Annual Report 2009-2010

Cumbria Learning Disability Partnership Board

Performance of the Learning Disability Services
Your county council is here to help in a huge number of different ways. You will find us lending a hand in all walks of life – from making sure our children get the best possible education to ensuring older folk get the care they need. We look after most of the county’s roads, run the fire service, and even register births, marriages and deaths. We take great pride in providing the best possible service to the people of Cumbria.

Most of what we do is paid for by the council tax you pay, and overseen by the councillors that you elect. That’s why we think it is really important that we let you know how we’re doing.

Our mission is ‘Building pride in Cumbria’ by providing high quality services to make our county:

**Healthier**
Improving the health and well-being of adults

**Wealthier**
Making Cumbria more prosperous

**Happier**
Improving the life chances and well-being of children and young people

**Greener**
Creating and protecting a high quality environment for all

**Safer**
Creating safe and secure communities

**Better**
Improving council services

*Read on and we’ll tell you how we are getting on*
Learning Disabilities Partnership Board 2009-2010

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Co-Chairs Andrew Matthews and Eddie Martin

It has been another busy year for the Learning Disability Partnership Board.

We have welcomed Councillor Eddie Martin onto the Board as Co-Chair. Eddie replaces our previous Co-Chair Barbara Cannon.

With new members come fresh eyes and a chance for us to review how well the Board and learning disabilities system is functioning.

• A membership review has helped us to become clearer about the Board’s role and objectives.
• We have reviewed commissioning within Cumbria and the report published ‘Cumbria Checks In’ has helped us to develop a better understanding of how we would like commissioning to be in the future.
• We are delighted to have our ‘Draft Commissioning Strategy’ which will provide direction and help us to log and achieve our goals.

In the coming year we will be using the ‘Annual Self Assessment’ to monitor the Board and its Sub-Groups.

A huge thank you to all staff that put in so much effort to improve peoples lives, your work is highly valued and appreciated.
Introduction

Cumbria Learning Disability Partnership Board is pleased to present its Annual Report 2009-2010.

It has been a very busy year for the Partnership Board which has seen changes in the way it works on delivering the 11 objectives of Valuing People, which will help us better measure our progress in the future.

From April 2010 ‘Valuing People Now’ recommends that all Partnership Boards should produce an annual report on how well they are doing. Although this is not mandatory, it will be our opportunity to bring together all existing information into one place and see what progress has been made in 2009-2010.

The Annual Self Assessment report 2009-10 will also help us strengthen our relationships with other Partnership Boards, as well as setting our agenda for the coming year. As this will be an important tool to implement the strategy and we will ask Partnership Boards to sign this off.

Listening to what people said at our AGM in April 2009 about developing a new strategy for 2010-2013. The Partnership Board agreed it needed a three year plan which clearly shows the direction for improving services for people with learning disabilities.

We want everyone to sign up to Cumbria Learning Disabilities Partnership Board Commissioning Intentions Strategy.
There have been a number of documents which have helped us to develop our new Cumbria Learning Disabilities Partnership Board Commissioning Intentions Strategy, which sit alongside the Valuing People. Now they are:

- Cumbria Checks In
- World Class Commissioning *Improving the health and wellbeing for people with learning disabilities*
- Care Quality Commission Strategic plan 2010-2015 *position statement and action plan for learning disability*

However, these are not standalone documents and others are referenced too in the final Cumbria Learning Disabilities Partnership Board Commissioning Intentions Strategy.
Valuing Employment Now - real jobs for people with learning disabilities. The goal is challenging but one we are committed to.

Progress in 2009-2010

• We have an employment sub-group to drive forward the employment agenda and monitor the National Indicator 146 Local Area Agreement target
• We now have a baseline of the number of people with a learning disability in employment schemes at the end of the financial year 2009
• We held an employment event in January 2010 with providers and other stakeholders. We did a mapping exercise of what we already have and looked at gaps and barriers to moving people into employment
• We set up a Human Resources group in March 2010 to start to look at employment opportunities in Cumbria’s Local Authority and Health services.

What needs to change or improve in 2010-2011

• We will develop an employment pathway that supports professionals, families and individuals to move into employment options
• Increase the numbers of people in paid employment from 5.9% (73 people) to 7.9% (97 people) by the end of the financial year 2010-11
• We will agree with providers a % or numerical increase target for moving people into paid employment opportunities
• Look at supporting work placements where appropriate through personal budgets.

We will develop a pathway so people are supported in developing the right skills and experience to move them into real employment opportunities.
Health and Wellbeing

Securing better health and better care for people with learning disabilities is about everyone working together to understand peoples needs, with services making ‘reasonable adjustments’ to act on the needs of people with a disability.

Progress in 2009-2010
• Everyone with a learning disability registered with a GP and receiving adult social care services will be offered an annual health check
• We delivered training events to staff in GP practices on Annual Health Checks and had Health launch days covering, Annual Health Checks and Passports supporting Acute admission
• There is a protocol in the north of the county which supports those requiring Acute admission who are assessed as needing additional support. We are developing this now in the south of the county
• We are delivering training packages to Acute wards to support staff who are nursing people with a learning disability
• Stakeholders are meeting to develop a more theme focused Health and Wellbeing agenda.

What needs to change or improve in 2010-2011
• To ensure that we have engagement from all primary and secondary health services to ensure everyone has access to health services regardless of where they live
• To deliver more training to both primary and secondary care staff regarding the needs of people with a learning disability
• We need to improve the commitment by all agencies to delivering a health promotion and prevention agenda.

We will work closer with Health services to make sure ‘reasonable adjustments’ are made to make experiences of health services better.
Evidence shows that settled accommodation is fundamental to supporting people to live more independently, this requires a range of accommodation options with the right level of support.

Progress in 2009-2010
• We opened a specialist residential Autism service in Ulverston
• We have set up a housing sub-group and task group, to look at what we currently have and what we will need for the future
• We are looking at accommodation with care models to meet current needs and gaps in services for those with complex needs.

What needs to change or improve in 2010-2011
• We will develop a housing pathway that supports professionals, families and individuals to access housing and housing with support services
• Work with our wider partners in developing and providing sustainable and affordable accommodation models for the future, alongside making sure we have the right providers with the right level of skills to manage the service
• Address the balance between supported housing and residential services by reviewing our level of residential care provision
• We will further the role of assistive technology that seek cost-effective solutions to promote and sustain independence.
Personal Centred Approaches

On the 16 November 2009, Adult Social Care introduced a new way of working called Self Directed Support with Personal Budgets.

This new system means that anyone new to Adult Social Care or anyone currently receiving a service who is having a review will:

• be taken through a person centred assessment process
• be told how much money there is available to them (indicative amount)
• be supported to develop their own support plan
• have the money made available to them through a personal budget.

We are working with providers to help them understand the new system and for them to develop new ways to support people in a creative and flexible way within the amount of money that is available.

People can manage their personal budget in a number of ways:

• through the direct payments system
• managed by the social worker (care managed)
• a mixture of the two.

We need to give people the right information which supports them to have a greater say and choice in how to meet their assessed needs using person centred approaches.
Effective Learning Disability Partnerships Boards are fundamental to achieving the priorities set out in Valuing People, and are central to the strategic planning, delivery and performance monitoring of services for people with learning disabilities.

Progress in 2009-2010
• Reviewed the membership of the partnership board, which increased the number of carers on the board
• Introduced our themed agendas and set up a sub-group structure to drive forward priorities and actions
• Established better engagement with the North West Regional Programme Boards and sign up to Annual Self Assessment 2009-10
• Started to develop a new three year commissioning intentions strategy 2010-2013
• Worked on developing the Partnership Boards web-site.

What needs to change or improve in 2010-2011
• Report progress to the Partnership Board and wider stakeholders following the self-assessment process
• Launch the new commissioning intentions strategy following consultation
• All board members will have a short ‘job description’ stating their role on the Board
• Develop more effective ways of getting peoples views through local user and carers networks as well as establishing better links with North West Regional structures for Partnership Boards and Family and Advocacy forums
• Re-launch the Partnership Board web-site to improve information and communication systems.

Annual Self Assessment reports will give people a real opportunity to have a say. The Learning Disability Partnership Board will produce an annual report showing evidence of their progress.
Making transition a positive experience for young people as they move into adult services.

Progress in 2009-2010

• Held an event with senior managers and other agencies, to explain that young people want to make their own choices and have opportunities to access education, employment and housing

• We are reviewing the transition protocol and pathway to make sure young people get the right support at the right time

• We have been working with parents to find out what information they want about transition

• We have started to plan changes in post 16 education to make sure that we know what courses and opportunities are available.

What needs to change or improve in 2010-2011

• Develop a protocol so everyone has the right information and knowledge to support young people in the right way

• Make sure all those working with young people give young people a voice and understand the value of person-centred planning to support their choices

• We will extend training on person-centred planning to those who work with young people in transition services

• We will get better at gathering and sharing information between agencies to develop a consistent county-wide approach.
Population changes

The numbers of people over 60 is likely to increase by 36% between 2001 and 2021; in Cumbria 1,232 people with a learning disability are in receipt of services, 10.5% (130 people) are over the age of 65.

Cumbria has an older population than the national average; this will create a greater demand for personal and social care services in the future.

Compared to the general population, people with learning disabilities are more likely to suffer from health problems. This, coupled with an ageing population means that conditions such as cancer, heart disease, and dementia will become more common in the future.

The number of people in receipt of services

![Age distribution graph]

Commissioners need to understand people's needs, so they are able to shape the service now and in the future.

Source: RAP returns quarter 1 2009-10
Finances

Demand for care and support services will continue to grow, therefore Commissioners need to make best use of available resources now and in the future.

Whether services are provided by the NHS, local authority or private/voluntary agencies, we need to make sure that people get the right services to meet their assessed needs within a best value framework.

How the money is spent
Learning Disability spend 2008/09 to 2010/11 £m

We will listen to the voices and experiences of people to help us plan the services we need for the future within the 'cycle of commissioning'.
Here to help

How you can contact us

You can access many of our services through our website cumbria.gov.uk

Please feel free to e-mail us at information@cumbriacc.gov.uk or call our switchboard on 01228 606060.

Cumbria County Council is committed to providing high quality services. Your feedback is essential to this and we welcome all comments, compliments and complaints.

Write to:
Customer Services
Cumbria County Council
FREEPOST NWW6059A

The Courts
Carlisle
CA3 8NA
Telephone: 0800 121 8800
Email: complaints@cumbriacc.gov.uk

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If you need this Annual Report in another format (for example CD, audio cassette or Braille) or in another language, please telephone 01228 606510.