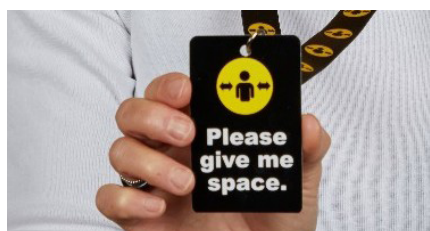


Supporting and working with community groups and clubs to promote a deeper understanding of local health and care needs and experiences

Spotlight on Hidden Disabilities Please Give Me Space

Please give me space - protect yourself and others



The ‘Please give me space’ visual awareness campaign has been developed by Hidden Disabilities Sunflower and the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB), in response to COVID-19 and the need to social distance.

Research conducted by the RNIB with a range of disability groups revealed that many people are finding social distancing hard and have been subjected to verbal abuse for seemingly not adhering to the guidance. For example, [sight loss can make it impossible to judge a safe distance](#).

Their social distance wearable products are in response to this feedback, and to support the 2.2 million people identified by the NHS as clinically extremely vulnerable, and anyone experiencing anxiety.

The sign is a yellow circle with a person in between two arrows, this means ‘Please give me space’. The initiative is not prescriptive about who wears it, but the message is simple - [when you see this sign please give the wearer space](#).

The products are available as [free to download signs and badges](#). There is also range of products to purchase from their website, including lanyards and ID cards, pin badges, snoods, face masks and tabards.

They are inviting businesses and Local Authorities to join, support and promote the initiative to further raise awareness. It is free to join, they want to encourage greater understanding among the public of the reasons why a person may struggle to maintain social distance and why it is important.

[Please give me space](#) is endorsed by the UK Cabinet Office.

Do take a look at their video https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChYpps8c0XtAMCX_HTy23lg

Website: www.pleasegivemespace.uk

Email: customerservice@pleasegivemespace.uk

You can also follow their social media channels: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), Subscribe to [YouTube](#)



All of the insight we collect from people across West Sussex is collated and anonymised and forms part of the evidence that Healthwatch gather to identify common themes around what works and what could be improved for local people. **This insight is used to influence service development and can feed into**

- West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board
- HASC - Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee
- WSCC Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Safeguarding Adult Board
- Sussex Health and Care Partnership workstreams (the NHS Integrated Care System for Sussex).

Healthwatch West Sussex also share reports with the Care Quality Commission (who are responsible for the registration and inspection of services which deliver regulated activities) and to Healthwatch England to form part of the national picture used to influence national developments, such as the NHS Long Term forward plan.

Not only do we collect the experiences of local people, but we can also provide free information and guidance just call: **0300 012 0122**. Email helpdesk@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk, Website www.healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk.

healthwatch
West Sussex

You can also follow our social media channels:
Facebook [@healthwatchwestsussex](#) Twitter [@healthwatchws](#)

If you are setting up or would like to share news of a similar project we would be interested to hear from you. Please contact Cheryl Berry, Community Partnership Lead, email: cheryl.berry@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk