

# BETTER OUTCOMES FOR PEOPLE WITH A LEARNING DISABILITY AND THEIR FAMILIES

## Worcestershire's Learning Disability Strategy 2016 – 2018 – updated to 2019 – 2022



### Introduction

The Worcestershire Health and Wellbeing Board on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016 agreed the Adult Learning Disability Strategy for 2016-18. This update refreshes the strategy to take it forward through 2019 and 2020.

The strategy has been developed by the Learning Disability Partnership Board and is underpinned by the Seven Big Aims:

1. Staying Healthy
2. Living Well
3. Having a Place to Live
4. Having a Job
5. Staying Safe
6. The Right Support for Carers
7. Preparing for Adulthood

Partners in Worcestershire are committed through the Strategy to:

- Improving lives of and valuing people with a learning disability
- Enabling people to have choice and control over their care, support and health needs
- Ensuring people with a learning disability can access appropriate care, support and opportunities for independence
- Working together as partners to promote well-being for people with a learning disability.

## Section 1 – What is the Learning Disability Strategy?

This is a plan about how we can get better outcomes for people with a Learning Disability and their families in Worcestershire.



Learning Disability services are paid for by Worcestershire County Council and the three Clinical Commissioning Groups. The Strategy will help us to spend our money in the most effective way to get the best services possible for people.

It is important that we have this Strategy because it lets everyone know:



What people with learning disabilities need



What family carers need



What people with learning disabilities want



How much money there is to spend on Learning Disability Services



What services work well and what needs to change

## Who are the partners?



This Strategy has been developed by the Learning Disability Partnership Board which includes the following partners:

NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups

West Mercia Police

Worcestershire Association of Carers

Worcestershire County Council (Adult Social Care, Public Health, SEND)

Worcestershire Health and Care Trust

Advocacy/self-advocate representation from:

Ourway

Speakeasy Now

Provider Representation from:

Exalon Autonomy Group

The Emily Jordan Foundation

Where Next

Critical Challenge from:

Healthwatch Worcestershire

## Section 2 – Some Facts and Figures about Learning Disabilities in Worcestershire



It is important that we know what we mean by a Learning Disability.

In 2001, the Government said having a Learning Disability was someone who, from being a child:

- Found it much harder than other people to understand complicated information
- Found it much harder than other people to learn new skills
- Found it much harder than other people to cope with life without help from other people



Some people with learning disabilities have more problems than others. In our Strategy we talk about people with profound and multiple learning disabilities ("PMLD"). This will include people who can't talk and find it very hard to understand things. They will often not be able to move about on their own. They may also have other problems like epilepsy.



The Strategy also talks about people who have complex needs. This may mean they may hurt themselves or other people. Complex needs can also be used to describe someone with multiple health conditions.

### Numbers

At January 2019, Worcestershire County Council and Worcestershire's health services were working with around 1,600 adults with learning disabilities. However, there are estimated to be about 10,900 adults with learning disabilities in Worcestershire.





We think in the future we will be working with more people with learning disabilities. This is because people with learning disabilities are living longer. Within the next 20 years, we are expecting the total number of adults with learning disabilities in Worcestershire to increase to 11,800, with more adults with learning disabilities who are aged 65 and over.



We also expect that we will need more services for people with complex needs and profound and multiple learning disabilities. This is because children and adults with complex needs and disabilities are living longer because of the better care available.



**£65 million**

**£15 million**

## Money

Worcestershire County Council spends about £65 million each year on services for people with learning disabilities. Some of this money is spent on our own services but most of the money is spent on services we buy from other people (external providers).

The three Clinical Commissioning Groups spend about £15 million on services for people with learning disabilities who need health services.

### Section 3 – What we believe in – our principles

There are some important things we believe about how services which support people with learning disabilities should be run.



People should be treated as individuals.



People with learning disabilities should be able to use the same services as other people.



People should have choice and be able to have some control over the services they use.



People should be able to be part of their community where they live.



People should feel safe.

## What we will do to make sure this happens



Co-production – this means people with learning disabilities and their family carers working as equal partners with us.



Make sure people have the right information.



Make sure people have good support.



Make sure there is a good range of services for people to use.



Make sure that transitions (changes) from one type of service to another work well.



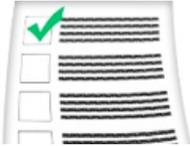
There are also some cross-cutting themes that are also really important for people with learning disabilities in Worcestershire.



Quality of services



Workforce planning



Advocacy



Information and advice



Complex needs



Different cultures and backgrounds



Safeguarding



Planning for growing older

## More detail on the Big Aims

We have discussed the Big Aims and thought about what has gone well since we first launched the strategy and which areas need more work. We have identified the main areas which we want to focus on for each Big Aim.

### Big Aim 1 – Staying Healthy



We want people with learning disabilities and their family carers to be as healthy as possible. Our main areas of work will be:

#### 1. Putting into practice Worcester's Health "Sustainability and Transformation Plan"



- The local Sustainability and Transformation Plan ("STP") is a really important long-term plan to address some of the local health and care issues we have, to improve health for people across the area, and to ensure we can provide safe and sustainable care into the future.
- We will include the local Sustainability and Transformation Plan outcomes for people with a learning disability in our Strategy Action Plan.

#### 2. Reducing early deaths for people with learning disabilities ("LeDeR")



Learning Disabilities Mortality Review  
(LeDeR) Programme

- We want to improve services to help people with learning disabilities live healthy lives and reduce the gap in life expectancy for people with learning disabilities compared to the general population.

#### 3. Transforming Care Programme



- Transforming care is about improving health and care services so that more people can live in the community, with the right support, and close to home.



## Big Aim 2 – Living Well

This aim is about people with learning disabilities living as independently as they can. The focus will be on:

1. Making sure people can have and keep good relationships.



2. Knowing where to go for support, what to expect and how to complain if people are not happy.



3. Making sure that people have worthwhile things to do in the daytime, evenings and weekends and can contribute to their communities.



## Big Aim 3 – Having a Place to Live



We are working together to plan and put in place the right sort of housing and support for people with learning disabilities in Worcestershire. Our aims will be:

### 1. Developing the right kind of housing



- For example, is the layout of the property right, is it in the right place, what about transport and parking?

### 2. Improving information and communications about housing



- Including advertising housing plans and asking for feedback on needs and design

### 3. Making sure that housing and support are safe



- Making sure housing is in a safe location
- Making sure people are included in their local community
- Putting in place good links between education and housing

## Big Aim 4 – Having a Job



The Having a Job Plan explains how we will work together to make sure people with learning disabilities who want to work find jobs. People with learning disabilities say that it is important to them to have a paid job. Our priority areas are:

1. Continue to improve the Supported Employment Service.



- Employment support is personalised help so that people with learning disabilities can get and keep a job, learn new skills and choose jobs that suit their skill set.
2. Work with partners, businesses and communities about what kind of support people with learning disabilities need to help them gain or keep a job.



3. Publicise the good things about paid work.



- For example, through using Social Media

## Big Aim 5 – Staying Safe



It is really important for people to feel safe at home and when they are out and about. We want to work on:

### 1. Being safe whilst out in the community



- Better links between neighbourhood safety teams and other organisations
- Being aware of hazards for people with learning disabilities in the community
- Being safe on public transport, including taxis, trains and buses
- Having all the information about staying safe in one place

### 2. Working together to raise awareness of and to reduce Hate and Mate Crime



### 3. Good quality support services where people are both safe and well supported



## Big Aim 6 – The Right Support for Carers



Carers offer lots of support to members of their family who have a Learning Disability. It is very important that they have support too. We want to focus on:

1. Finding new ways to involve carers in what we do



2. Checking regularly that carers and people with learning disabilities are getting the support they need



3. Enabling and supporting carers to recognise the importance of planning for the future as they and their family member with a Learning Disability grow older



4. Making sure there is reliable and good quality support in place for when a main carer is ill or needs a break



## Big Aim 7 – Preparing for Adulthood



We want to improve the personal transition experience and journey to adulthood for children and young people with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities and their families. We will focus on:

### 1. Person-centred planning through Education, Health & Care Plans



- Increase partnership working between professionals in order to provide joined up, efficient and quality services
- Ensure that children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities and their families have access to the right information, guidance and support, at the right time in their lives, to support their journey through childhood and into adulthood
- Ensure a more effective transition between children's and adult's health services

### 2. Developing provision in Worcestershire that meets education, social care and health needs



### 3. Using a co-production approach with families, ensuring that young people and their families are involved in strategic planning and service design and the development of future services



## Section 5 – How will we check that the Strategy is working?

The Learning Disability Partnership Board has written this strategy and we want to make sure the key priorities of the Big Aims are being addressed. We will:

Meet at least three times a year to discuss and debate progress and any issues arising



Ask each sub-group to write an action plan for their work. This will say how the work will be done, who will do it and when it will be done. The sub-groups will tell us about how their work is progressing and make sure they tell us if there are any problems getting their work done.



For Big Aims where sub-groups are not currently in place, we will include these on our agendas, ask for updates from other relevant groups and make sure we are working on these priorities too.



We will ask commissioners to work with partners to complete a Self-assessment within the next 12 months.



Make sure that we talk and listen to as many people with learning disabilities and family carers as we can.



Decide if there is anything extra the Board needs to do to make sure that the Strategy is working.

Work closely with Worcestershire People's Parliament to make sure that we are also considering the issues that they are picking up in their White Papers and debates.



Report any big problems, significant issues and concerns to the senior managers and elected Members of the Council and/or the senior managers of the NHS, as appropriate.



**We want to achieve the following outcomes:**

People with a Learning Disability live longer and have improved health-related quality of life.



The need for long-term residential care is reduced as a range of affordable housing options to meet people's needs becomes available.



People with a Learning Disability have an improved quality of life with the same opportunities for involvement within their communities.



The number of people with a Learning Disability who gain and retain a paid job in the open labour market is increased.



People with a Learning Disability are safe within the services they use and accessing universal services.



Carers have the right support for them to care and have a range of options available to them to best support the person they care for.

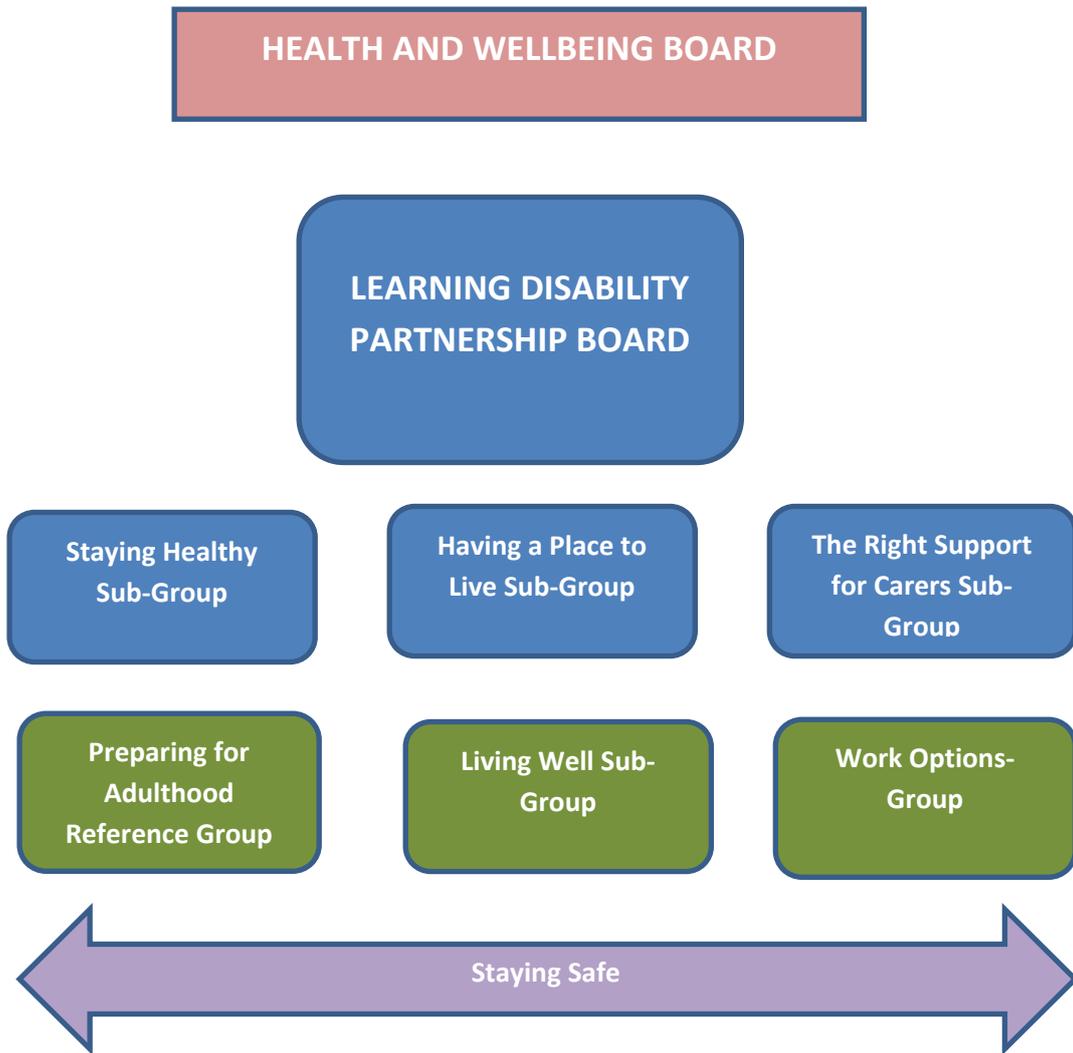


An increased number of young people with a Learning Disability have a positive transition into Adulthood and meet the education health and social care outcomes identified in their plans





For 2019/20, the structure of the Partnership Board will be as follows:



There will also continue to be links between the Learning Disability Partnership Board and the Autism Partnership Board and the SEND Improvement Board.