



be seen
be heard
belong

bemix.org



Michael:

WARNING: We are going to talk about people who have been in secure units for a really long time

If you think this might upset you, please come back in 15 minutes when we have finished talking or turn off your camera or sound

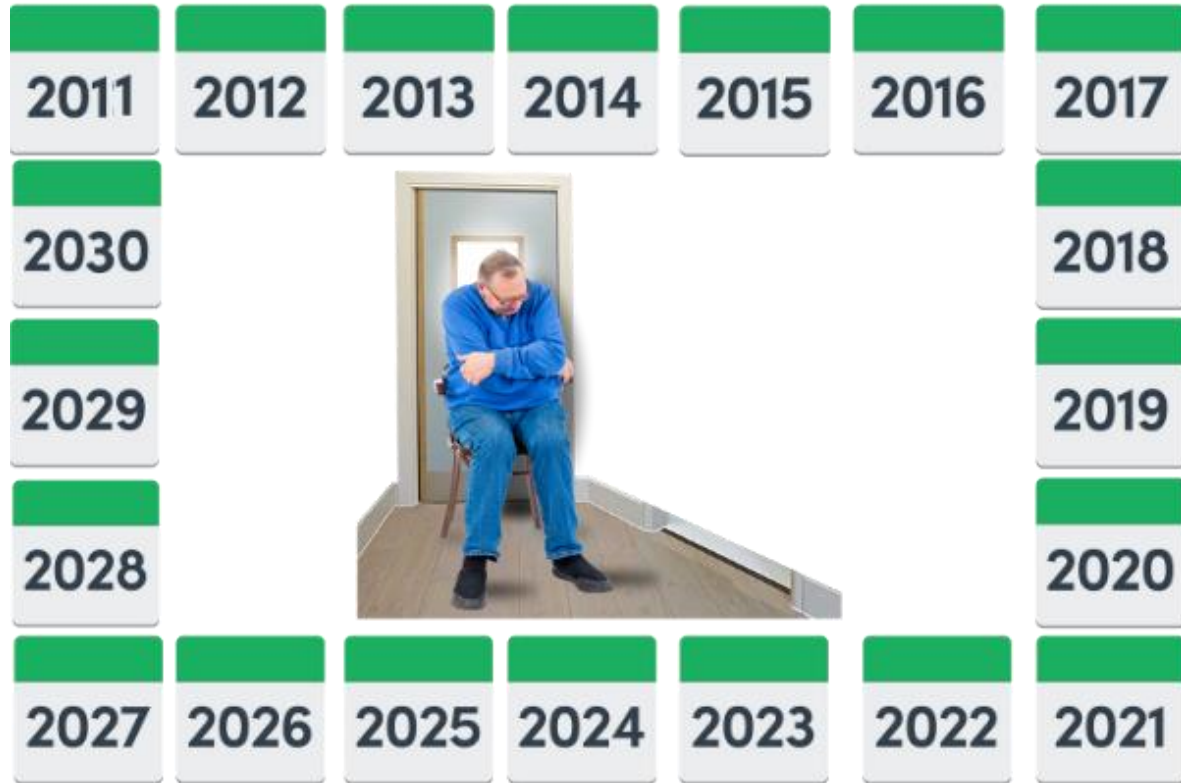


Sammy:

We know that some people with learning disabilities in Kent have been living in a secure unit for far too long

The average stay in a secure unit is 6 years

6 years is TOO LONG



Steve:

We were shocked and very sad and angry to find out some people have been in a secure unit for over 20 years and others for over 30 years

This is not acceptable in 2021. This needs to change.



Michael:
Think about all the different things you have done in your own life in the last 20 - 30 years?

- **Goals you have achieved**
- **Experiences you have had**
- **Places you have been to**
- **People you have met**

It makes you think, doesn't it?

Michael:

I have:

- **Got married**
- **Had a son**
- **Learnt how to...**
- **Developed skills to do Bemix work independently**
- **Trained to become a sports coach & run Sports net**



Sammy:

I have

- **Become a mum**
- **Had lots of jobs and am now a Lead Self-Advocate**
- **Been to College**
- **Had loving relationships**
- **Been on holiday, for meals, to the cinema....**
- **Moved into my own home**





• Steve:

I have:

- Moved into my own home
- Learnt how to scuba dive and been diving in the Maldives
- Have been with Bemix for 20 years and worked my way up
- Learnt the electric guitar
- Been in a band and played gigs in Manchester & Kent

Steve:

What we are doing to help:

We are doing a review of the DSR (Dynamic Support Register) for Kent & Medway LDA.

The DSR will aim to give people the right support when they need it. This will help to prevent people going into secure units.





Steve:

This month I am leading two speaking up groups at a secure unit in Kent. I will find out what people think about the DSR.

We plan to do more self advocacy groups in secure units. We want to make sure ALL people get a chance to be seen, be heard and belong.



Sammy & Michael:

We will all campaign and continue to speak out about the rights of people with learning disabilities. We will continue to work with Right to Home.

CTRs - virtual vs face to face



Steve:

**Thank you for
listening.**

**If there is time,
are there any
questions?**