



Medway Learning Disability Partnership Board



Update Valuing People Priority 2010/11 - Housing



Update by: Rachel Britt - Medway Council, Senior Strategy and Enabling Officer



The reason for this update is to:



1. Update the Medway Learning Disability Partnership Board about what is happening with the Learning Disability Housing Toolkit.



2. Ask the Partnership Board to agree 3 actions to help with the work of the housing toolkit



3. Ask the Partnership Board for a date that the housing toolkit work can be reported back to the board.



1. What has happened with the Learning Disability Housing Toolkit since last Partnership Board meeting?



• We have sent a list of all the housing toolkit questions to the main services that support housing and adults with a learning disability in Medway.





Thank you!



Thank you!

- People from these services filled in information for the toolkit:
 - Medway Supporting People scheme
 - NHS Medway
 - Medway Service for Adults with a Learning Disability
 - Medway Housing Department (including Strategic Housing and Homechoice)
 - Adult Social care Self-Directed Support Team
 - Adult Social Care Performance Team
 - Adult Social Care Contracts Team
 - Medway Aiming High

- Shout Out Speaking Up Group and the representatives of adults with a Learning disability on the Learning Disability Partnership Board separately) also filled in an easy-read questionnaire for the housing toolkit

- Medway Carers centre ran a focus group about what carers of people with learning disabilities thought was working well/not well for people with a learning disability and their family.

- We made an electronic questionnaire and sent it out all over Medway - it asked people what they think is working and not working to do with housing and people with a learning disability.

- Over 85 people so far have filled this out the electronic questionnaire about housing.
 - This includes 42 carers, 34 people with a learning disability, housing providers and people from lots of different organisations.
 - Everyone who filled in the electronic



questionnaire was asked if they would like feedback of what has happened with the information they gave to the survey.



- A Medway Council Housing Strategic Department has contacted Voiceability (the 1:1 Advocacy service in Medway for Adults with a Learning Disability) to find out what are the main issues they dealt with to do with housing and people with a learning disability in Medway.



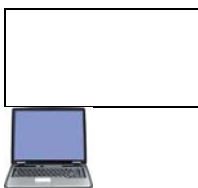
- We have compared the main Medway housing register and list of people known to Medway Council adult social care list (Care Director) of people who have learning disabilities.



- We are checking if any social housing in Medway has been used by people with a learning disability.



- We are checking that everyone on the Medway housing register who says that they have a learning disability is on the main G.P. Disability register,



- We have checked with Medway Aiming High to make sure that housing will be on the new transition database and have started to make better links with Aiming High work.



- We have gone through lots of different housing policies and easy read documents to see what has already been agreed to do with housing.



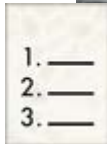
What are we finding out from the toolkit about housing?



- The information we are finding out from doing the housing toolkit is very useful but it is taking longer than we first thought to collect all the information for the toolkit.



- We have started to get some figures about the need and numbers of people with a learning disability in Medway to do with housing. .



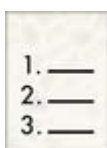
- Few people with learning disabilities who get a service from Medway Council are on the main housing register - you have to be on the housing register to get a council house.



- There is only a very small bit in the Carers Strategy about housing and this is about making sure that carers can afford repairs to their properties.



- In the last contract meeting for Voiceability, the organisation who provide the issue based advocacy for people with learning disability - housing was the issue that they had most referrals about.



- We are not clear in the toolkit on the ways that people with learning disabilities enter residential care, supported living or join the housing register and more work needs to be done on this.

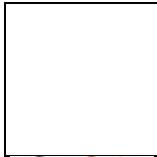
Update on the next steps of the Housing Toolkit



- We are carrying on with working through the Learning Disability Housing Toolkit.
- The toolkit is 48 pages long so we are going to put this into an information in toolkit - will put this into an easy read summary and invite people to a workshop to find out more and agree actions.
- To help us understand more about the numbers of people with a learning disability who are in residential care, supported living, on the housing register we need more information about what the 'pathways' or routes are for people with learning disabilities to different types of housing are in Medway.

We would like to make a 'flowchart' showing what is the way Medway that people with learning disabilities go into residential care, supported living, owning your own home and Homechoice.

- Medway Homechoice are going to check if the people with a learning disability who are on the housing register are 'active cases' (people that are regularly bidding on Homechoice for a council or housing association home).
- We want to look at whether people 'move' from different housing support such as residential care supported living, etc to more independent living.



- Medway Strategic Housing Department have set a date to visit the *Medway Carers Centre* and to find out if there is any way that they can work together to support family carers and people with a learning disability.



- Medway Strategic Housing Department have arranged to meet the *Sunlight Development Trust* to see if there are ways that they can work together to support people at the *Sunlight Centre* to access the *Housing Register* and *Homechoice*.



We have using the *Sunlight Centre* as this is where *Shout Out* meet and is a *Medway* community centre.



- We have written an easy to read factcheet on *Homechoice* and the *Medway Housing register* to quickly share this information with the *Medway Learning Disability Partnership Board*.



- *Medway Homechoice* and *Strategic Housing Department* are going to meet with *Shout Out*.



- We are going to offer the *Learning Disability Partnership Board* members a tour of *Chatham Contact Point* - which is where in *Medway* lots of people get their housing information.



- We are going to put together an easy to read presentation about the housing toolkit work and have a workshop about this.



2. Ask the Partnership Board to agree 3 actions to help with the work of the housing toolkit

Here are the 3 actions that I am asking Partnership Board to agree:



1. To set up a Partnership Board 'task and finish' group to make maps to show the way people with a learning disability go:
 - a. Into residential care
 - b. Into Supported living
 - c. Onto Homechoice and the Housing Register



2. To agree for the set up a Partnership Board 'task and finish group' to look at what housing support there is for older family carers of people with a learning disability.



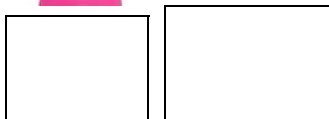
3. To agree date to bring the housing toolkit back to the Learning Disability Partnership Board work



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