

ORAL HISTORY RECORDING SUMMARY

'Fighting for our Rights' project

Surname	Levick
Given names	Philip George
Date of birth	1953
Place of birth	Haringey, London
Date of interview	11 May 2017
Length of interview	00:51:32
Number of tracks	1
Name of interviewers	Callistus Dywili, Ijeoma Aniyeloye, Jen Kavanagh

Track 1 of 1 [00:51:32]

Philip George Levick (PL) born in 1953 in Haringey, London to parents William and Leah Levick. Family moved from London to Hemel Hempstead. Attended Boxmore primary school in Hemel Hempstead from 7 years old. Left secondary school at 18 years old after studying A Levels. Went to college to study more A Levels at evening classes. Studied a Bachelor's degree in Sociology at Kingston Polytechnic (now Kingston University) and Master's degree in Sociology at Essex University. Left education completely around 1980 to 1981. First professional job as Research Assistant for NHS in North East London – lasted for 3 to 4 years. Involved supporting research of Community Physician around public health issues in Islington [00:08:09]. Moved to Kingston Council (KC) to work as Social Work Assistant. Trained as a Social Worker over about three years. Worked in the then Health and Disability Team of KC to support both elderly and disabled people in the community. Explains more detail about responsibilities of this job. Talks about how he first became aware of the Independent Living Scheme (which later grew into Kingston Centre for Independent Living or KCIL). Mentions Ann McFarlane and Jane Campbell as key founders of the scheme. PL gives detail about his role during the early development stages of the scheme. PL helped to support disabled people to manage their own finances and employ personal assistants for their own support needs. Gives more detail about this [00:15:30]. PL later took charge of the scheme and was seconded to KCIL. Talks about direct payments and more about his role with KCIL. Explains about the benefits of the scheme for disabled people – enabled them to have an active voice in decision making [00:20:10]. Explains more about strengths and challenges of the scheme during his work. Explains about direct payments during the present day. Talks about particular needs of disabled people from early days of scheme to the present day – believes there is still more improvements to be made for supporting people with mental health/learning disabilities [00:30:50]. PL's secondment ended after around 2 years and returned to KC as a regular Social Worker. Moved into more community engagement focused roles in KC. Gives more detail about career progression. Mentions the importance of the social model of disability. Believes that understanding and listening to individuals is paramount for achieving good disability support [00:40:12]. Ends by reflecting on present day issues within health and social care in relation to people with disabilities.

End of recording [00:51:32]