

Partnership Board Newsletter



ISSUE 6
WINTER 2008

It is quite some time since we published an issue of the Newsletter. There is a lot of change in the system that delivers care to adults, including those with a learning disability. "Putting People First" and the paper issued by the DOH called "Transforming Social Care", means there are major changes coming.



The purpose is to provide "universal services" in the lives of all citizens, especially those with care and support needs. The principles are the extension of choice and control, the importance of providing information for everyone, and services that promote independence and prevent people needing ongoing care and support where this can be avoided.

It will mean all of us, whether we are service users, providers, or professionals, having to change the way we do things and think about people's needs. The focus will be on what the individual wants, and providing the means to achieve this, rather than people having to fit in with the services somebody else decides to provide. All of this, however, has to be done within the existing cash framework. A challenge indeed!

The job of the LDPB continues to be a very important one. It will need to stay focused on the needs of people with a learning disability, making sure their voice is heard, and services provided to them continue to meet their needs. In this issue, you will be able to read about some of these changes.

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WEBSITE

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

SELF DIRECTED SUPPORT

In December 2007 the Government wrote a paper called 'Putting People First'. This is a document that explains what the Council and other organisations must do when they help provide services for adults. The Council must make services more about peoples' personal choices. This means the Council and partners must be person-centred in everything they do. The Council have lots of work to do and are working to change the way people get their support. It is 'transforming social care'. This is not just for people with a learning disability, but for all adults who need services.



At present there are 10 people with a learning disability on the Island who are testing a new way of working.

They are using the money given to them by the Council to buy their own support, instead of the Council deciding on their services. For the test cases, we called this 'In Control'. From now on, it will be called 'Self Directed Support'. People can choose what they do and how they spend the money, as long as it is agreed that it meets their needs.



Everyone will have the opportunity to have a Personal Budget with some agreed goals they have to achieve. In the future more people will have their own money to spend, and they will have to show their bank statements each month so people can see they are spending the money on the things they agreed they would. Care Managers will be talking to people about this at their reviews. There will be a shared assessment, so every-

one involved can agree what's needed, and this is based on a questionnaire that has twenty questions. You will probably need help to do this.

The Council also has to change the way it works with providers. Providers are places like day services, residential homes, etc. The Council won't be giving providers a set amount of money. Instead the money will go to individual people who can choose what and where they will buy their services. An example is: if someone wants to go to a day centre some days, they will have to pay to go on these days. So providers will get their money from individuals, not from the Council. This is a big change for providers and the Council, so the Council will

help them to make the change.

This is all about people having choice and control. The Council believes that it is important for people to have as much choice and control as possible. The Government says in Valuing People Now that everyone should work in a way that gives people the most choice and control possible. Valuing People Now also says more people should work in ways that are person-centred. The Council are working hard to do this.

All of this is quite new, so it will take a lot of work and time to get it right. It will probably not all be “right first time”, so we will all need to work together to make it a success.



If you would like more information about Self Directed Support and Personal Budgets, Putting People First or Valuing People Now, please contact your Care Manager or Duty Team on 823340.

HELP FOR PEOPLE WITH A LEARNING DISABILITY

The Isle of Wight Council has worked with the IW Advocacy Trust to set up a new service to help people with a learning disability to read and understand information.

If you have trouble reading leaflets, booklets or other information, ring 01983 559299 and ask for help.

Someone will meet with you and explain what the information says.

We will be putting this telephone number on all the information we send out.



TERESA DAY WINS TOP NURSING AWARD

We were all delighted to hear that Teresa has won the prestigious ***Nursing Times Award for Sexual Health***. This is for her pioneering work, and the excellent results she has achieved. This award is for the whole UK, and we would like to congratulate her on her achievement.



LEARNING DISABILITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD STRUCTURE

The Partnership Board has been thinking about how the Board works. We think there are ways that we could make the Board work better. Not many people turn up to some of the sub-groups. The Board has talked about new sub-groups and has agreed a new way of working. There will still be a Partnership Board. There will be a new group called **'MAKING IT HAPPEN'**. This will be instead of the 'Excellence group'. The chairs of the sub-groups will be part of the Making it Happen group. The new sub-groups will be:



WHAT I DO - This group will talk about things people do in the day (day services, college, transport, work, volunteering, leisure etc.). People will also talk about evening, weekend and night-time activity.



WHERE I LIVE –

This group will talk about housing and respite. It isn't just about residential homes, but also about people who want to get a mortgage or live in supported accommodation. There is a whole section in Valuing People Now about housing. This group will develop a plan to make sure these things are done.



MY HEALTH – This group will focus on health issues and will be similar to how it was before. It will also look at the new Valuing People Now targets, and the Healthcare for All report.

EVERYONE MATTERS – It is important that people don't get left out. This group will make sure that everyone is included in what we do. There are some people we have not talked about much, and we need to think how we can help them best. For example: there are people who have a learning disability and have children – they might need help with being a parent. We also need to think about people who are becoming young adults, or getting older and people who have high support needs.



There are also people who have a learning disability that are in prison.

If you would like to join a sub group, please contact the Partnership Board Co-chairs John Phillips or Scott Watkin via Social Services Headquarters reception on 520600.



ADVOCACY IN HOSPITAL

The Isle of Wight Advocacy Trust are piloting a scheme to provide people with a learning disability the choice to have an advocate while they are in hospital.

It is important that people with learning disabilities have independent advocacy when they are in hospital. Whilst in hospital it is important that people with learning disabilities understand what is happening and are involved in making their own decisions. Giving them an advocate will make sure this happens.

We want to develop an advocacy service for people with learning disabilities who attend hospital. An advocate helps people to make choices, and take control of their lives. We have received money from the LDDF for one year to "Pilot" advocacy for people in hospital.

The Advocacy Trust has been working with adults with learning disabilities on the Island for several years and has developed a reputation for high quality and innovation methods of working.

What is advocacy?

Advocacy is about ensuring a person's voice is heard and that they are listened to. Most of us at some time in our lives speak up for others, or hope that someone will speak up for us when we need support.

An advocate helps people to make choices, and take control of their lives. An independent advocate is the only person who is entirely separate from all other services.

How does advocacy help?

The role of advocacy is to help someone speak up, or to speak up for them with their consent. Advocacy can give individual one-to-one support to the person.

The Advocacy Trust will seek consent from person/family/carer if they choose to take part in this pilot project.

If you need more information, contact Jan Gavin on 559299



“Listen To Us”

A review of likely trends in the demand for provision of services for the future - as identified by service users.

A collaborative project commissioned by the Employment, Education and Day Services Sub Group

During 2007, a survey was carried out to see what people who use services wanted in the future. The detailed report is available from the LDPB, and this is a condensed summary of the report. The collaborative partners who did the work were Jenni Charity, Osel Enterprises Ltd., Andrea Coulson, Mencap Pathways, Jane France, IOW College. The Report was completed by Jenni Charity.



An initial list of 300 services users attending day service provision throughout the Island was modified to 291 - representing individuals who would be using future services.

Small groups of 6 to 8 service users participated in short workshops at the participating provider venues: IOW College, Osel, Haylands Farm, Meadowbrook. 66 booklets were completed representing 22.7% of the originally identified population.

Information on current activities and demand for future activities was recorded for each day of the week during the daytime and the evening. Qualitative as well as quantitative information was recorded.

The following categories were used to allocate activities:

Paid Work	Voluntary Work	Education
Life Skills	Leisure	Rest

The following trends were noted:

44% increase in demand for paid work as opposed to an 8% decrease in the demand for voluntary work

35 % increase in demand for leisure activities with a comparable 25% decrease in demand for 'rest' – those activities which were regarded as inactivity generally at home (watching TV, listening to music, reading etc.). The change from rest to

leisure related mainly to evening as opposed to daytime activities.

14% decrease in demand for life skills and 20% decrease in demand for education.

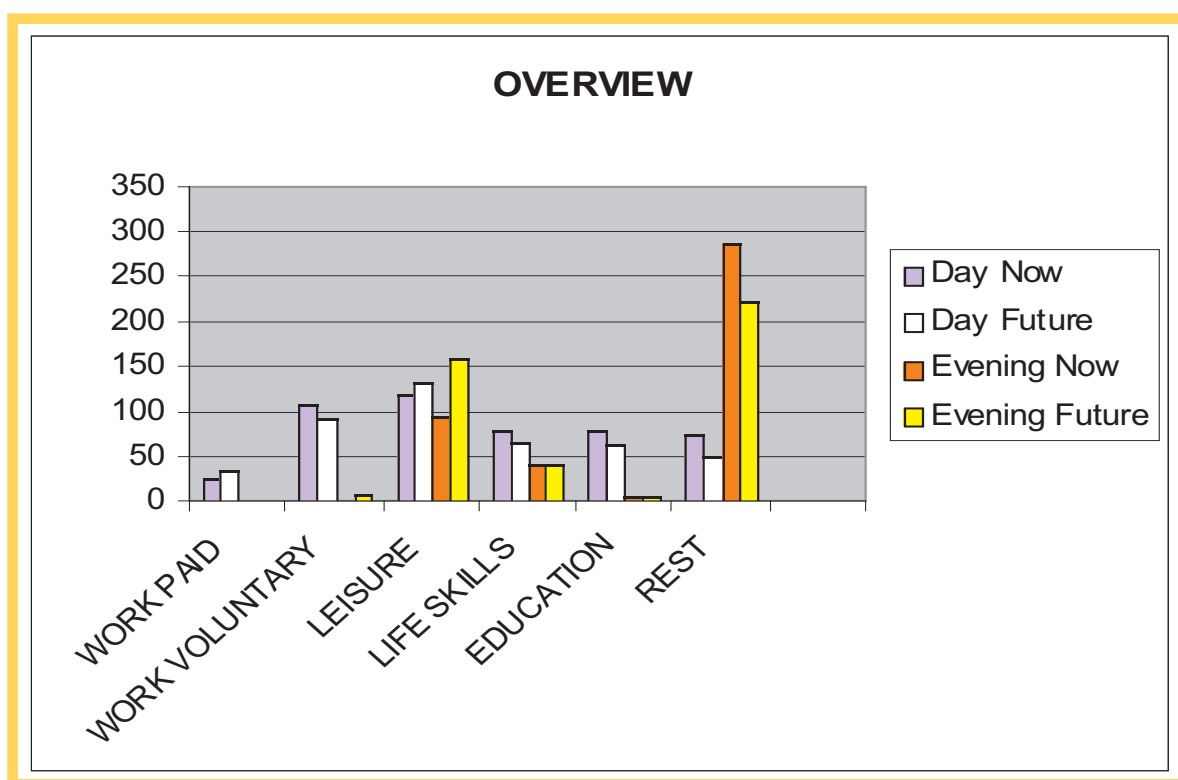
During the workshops individuals were found to express themselves freely about future possibilities with many unexpected changes in demands from service users who had previously not expressed any interest in change.

Many comments by service users about what they would like to do were around the wish to have alternative activities during the evening or weekend, or to try out new things:-

- “have more activities in the evenings and at weekends”
- “go dancing rather than watching TV”
- “travel on a train to Southampton on my own”
- “order from a menu”
- “play in a band”

Other comments were related to the ability to make their own choices and highlighted dislikes:-

- “I would like to go to work rather than shopping or cleaning at home”
- “I don’t like not being allowed to visit mother’s grave as often as I would like”
- “I don’t like living at the home I am in as everyone argues”



IOW Learning Disability Partnership Board

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To contact the
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Headquarters on
520600

“Nothing
about us
without us”

Editorial Team:
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In Control Pilot - Making Personal Budgets work

At a recent Partnership Board meeting, we heard from Al Wyman and Marianne Law, who told the Board about their experiences in setting up and using individual budgets as part of the In Control Pilot, and how it has helped them.



Marianne said she felt more in control of her life, and was able to do new things, and the things she liked to do mostly herself, with help from her family.

She was working at a Charity Shop, which she enjoys. She has also visited the Chelsea Flower show, and been on holiday with her friends. She has bought a laptop and digital camera, and is learning how to use them. She is doing lots of other activities too. She feels that overall things take longer to do than she would like, but she is happier doing more things than she used to. She is happy to be making her own choices.



Al told us that he has four support workers that he interviewed himself. With his Mum and his Care Manager, he looked at his home environment, to make changes that he would like. Under In Control, Al has been able to do lots more things, including extra sports, and goes out with support, so he doesn't have to rely on his parent carer so much. He likes the results.

If you would like to have your say about the Newsletter, or make suggestions for what's in it, please contact the LDPB Co-chairs through 520600, or email on jacqui.hogg@iow.gov.uk