

## 5 minute briefing – people with learning disabilities

- What is the LeDeR Programme?
- Healthwatch report about life in Cumbria for those with learning difficulties
- National report about life expectancies for children with learning disabilities
- Safeguarding success story to the board

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### What is the LeDeR Programme?

#### Learning Disabilities Mortality Review (LeDeR) programme

The LeDeR programme is a national review of deaths of people with learning disabilities. The aim of the programme is to support local areas in reviewing the deaths of people with learning disabilities in order to:

- Identify best practice and potentially avoidable factors that may have contributed to the person's death
- Develop action plans that will guide changes in health and social care services
- Reduce premature deaths of people with learning disabilities

The Learning Disabilities Mortality Review (LeDeR) Programme is delivered by the University of Bristol. It is commissioned by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) on behalf of NHS England. Work on the LeDeR programme started across a number of pilot areas (Cumbria & the North East being one) in June 2015 but is now continuing across the country.

The LeDeR Programme also collates and shares the anonymised information about the deaths of people with learning disabilities so that common themes, learning points and recommendations can be identified and taken forward into policy and practice improvements.

More detail on the Learning Disabilities Mortality Review Programme can be found by clicking the links below:

- [Easy read programme information sheet \(PDF, 770kB\)](#)
- [Information Leaflet for families](#)
- [Information Leaflet for Professionals](#)
- [Learning Disabilities Mortality Review \(LeDer\) Programme](#)

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### Healthwatch report - life in Cumbria for those with learning difficulties

#### A reminder that there is still much we can do to ensure that people with learning disabilities are treated fairly

Earlier this year Healthwatch Cumbria initiated a report asking: 'What does a good life look like for people living with learning difficulties in Cumbria?' The findings were published in October 2018; more information is available on the [Healthwatch Cumbria](#) website.

A plan will be developed to deliver on the recommendations from the report, which will be monitored through the Learning Disability and Autism Partnership Board.

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## National report about life expectancies for children with learning disabilities

### Children with learning disabilities die 15-20 years earlier than their peers

Children with learning disabilities are being let down by society, according to a report by a leading health inequality expert. Prof Sir Michael Marmot said they die 15-20 years earlier than other people due to poor housing, low incomes, social isolation and bullying. He said 40% of people with learning difficulties were not diagnosed in childhood - and this had to change. Learning disabilities affect 2.9% of the population.

[You can read more here](#)

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## Safeguarding success story to the board

### Successful partnership working making a real difference to the lives of young adults

In early December the Cumbria Safeguarding Adults Board (CSAB) heard from a young adult with learning disabilities (supported by an advocate from People First) who described how their life had been turned around. They explained how they disclosed their experiences, which then led to intervention from the social work team and the police. Due to effective partnership working between all agencies, the learner was safeguarded and further abuse prevented.



John Macilwraith, Corporate Director for People, attended the board and heard their story, “Due to the support of the advocacy service People First, and the intervention of the police and our social work teams, this young adult has begun to enjoy life again in a safe environment. They felt able to confide in their advocate and they welcomed social work intervention and support. They are now protected from abuse and are beginning to enjoy learning once more. The story really brought home the importance of having a multi-agency approach to looking after our young adults in Cumbria, especially those who find it difficult to make their voice heard.”

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## Get in touch!

If you would like to speak with someone about the work of the Cumbria Safeguarding Adults Board please contact:

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