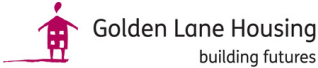# GOLDEN LANE HOUSING BUDDIES

If you're a Golden Lane Housing tenant who gets involved, you may be partnered with a buddy.

A buddy is a Golden Lane Housing staff member who will help you with your involvement activities.

Golden Lane Housing
building futures

Your buddy will help you to prepare for meetings and activities, and will support you during your meetings and activities.

You will meet with your buddy through a video call online, but you may also be able to meet in person.

If you want to get involved and help Golden Lane Housing to improve the way we work, please email getinvolved@glh.org.uk for more information.

Michele and Derek's story

Michele Doyle has been a Golden Lane Housing tenant for 22 years and she is a inclusion advisory committee member and More Voices, More Choices committee member.
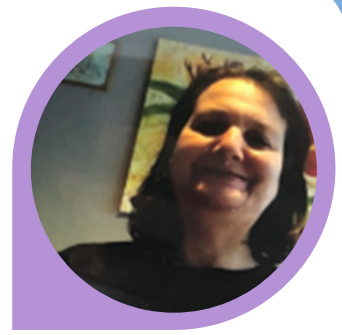
Derek Brown is a Housing Officer at Golden Lane Housing, and is Michele's buddy.

Michele and Derek have been buddies since March 2020. Derek has helped Michele to go to her meetings online.

Golden Lane Housing
building futures

Michele says...

"We go on online and Derek goes through what I've got to say and helps me to write down what I want to say.
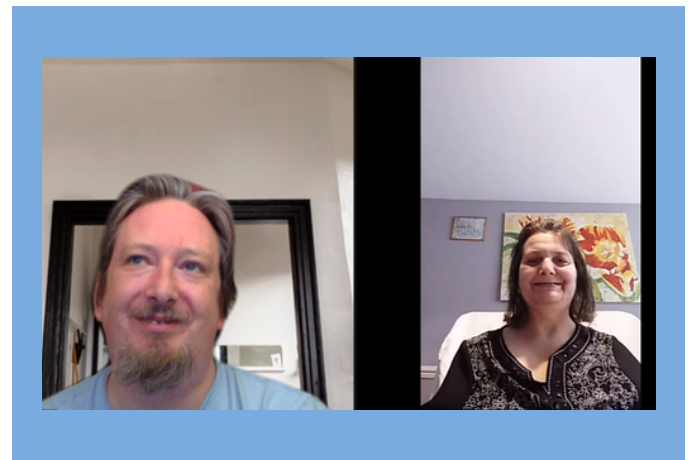
He emails everything over to me and this helps me remember. If I do get stuck Derek is always there in the background and now I can talk in front of people. I've always been told 'there's no such thing as can't - you can do it,' and I want to help other people to do things.

We have a laugh and we don't take things seriously, and he knows if something is wrong. He understands me, he knows my signals and I understand him.

I think for me I've grown and now I want to become a buddy like Derek to help other new people who get involved."

Michele and Derek use video calls to work together.

Derek says...

"Michele and I became buddies just as the pandemic started. I used Whatsapp at first to talk Michele through how to use video calls online - now she finds it much easier to use.

It's amazing to see how far Michele has come. We get on like a house on fire and we hope to meet in person soon!"

Golden Lane Housing
building futures