

ORAL HISTORY RECORDING SUMMARY

'Fighting for our Rights' project

Surname	Kelly
Given name	Samantha
Date of birth	1967
Place of birth	Lambeth, London
Date of interview	24 May 2017
Length of interview	01:01:04
Number of tracks	1
Name of interviewers	Callistus Dywili, Zoe Perry, Jen Kavanagh

Track 1 of 1 [01:01:04]

Samantha Kelly (SK) was born in 1967 in Lambeth, London to parents Michael Johnson and Rosemary Ellen. Lived in Battersea until 1982. Attended Notre Dame Catholic Girls School in Battersea then moved to Kingston at 13 years old and attended Tudor School (now Tiffin Girls School). First main career in travel industry. Explains more about this. Often felt that travel work was quite shallow due to extensive focus on workers' appearances. Gave up travel job to work as a Home Care Assistant for Kingston Council from 9th June 1986. Goes into detail about roles of Home Care job – supporting older people in the community [00:06:25]. SK notes that many of her colleagues found it challenging to work with physically disabled clients. Care Assistants found it difficult to adapt to supporting disabled people as previously only had worked with older people. Talks about safeguarding issues. Mentions introduction of direct payments [00:11:31]. Mentions birth of Young Disabled Persons Team (YDPT) around late 1980s to early 1990s. Explains more about this [00:18:36]. Worked in Social Services reception whilst pregnant and later returned to YDPT for evening shifts. Moved back to part time hours. YDPT work extended beyond personal care to also include more life skills activities/day trips. Talks about involvement in organising care packages/direct payments with Kingston Association for Disabled People (KADP, now Kingston Centre for Independent Living or KCIL) [00:26:57]. SK talks about how care packages were put together. Believes that Direct Payments greatly improved people's lives [00:32:38]. Passionate about advocacy and person-centred care for disabled people. Mentions importance of empathy, respect and listening to individuals in order to achieve a good understanding of them [00:37:39]. Provides real life examples of direct payments in action – helping to expand opportunities for disabled people. Talks about challenges in YDPT job – mainly it was difficult to encourage decision-makers to listen to voices of disability community. Gives views about present-day challenges across health and social care [00:42:30]. SK's current job is to develop technology in Kingston Council to help support people with disabilities with their independent living. Recently organised consultation to get disabled people's views about local health and social care. Took part in setting up a design team to help develop ideas from this feedback. Describes current Telecare offer and service development work in Kingston Council. Explains about Kingston Coordinated Care Programme and importance of good wellbeing in disability support [00:50:29]. Talks more about

purpose of telecare/assisted technology [00:55:54]. Ends by reflecting on the future of health and social care/ways to improve local disability support provision.

End of recording [01:01:04]