



**Changing Thinking, Changing  
Practice, Changing Lives**

# **Impact Report 2023-24**

ARC NI is part of the wider ARC family,





The Association for Real Change (ARC), a national charity founded in 1976.

ARC works in England, Northern Ireland and Scotland. ARC Northern Ireland has been in existence since 1999.

We want to help communities to respect, listen to and include people with a learning disability, autism and those with other support needs and their families.

To make this happen, we work alongside people and organisations throughout the United Kingdom that share our vision.

We make real change happen through:

- Research
- Networking
- Collective Advocacy
- Policy
- Training

# Association for Real Change Strategy



Changing thinking, Changing practice, Changing lives



## Our Vision

We want communities to celebrate difference, respect, listen to, and include everyone.



## Our People

### Experts by experience

All people with learning disabilities, autistic people, or with other support needs - and their families.



## Our Mission

We bring people together. We support them to share different views and experiences. We help them to agree and take action to achieve real change through:

**Training, Research, Networks, Collective Advocacy, Policy**



## Our Partners

We work alongside people and organisations that help to achieve our vision.



## Our Aims

### Knowledge and Rights

Experts by experience are better informed. This includes knowledge about their rights.

Our partners are better informed. This includes how to support people to stand up for their rights.

### Choice and Control

Experts by experience shape changes to the services they want and need.

Our partners support people to plan and deliver the services that allow people to live the lives that they want.

### Inclusion and Equality

Experts by experience challenge and change attitudes and behaviours in their communities.

Everyone removes the barriers that exclude people from their communities.



## Our Work

Our country plans set out the work we do.

# We aim to improve:

## 1. Knowledge and Rights

- Experts by experience are better informed. This includes knowledge about their rights.
- Our partners are better informed. This includes how to support people to stand up for their rights.

### In Northern Ireland, during 2023-24:

- **We delivered 76 courses**
- **To 957 people - these include people that work in health and social care across 146 organisations.**

## 2. Choice and Control

- Experts by experience shape changes to the services they want and need.
- Our partners support people to plan and deliver the services that allow people to live the lives that they want.

### In Northern Ireland, during 2023-24:

- **We connected 1,922 partners - these include providers of services and support, policy makers, local authorities and family carers; and**
- **Facilitated 438 meetings and events with our people and partners - these are the spaces where we listen to the issues and think about what we can do to make things better.**

## 3. Inclusion and Equality

- Experts by experience challenge and change attitudes and behaviours in their communities.
- Everyone removes the barriers that exclude people from their communities.

### In Northern Ireland, during 2023-24:

- **We connected 1,706 Experts By Experience - these are people with a learning disability, autism and other support needs**
- **Experts By Experience delivered induction training to over 100 health & social care staff**



**We measure the change we make by asking:**



**1. Questions about our training**

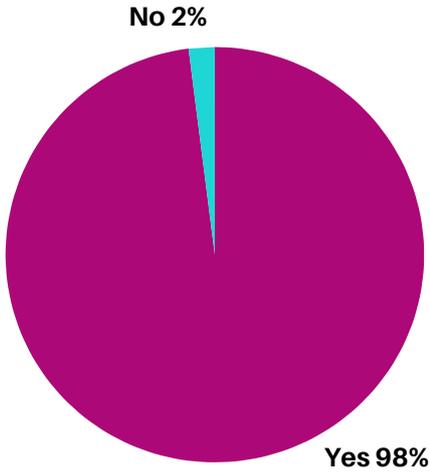
**2. Questions about our meetings and events**

**3. Listening to people**

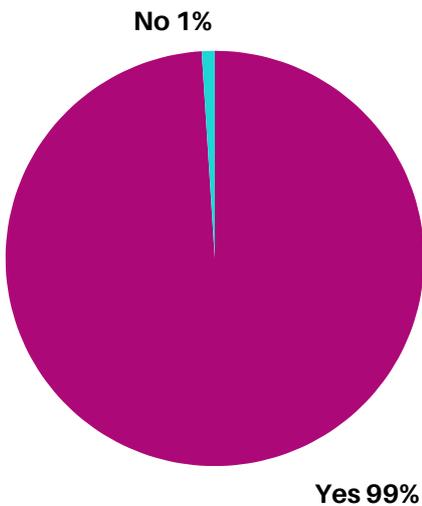




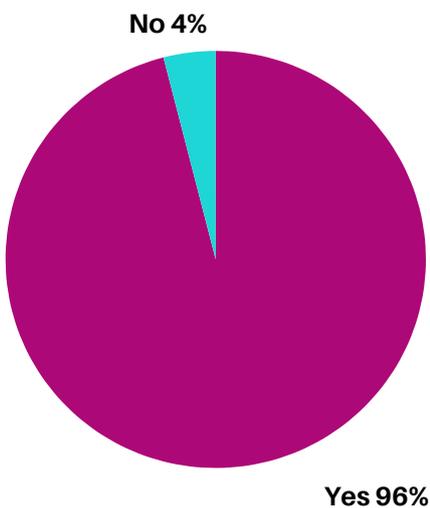
# 1. About our Training



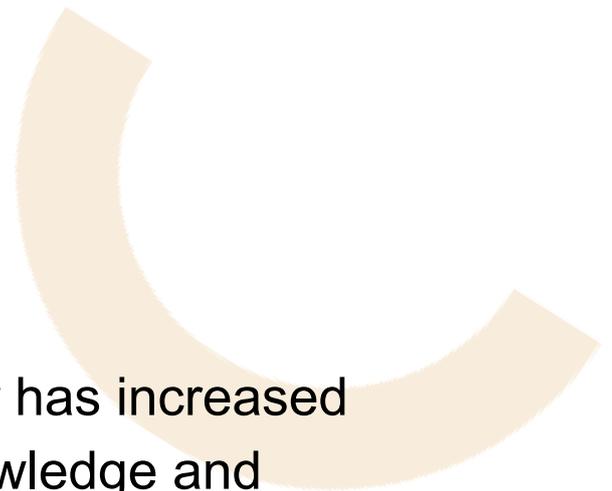
Did our training do what it said would do?



Did our trainers have good knowledge/ experience?



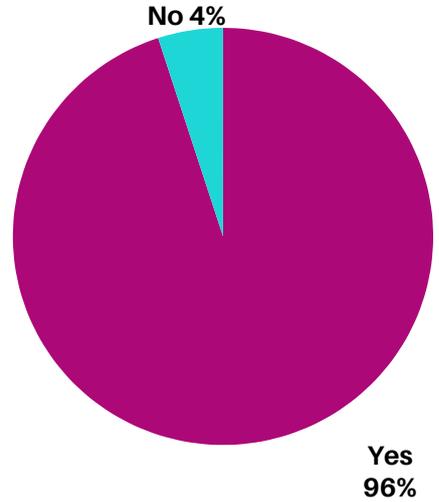
Learner has increased knowledge and understanding?



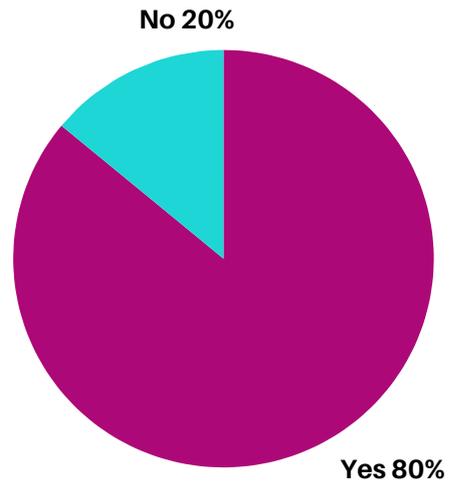


*“The training offered by ARC NI develops staff and leaders within social care to provide better services and supports for adults with a learning disability. It also helps Support Staff develop their skills and progress in their career.”*

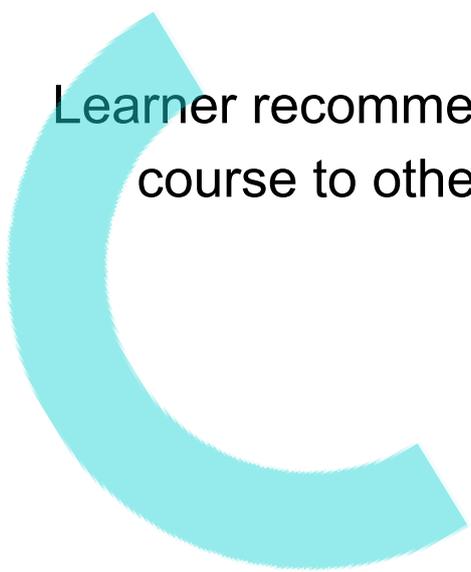
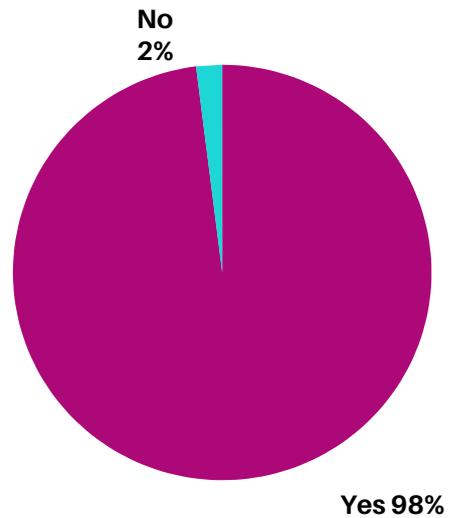
Learner has increased confidence in work?

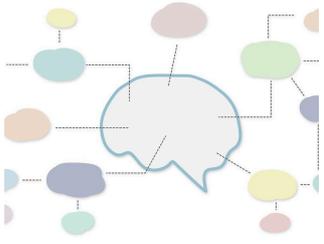


Learner feels training will change their practice?

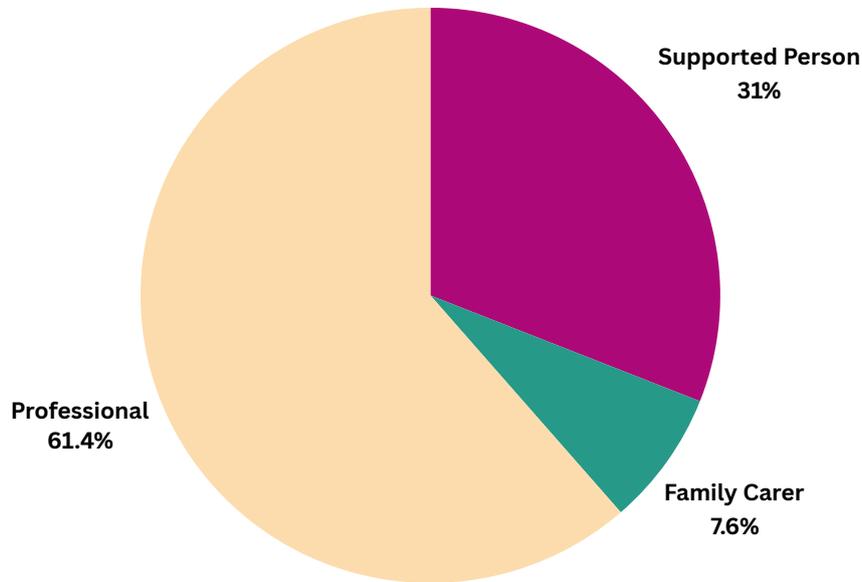


Learner recommends the course to others?



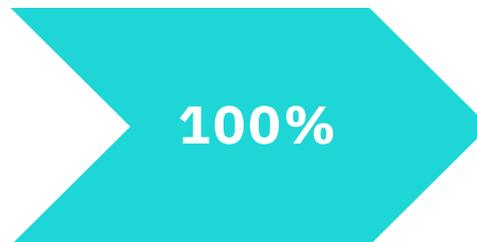


## 2. About our meetings and events

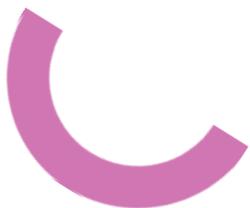
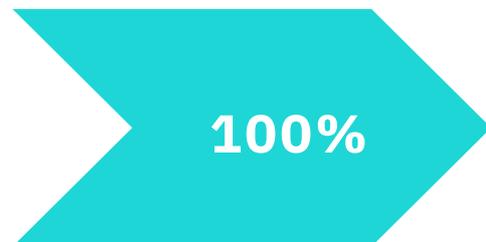


**Type of respondent**

Do you have a good experience with ARC?

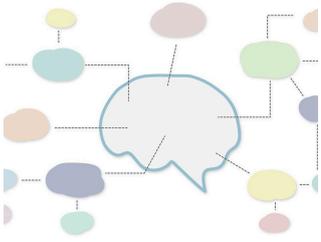


Do you feel listened to and respected by ARC?



Would you recommend ARC to others?





*“Through our engagement in their Workforce Network we have developed a sense that we are not alone and have been able to link with other organisations for support. This has helped us improve our support to staff and this has a positive knock on effect for the people we support.”*

## Knowledge and Rights

Has ARC helped you to know more about your rights?

89%

Has ARC helped you to support people to know more about their rights?

87%

## Choice and Control

Has ARC helped you get the services you want?

100%

Has ARC helped you to improve the services you provide?

87%

## Inclusion and Equality

Has ARC helped you to feel more included?

100%

Has ARC helped you to include the people you support in their communities?

66%

# 3. Listening to people

“ARC NI takes a collaborative approach, working alongside the community, listening to our concerns and opening doors for valued and beneficial conversations.”

“ARC NI leads from the front, demonstrating true co-production and their approach in solution focused conversations.”

“Experiences shared in an ARC NI room have helped spark new ideas for us to better support people to integrate in their local communities.”

“I just wanted to email to say thank you for the insight session this afternoon. All the presentations were really interesting and thought provoking, and all from slightly different perspectives and angles on how the Restraint & Seclusion policy is and will impact. The contributions from TILII were powerful and insightful, and always helps to remind me that leadership comes from so many different sources. Thank you for your input and thoughts on leadership that you shared. It is so inspiring for my learning and my early leadership journey to see how you lead with such compassion and care and how much you value and model collaboration.”



# TILII TRANSLATES

## Accessible Information Service

Making your information easy to understand so it can reach more people



64 Documents  
translated into  
Easy Read

9 films  
created by  
TILII  
Translates

“The encompass Programme has worked closely with TILII Translates to develop two easy read documents. encompass is an health & social care system wide programme which will introduce a new nationwide digital care record for every person in Northern Ireland. It has been a successful relationship, one that has delivered high quality materials to a defined timeframe. Critical to that has been the collaborative approach employed by the team. Good honest relationships = positive outcomes. I would easily recommend ARC NI and TILII to any organisation searching for support developing easy-read materials.”

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The Association for Real Change is a UK-wide charitable organisation, comprising ARC England, ARC Scotland, and ARC Northern Ireland.

