

Partnership Board Newsletter



ISSUE 3
SPRING 2006



Stephany, Scott & Suzanne
at last year's Person Centred
Planning Conference

It has been a while since we published the Newsletter, and there have been lots of developments. **There is a new White Paper called "Our health, our care, our say: a new direction for community services"**. Although it's about all services providing care, not just for people with a learning disability, it will lead to a lot of things having to change. It will probably have as much impact as the "Valuing People" White Paper has had since 2001. There is an article on page 4.

Another significant event since the last Newsletter has been the **CSCI inspection of services for people with learning disability**, provided by Adult and Community Services. Again, although this produced no serious negative criticism, it will have an important impact, and there is an article on page 2 to tell you a bit more about it.

We have also started to look at **the quality of service delivery**, involving service users going out and talking to people who live in residential care homes about their lives. The first of these is well underway, and there an article on page 6.

After talking to many people about the **Strategy for People with Learning Disability**, comments and suggestions have been included in the final issue of the Strategy, which is now published - page 8.

We also have a **new Chairperson on the Partnership Board**. So things have been very busy. We hope you enjoy this issue.

Inside this issue:

CSCI Inspection	2
One Card	3
"Our Health, our care, our say" White Paper	4
SHIELD Sexual Health	5
Residential Care Quality Review	6
New Chair for LDPB "Listen to Me"	7
Roadshow	7
Strategy for Learning Disability Services	8

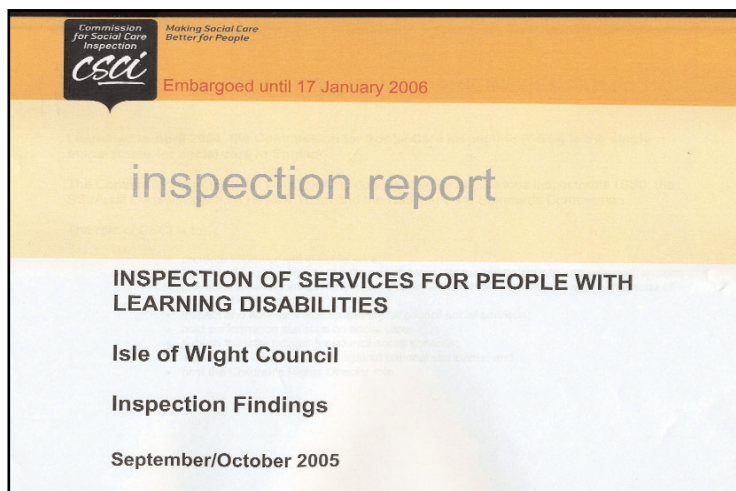


WEBSITE

We have our own website where you can get lots more details about the Partnership Board www.iwight.com/council/ldpb

Our Recent Government Inspection

Government inspectors from CSCI are going around the country visiting places to see how far the lives of people have changed for the better, after the Valuing People white paper. Our checkers came in the Autumn of 2005 and their report is now available to the public, and is on our web site.



They say many things about how things are changing and it was good to have them tell us that we are really beginning to change things. They say that some people are having good services and support and that they saw examples where good and modern services were helping people to lead better lives. We agree with the inspectors that we want more and more people to have better lives and they tell us that they think we have the capacity to start making this happen.

Martin Johnson



There are no very big messages in the report, but there is a lot of encouragement to carry on making the changes that we have begun and written about in our new Strategy.

They would like us to do better in the areas of housing, transport and health services. They say that the Health Service and the Council should find better ways of telling people what is available and how to get it. The protection of people from harm, and making people feel safer are also important things that we can get on with.

It is the inspectors' view that in order to give people with the most needs the care that they deserve, we might need to decide to support fewer people in the way that we do now. This is a very important question that we have to look at.

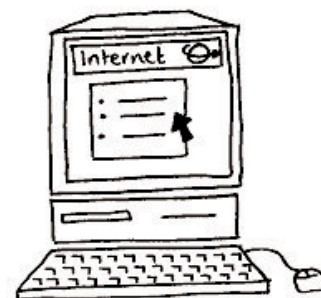
The respite care and other personal care services are praised, but the inspectors give us encouragement to continue improving them and making sure that carers in particular can get help from these services. They were very keen that we soon begin changing the things that people can do during the day and



evenings. This includes employment, education and leisure activities. They liked what our strategy had to say about these changes.

We have been including service users and carers in all sorts of planning and day-to-day things, like meetings and appointing new staff. The inspectors said that this would be better if the people helping us had their own support at meetings. They thought that this would help people to become more involved in planning their own lives, as well as taking part in making these important decisions.

The Council has thanked the Inspectors for their work and has agreed a plan to begin following the inspectors decisions.



If you would like to see the inspection report, it is available in easy access format:

http://www.csci.org.uk/inspection_reports/local_council_inspection_reports/isle_wight_learning_dis_oct_05_accessible.doc

The full report is available at:

http://www.csci.org.uk/inspection_reports/local_council_inspection_reports/isle_wight_learning_dis_oct_05.pdf

The Councils plan for improvements will soon appear alongside the new Learning Disability Strategy on the Partnership Board website. The home page is at: <http://www.iwight.com/council/ldpb/>

ONE Card - Affordable Access to Leisure

The Residents Concession Card offers discounted rates for customers experiencing reduced income due to unemployment, illness or disability. The card costs £1 to buy, but then you can enjoy swimming, the Health Suite or fitness classes for £1 per session (not all sessions or classes are included). There is a special offer for People First, where the initial £1 purchase cost is waived for the first year. If you wish to apply for this offer, contact Ali Pride direct on 823361.



New pilot for the Learning Disability Team - The Adult Learning Disability/Carers Initiative - Ali Pride and Daron Perkins have piloted a scheme for families who care for a family member with a learning disability and residential establishments who wish to organise group swimming activities. For more information, contact Daron on 566011 ext 2345 or Ali on 823361. The good news is that the pilot has been extended until the end of the year.

CHANGES IN SERVICES ARE ON THE WAY

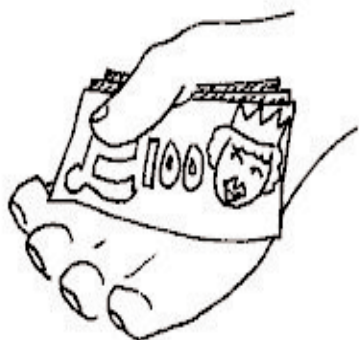
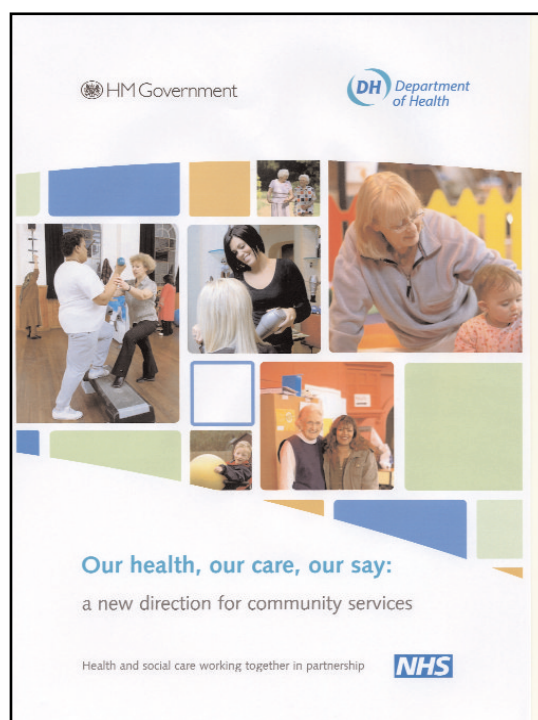
In February 2006, the Government published a White Paper on the future of health and social care services outside of hospital. This paper is very important because it tells Councils and Health Trusts what the government wants to do, and how they can start doing it. It also helps everyone to understand what laws the government might need to write so that the changes can happen.

The White Paper is called “Our Health, Our Care, Our Say” and it is available on the Department of Health Website at <http://www.dh.gov.uk/>

It is a very long document and so is difficult to describe in a few words. The main thing that it says is:

Health and social care services should be provided as close to where people live as possible. We have to find new ways to help people live in their own community, whatever their needs.

The paper also points to new ways of helping people to take control of their health and care services.



An example of how it might affect us is in how people get their care services. We have several people with a learning disability who have Direct Payments. This means that people can choose who their carer will be and can agree when and how care is provided. The White Paper takes Direct Payments, makes them even more wide-ranging and tells Councils that they must find ways of helping as many people as possible to take control of their own care services.

The White Paper has been a long time in coming, and so we did have some clues about what would be in it. This was good, as our new Isle of Wight Learning Disability Strategy has included most of the big changes that have appeared in the Paper. This means that our strategy is up-to-date and does not need changing.

The Council, the Health Service and the Partnership Board need to get a much

better understanding of what needs to be done and how. We will spend a lot of time in 2006 making sure that what we are doing is helping us to move in the right direction. It will take a long time to do everything in the White Paper, if that is what we decide to do.



The White Paper has some good things in it for people with a Learning Disability, and their carers, and we need to try and make the changes work as well as we can here on the Isle of Wight.

Martin Johnson

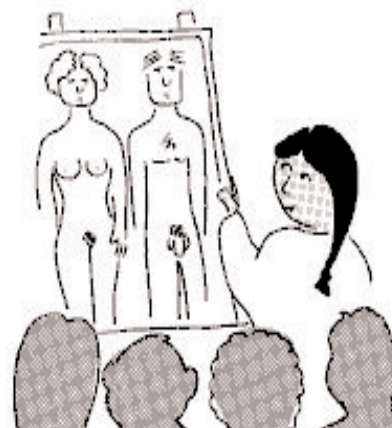
SEX - RELATIONSHIPS - KEEPING WELL Choosing, Balancing Risk, Keeping Safe



Talking about relationships and sex can be difficult for us all. If you have learning disabilities it can be even more difficult to get the information and help you need. I have been working with lots of services and other people here on the Island trying to find out how we can make it easier for you.

Some of these could be finding out:
How your body works

How to say 'no' if you don't want a relationship - How the law can protect you
Knowing more about sex - Pregnancy
Sexual Infections - You want time alone with your partner.
Someone is making you have sex and you do not want to.



You want to know how to check your breasts or testicles.

Who can you talk to about these?

Where can you go to get help?

We will be going around visiting all the services, and will speak to everyone who is willing to chat to us. We have a new Learning Disability and Sexual Health Support Worker, who is Sandie Munt.

If you have any questions or worries then please get in touch with me: Teresa Day, Health Promotion Specialist, on 814287



RESIDENTIAL CARE: HOW GOOD IS IT?

In October the Learning Disability Partnership Board asked the Development and Implementation Team in Adult Services to do a BILD Quality Review of Residential Care on the Isle of Wight. The review looks at outcomes – what life is actually like for people who use this service. The results will help us to think about what is being done well and what areas need to improve.



Jackie Raven, Development and Implementation Manager, was asked to act as the Quality Leader and set up a review team of eleven; this includes



professionals, carers and people with a learning disability. We all got together for our first meeting on 12th December. During this meeting we got to know each other a little better and learnt more about how the review is done. On 19th January we had our first workshop – this is when we got together to learn how to do the review and about visiting people living in eleven different Residential homes, all of which had agreed to a member of the review team visiting them.

We visited three or four times over a six week period. We did some of our visits during the weekend and in the evenings, and members of the person's family were very welcome to join us.

Our second workshop was on Wednesday 8th March 2006. At this meeting the review team talked about the lives of the people we had visited, agreed what was being done well and what needed to change. Jackie is writing a report about this.

Our next workshop is on 11th April, where we will make plans about what needs to change. We will choose three important areas and agree who needs to do what to start to make things better.



New Chair for the Partnership Board



The Partnership Board has elected a new Chair person, who is Andrea Colson from Mencap Pathway. Martin Johnson, who has been chairing, has stood down because he feels that there is a conflict between being the Chair, and being able to report on many of the issues that are raised at the Partnership Board. Everyone

thanked Martin for his excellent work.

Stephany Cunningham is now settling in well as a Co-chair, and is becoming more confident with the way she is handling the meetings.

We are still wondering whether there are too many members on the Board, and we will continue to ponder this.

“LISTEN TO ME” ROAD SHOW

The 'Listen to me' project is all about looking at what is happening to people with a learning disability now, and what they would like to happen in the future. It is being done by Andrea Colson, Jenni Charity, and Jane France.

The road show will help people to look at what they are doing at the moment in areas such as:



Education, Leisure, Work, Life skills and on their Rest day. Each person will work through a diary, covering day and evening hours. They will note if they are happy, ok or unhappy with what they do now.



Jane France

Through talking together and looking at other things they might do instead, each person will be asked to think of what they would like to do if they could do just what they wanted, and if there were no barriers stopping them.

We hope that from this exercise we can present a big picture of how service users see what they get now, what changes they would like to see, and what is OK just as it is. We hope to be able to tell people about what we found early in December 2006.

IOW Learning Disability Partnership Board

Martin Johnson
Adult and Community
Services
17 Fairlee Road
Newport

Phone: 520600

email:
martin.johnson@
iow.gov.uk

“Nothing
about us
without us”

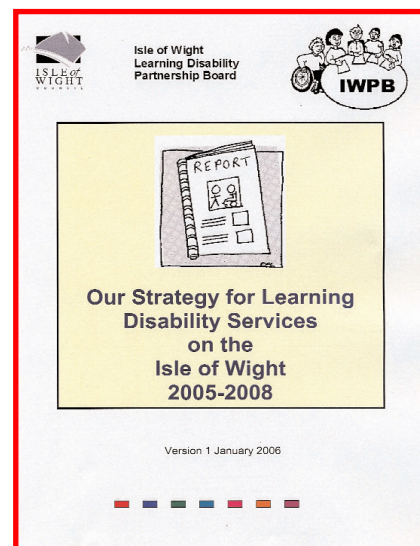
Editorial Team:

David Downer
Claire Robertson
Scott Watkin
Stephany Cunningham



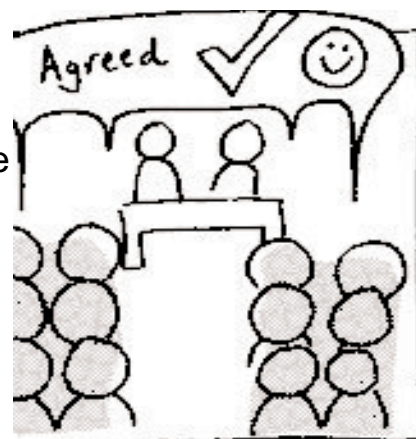
STRATEGY FOR LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES

Our strategy for learning disability services on Isle of Wight for 2005-2008 has now finally been revised and issued. It is available on our website. We held a consultation event at the end of 2005. People with learning disabilities and their carers as well as professionals from the council, health and voluntary agencies across the Island were all asked to come to the meeting. Around 60 people came to the event which was held at Newport Football Club.



Then we had the CSCI inspection, and this changed the emphasis on some things. We had to include these changes, and add some items. Then the White Paper was published in January 2006, and although there were no big conflicts between what we were going to do and what the White Paper said we had to do, we looked again at the strategy to make sure it was OK.

Now we have finally included all the comments and suggestions, and published the Strategy in its final form. This is now the defining paper that the Partnership Board will rely upon to decide what to do next. We would encourage everyone to read it.



If you would like to have your say about the Newsletter, or make suggestions for what's in it, please contact Claire Robertson on 823747, or email on claire.robertson@iow.gov.uk