



Expert Members report for Learning Disabilities Partnership Board



September



N.O.W

September 19⁴¹ 2025

Our report this time starts with the SpeakEasy N.O.W. 20 year anniversary celebrations, which we held on July 20th.



It was a special evening for our organisation when we recognised the work and achievements of our project groups and individual members.



We were pleased to see so many people there and once again thank our professional colleagues who attended and presented awards.



Later in July, Rachel attended a 3 day training course for her role in Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training. Well done, Rachel, we look forward to seeing the training programme roll out.



On August 3rd, some members of Health Checkers met with Cate Lamport to discuss our involvement with the Annual Health Check study day. This will be held in Hereford on September 28th and our Hereford Health Checkers will be taking part. Update- this event will now take place at The Abbey Hotel in Malvern.



On 7th August Health Checker representatives attended the first Healthy Lifestyles Priority Action Group. This has replaced the Healthy Bowel group.



This group will work to raise awareness and understanding about lifestyle factors that can contribute to conditions like diabetes, heart disease and cancer. It's a LeDeR priority, and we welcome this approach which empowers us to make positive changes in our life.



We know how important it is to look after our physical and mental health. People with learning disabilities want to keep healthy but are often dependent on others for this.



Our People's Parliament report for this year looks at people with learning disabilities becoming more independent and taking more control over their lives. It gives examples of people trying to take more responsibility for themselves and their welfare. The report is called 'Managing Risk as we become more Independent', and will be available later this month.

Update – The People's Parliament report is now available. A follow up drop-in event is being held at Perdiswell Young People's Leisure Club, Worcester from 10.30 – 2.30 on Tuesday November 14th. There will be stalls from a variety of stakeholders/organisations providing advice and information to help people reduce risk.



We recently received an invitation to the Acute Trust Learning Disability Steering group. We're pleased these meetings are starting again and that we're involved, but we need to agree how we will engage with this group.



Learning Disability and Autism are a Trust priority for 2023/24. There are regular meetings planned for representatives across all hospital departments. They will plan and monitor the improvement programme.



We met with Julie Weber, Lead Nurse for Patient Experience, to discuss how we can contribute to these meetings and attended the first one on September 6th.



We talked about SpeakEasy N.O.W. and our Health Checkers project, so people could understand the contributions we can make to planning and reviewing service improvement.



We've continued to work with Inclusion North on planning the 2 ReSPECT events to be held in October. There will be one in Hereford on October 19th and one in Worcester on October 26th. Update – the dates for these events have now changed to November 2nd (Worcestershire) and November 9th (Herefordshire).



This is work from the LeDeR programme that identified the importance of involving people with learning disabilities in making decisions about their health.



On August 22nd we met with representatives from Herefordshire Learning Disability Partnership Board.

EARNING DISABILITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD

HEREFORDSHIRE'S



We met to plan a joint meeting between both Herefordshire and Worcestershire's Boards. We hope to do this twice each year and are now planning the first one for February next year.

We need to look at the Herefordshire Learning Disability Strategy and find the common themes and priorities that we share.



We were due to attend the Oral Health Steering group on August 29th, but this has been postponed. We will be talking with them about the Dental Review we completed in June. We hope to attend the next meeting later this month. Update- this meeting will be held on October 24th.



We held a SpeakEasy Forum meeting on September 11th. The County Council web development team came again to consult with us about the website. We were asked to test the chat-box function on the site and give feedback to the team.



We always enjoy these sessions with the web development team who are always very open to our comments and suggestions. It gives us the opportunity to influence changes and improve access for people with learning disabilities.