

'Making a Mark'

Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

Discovery (Dimensions Somerset SEV)

Discovery is a new, social enterprise formed from a ground-breaking partnership between Dimensions UK and Somerset County Council. We have been established to provide support services across Somerset for people with learning disabilities, autism, challenging behaviour and complex needs.



We provide person-centred support packages for people with learning disabilities and autism. These people and their families are at the heart of everything we do and we want every person we support to have a great life, with excellent outcomes.

The Social Enterprise Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to answer a set of social impact questions, which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives. Below are examples of how **Discovery** is Making a Mark, striving to create a positive impact on people and planet.

Enabling people to get more from their lives

We have taken over the support of 900 people in Somerset with learning disabilities, providing learning disability services, supporting adults to get more from their lives.

Our high-quality support enables those with learning disabilities and/or autism to have more choice and control over their lives, for them to be more fulfilling and to engage and be part of an inclusive society.

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We aim to give people with learning disabilities a louder voice in society through strong public affairs, campaigning and lobbying against activities such as “hate crime” and offering greater, more enhancing lives through better health and wellbeing.

We wish to build communities for those with learning disabilities, and to become an inclusive part of the local community and not to be resigned to segregated services away from circles of support.

Examples of support provided

In our first 9 months of operation in Somerset, we have been reviewing service users’ quality of life, and their support and activities, which form their daily lives. We are also reviewing the day service provision in Somerset, and designing new innovative methods of day support, including developing a supported employment offering with local companies, creating new community hubs and activity plans for those currently in day services.

We will be creating community hubs across Somerset to develop partnerships with these local clubs and facilities to offer more meaningful and life fulfilling activities which the people we support can make part of their lives. In return, we will invest in helping develop these hubs for use by the community; in hiring rooms, widening supported employment activities and developing skills and training.

How we create social value – outcomes of our work

As a result of our support, individuals have more choice and control over their own lives; they are able to live more independently.



We provide supported employment for those with learning disabilities, enabling companies to engage and benefit from those with unique and special talents, whilst undertaking their corporate social responsibilities.

Working closely with commissioners, we are able to innovate and develop new models of care to respond to the local demand.

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