor burns and scalds; Minor head injuries; Insect and animal bites; Minor eye injuries (foreign bodies in eye); Back, head and neck injuries/whiplash; Minor back injuries; Skin infections/rashes/allergic reactions; Urine infections; Raised temperature/fever.

In addition, Urgent Treatment Centres will have access to x-ray facilities and patient diagnostic testing including urinalysis, blood glucose testing and ECGs, allowing nurse practitioners to assess and diagnose conditions and where necessary, prescribe medication, issue prescriptions and provide onward referrals to appropriate departments i.e. fracture clinics.

Locations:

Beverley	Bridlington	Goole
Beverley Urgent Treatment Centre	Bridlington Urgent Treatment Centre	Goole Urgent Treatment Centre
East Riding Community Hospital	Bridlington & District Community Hospital	Goole Urgent Treatment Centre
Swinemoor Lane	Bessingby Road	Woodland Avenue
Beverley	Bridlington	Goole
HU17 0FA	YO16 4QP	DN14 6RX
Walk-in service available	Walk-in service available	Walk-in service available

8 to 8 Centres

New 8 to 8 Centres, available in Driffield and Withernsea, will also open their doors on Wednesday 4th April 2018, providing planned, non-urgent care from 8am to 8pm, seven days a week, 365 days a year. In response to feedback received during the public consultation, people in Driffield and Withernsea, needing urgent treatment for a minor injury, can ring NHS 111 who will assess their symptoms and, where clinically appropriate, arrange an appointment for them at their local 8 to 8 Centres. Appropriately, trained and competent qualified nurses can assess and treat a number of minor injuries including:

- Cuts and grazes; Sprains and strains; Wound and wound infections; Minor burns and scalds; Minor head injuries; Insect and animal bites

Locations:

Driffield	Withernsea
Driffield 8 to 8 Centre	Withernsea 8 to 8 Centre
Alfred Bean Hospital	Withernsea Community Hospital
Bridlington Road	Queen St
Driffield	Withernsea
YO25 5JR	HU19 2QB
Not a walk-in service	

Remember: before attending an 8 to 8 centre, you MUST call 111 first. If your injury is life threatening, call 999.

If you would like any further information, please visit East Riding Council's website.

Council Tax Reductions

Find out if you could be eligible for a tax reduction...

We listed 3 schemes in our November newsletter that may mean you are eligible for a council tax reduction. They were **the council tax discount scheme, the second adult rebate and the disability reduction scheme**. Here we have listed two more schemes which may help reduce the council tax you pay.

The way the schemes work is that you may be able to get a discount if someone living with you qualifies for one of several types of other council tax reductions. If they do qualify then they are not counted (or 'disregarded') when looking at the number of adults who live at an address. So if there is only one other person living there, and that other person doesn't otherwise qualify for a reduction, then a 25% discount can be given. If there are two or more other people and everyone living there qualifies for a reduction, then another 25% discount can be given, a total 50% off the bill.

1. Carers

To qualify for a 'Carers' reduction, a person has to be providing care for at least 35 hours a week **to someone who is not their partner or their child under 18 and who lives in the same house as them**.

The person who they are caring for has to be entitled to at least one of the following benefits; Attendance Allowance, the higher or middle rate of the care component of Disability Living Allowance, standard or enhanced rate of the daily living component of the Personal Independence Payment, an increase in the rate of his/her disablement pension or any rate of Attendance Allowance.

2. Severely Mentally Impaired

There is also a reduction available for people who have mental health problems if a registered medical practitioner confirms that they have a severe and permanent mental impairment and they meet the criteria for one of a range of benefits including; Attendance Allowance, the standard or enhanced rate of the daily living component of Personal Independence Payment, Employment Support Allowance and a number of other allowances granted because of disability. For a full list of qualifying benefits visit www.eastriding.gov.uk/counciltax. Those who have reached pension age also qualify if they would otherwise have been entitled to one of these benefits.

Backdates

If the council receive evidence/proof/certificates they can back-date to the date when the condition started – which may be many years ago.

Information about the complete range of council tax reductions and discounts, including council tax support, is available on the East Riding of Yorkshire Council website. Applications can also be made online. If you would like more information, or help contacting the council, please get in touch.

We're charity of the year 2018!

We are delighted to announce that the Brooklands Photographic Society, Hull, have decided to make Headway Hull & East Riding their charity of the year for 2018. The Society will help raise funds for us at events that they photograph and will help spread awareness of the work we do. The Society often work closely with the council and local community events so we're hoping that more people within the community will be able to learn about the work we do.

The Society meet on a regular basis and host speaker events, workshops and sometimes head out to take photographs during Summer evenings. We are hoping to arrange a talk from Colin Hill, Chairman of the Society, and an informal workshop on how to take photos. We'd like to say thank you to the Brooklands Photographic Society for choosing us. Watch this space for more details soon!

If you would like more information about the society, please visit their website:
<https://brooklands.wordpress.com/>



Photo: The Brooklands Photographic Society



the brain injury association
hull + east riding

About us

Headway HERO is your local branch of Headway, a national charity that provides information and support for brain injured people, their families and carers.

Headway—the brain injury association is a Registered Charity No 1025852 and a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England No. 2346893.

improving life
after brain injury



Headway HERO Diary

Friday 2nd March 2018 1—3pm

Drop in for a coffee and a chat at the Danish Seaman's Church, 104 Osborne Street, Hull, HU1 2PN



Wednesday 21st March 2018 6—9pm

Come along and take part in our AGM. See below for the positions that are open. If you're not applying for a position, come along anyway and take part in our quiz!

Friday 6th April 2018 1—3pm

Drop in for a coffee and a chat at the Danish Seaman's Church, 104 Osborne Street, Hull, HU1 2PN

Headway Scunthorpe would like to welcome HERO members to attend their events, if you would like further information contact them directly on 07715212792 or at headwaynorthlincs@outlook.com Here are a list of useful dates:

Wednesday 21st March 10.30am—12

Come along to the coffee morning at the Cafe in the Debenhams Store, Gallegher Retail Park, Scunthorpe

Monday 26th March 7—9 pm

Join us for our evening meeting at The Community Wellbeing Hub, Alvingham Road, Scunthorpe, DN16 2DP

Headway Grimsby are inviting members along to their Ceramics Painting Craft Event! The event is on 6 March 2018 from 5.30pm until 7.30pm at the Freshney Green Primary Care Centre, Sorrell Road, Grimsby, DN34 4GB.

The cost is free for survivors and only £5 for a guest or family member. There will be refreshments available so come along and get painting!

If you would like to attend, please contact Mark Griffin, Chairman Headway Grimsby, by emailing markgriffin222@btinternet.com or text 07875165032.

If you would like more information about Headway Grimsby, please visit their website www.headwaygrimsby.btik.com.



Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Headway Hull & East Riding's AGM will take place on **Wednesday 21 March 6—9pm** at The Danish Seaman's Church.

Nominations are invited for the positions of Chairman, Vice-chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Nominees should be willing to stand and have both a proposer and seconder.

Notice of any proposed amendment to the constitution needs to be lodged with the secretary, Lesley, not less than 21 days prior to the AGM (28 February).

Whether you are applying for a position or not, come along to the evening meeting and join in our quiz! If you have any queries about the AGM or any of the positions, please contact Lesley.