



Expert Members Report

Learning Disability Partnership Board



21st March 2023



This report includes updates from all our projects and work streams including Expert Members attending the Learning Disability Partnership Board, Health Checkers and People's Parliament.



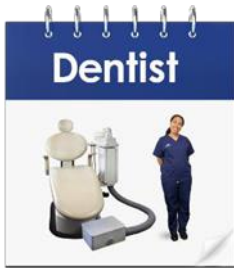
Expert Members met with Supported Living Commissioners in February to contribute to the evaluation questions for new Supported Living contracts



Worcestershire County Council Web Development team came to our Forum meeting last month. They demonstrated changes made to the council website. We gave feedback on these changes and made more suggestions to make it easier to use and to find the information you want.



We have made progress with Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training and Rachel and her 2 co-trainers have now been accredited to deliver training sessions. We have a 'Train the Trainer' session booked for April which another 4 of our members will attend.



Health Checkers

Health Checkers are continuing the dental review and will visit a range of NHS services including specialist services across both Herefordshire and Worcestershire. These will take place over March and early April



We know how important this is for people with learning disabilities and their family carers. We've been told that some people have been unable to get a dental check-up for over 3 years.

We're still having difficulty getting dates to visit, due to clinical pressures.



At our last meeting on 2nd March, we agreed on the questions we need to ask and the things we need to look out for when we visit.



On 15th March Health Checkers attended the Acute Trust Learning Disability Steering group. We also meet with members of the Patient and Public Forum (PPF) to share in-patient experiences. We make suggestions to help improve the way services are delivered to people with learning disabilities.



Some Health Checkers and Expert Members will be doing more work for the LeDeR programme. We will work again with Inclusion North who helped us produce the webinar about decision making.



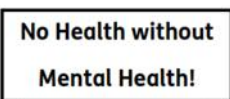
We're planning a face-to-face event for people with learning disabilities to talk more about decision making and what the Mental Capacity Act says should happen.



We'll also be doing some work to promote the use of ReSpec forms, helping people to understand how important they can be if you are very unwell



People's Parliament



Following our last report "No Health Without Mental Health," we were contacted by Consultant Psychologist Neil Phillips. He is the Worcestershire Learning Disability Lead for Psychology and is based at Osborne Court in Malvern.



Neil was keen to meet with us and discuss the findings of our report. We met on 22nd February and were joined by Nikki Bate, the specialist counselling lead for mental health services.



Both Neil and Nikki agreed it was difficult for people with learning disabilities to get help and support for their mental health.



A lot of mental health support is not appropriate for people with learning disabilities. But more could be done to adapt the way services work. Nikki agreed to do more work with us on this.



They explained some of the problems they had in meeting the demand for their services. They agreed that people wait too long to get help



We talked about self-help and how we can develop the skills to help ourselves and others. Neil will add this to the new Psychology strategy being written



We agreed that support staff need more training in mental health. We hope to do more work about this with Neil in the future.



On 18th April, Sam will attend the Mental Health Partnership Board to discuss the findings from our report



The People's Parliament team have now started work on this year's report. We have decided to look at why becoming more independent can place you at greater risk.



This will cover lots of things, like lifestyle choices, managing money, making new friends, and staying safe in the community.



We will be asking people about their experiences and what was good and bad.



Becoming more independent is the goal for most people. It's seen to be a good thing and lots of support plans promote this.

However, it can also be scary, people's health and safety can deteriorate.



We want to understand why this is and what could be done about it.