



## Gearing up!

*Well, after a few quiet weeks it feels like the system is 'gearing up' again. In the last few weeks we have seen the agreement of the Directed Enhanced Service for Learning Disabilities and a commitment by the Healthcare Commission to further work on the specialist health front, both of which are covered in more detail in this issue*

## Advanced Notice

## The BIG health event!

9<sup>th</sup> December 2008

Come and join us at this one day conference to discuss recent changes/initiatives relating to the health of people with learning disabilities including

VP Now Health  
Agenda

New DH Health Action  
Planning Guidance

DES for Learning  
Disabilities

For further  
information contact  
[info@debramooreassociates.com](mailto:info@debramooreassociates.com)

### Clinical Directed Enhanced Services (DES) agreed for 2008/09

NHS Employers and the General Practitioner Committee of the BMA have agreed five new clinical directed enhanced services as part of the 2008/09 contract negotiations **including one for learning disabilities!**

This is of course great news and builds on the hard won progress of many people in the field.

We are keen to support those who will be required to deliver training to GP's and other primary care staff as part of the scheme and will be offering training materials and workshops over the coming months to support community teams and self advocacy & family carer organisations.

If you would like to find out more about training for your team please email [info@debramooreassociates.com](mailto:info@debramooreassociates.com)

### Headlines within the DES

Targeted at people with moderate to severe learning disabilities

Payment of £100 for each health check undertaken

Primary care staff to have training in supporting the needs of people with learning disabilities

More information about Directed Enhanced Schemes and be found on NHS Employers website

<http://www.nhsemployers.org/pay-conditions/primary-893.cfm>

## NHS Constitution Consultation

Don't Forget!

The Department of Health Consultation on the draft Constitution is open until the

**17<sup>th</sup> October**

To find out more about the NHS Constitution and the consultation and to send in your views and comments visit

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH\\_085812](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_085812)



## More visits to Specialist Learning Disability In Patient Health Services

In August the Healthcare Commission announced its intention to visit 48 specialist inpatient learning disability services to examine progress made since the national audit it undertook in 2007.

Services will be mostly those not visited in the last audit but they plan to visit 10 services again to check progress.

You can find details of the last visits and read a copy of the audit report 'A life like no other' on the Healthcare Commission Website

[www.healthcarecommission.org.uk](http://www.healthcarecommission.org.uk)

## Policy to Practice Workshops

More dates added!

We still have a few places left on these popular workshops aimed at supporting learning disability health professionals to work together to

- Increase understanding of the policy context and in particular the DH Guidance on Specialist Learning Disability Services, Mansell 2 and the DH Good Practice Guidance
- To consider the impact current health and social care policies in relation to the role and function of learning disability services now and in the future.
- To reflect on the findings of the recent Healthcare Commission Audit of Specialist Learning Disability Services.

Birmingham 9<sup>th</sup> October

Leicester 10<sup>th</sup> October

London 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Manchester 28<sup>th</sup> October

If you would more information or to book a place contact Pip at Inclusion North [Pip@inclusionnorth.org](mailto:Pip@inclusionnorth.org)

## Free Self Assessment Tool

We are pleased to announce we have now added a free electronic self - assessment tool as part of our 6C Confirm and Challenge Model.

You can complete the tool online and receive some brief feedback or you can print it off.

We hope it will help commissioners and providers of specialist learning disability health services.

We are currently developing self assessment for other services including CTLD's.

To access the tool and further information visit our website

[www.debramooreassociates.com](http://www.debramooreassociates.com)



Commissions working together to improve commissioning of services for people with learning disabilities and complex needs.

The Healthcare Commission, the Commission for Social Care Inspection and the Mental Health Act Commission have been working together on their first joint venture which will examine the commissioning of services for people with learning disabilities and complex needs.

This exciting project includes people who may be labelled as having challenging behaviour, forensic or mental health needs as well as those who may have additional physical and sensory impairments or may be living with medical technology.

They will be visiting 9 sites and hearing from a range of key stakeholders including people who use services and their families as well as commissioners and providers of universal, mainstream and specialist health and social care services.

**Coming soon!!!!**

## Supporting Community Learning Disability Teams

We are currently putting the finishing touches to our work to support Community Learning Disability Teams using the 6C's approach. Information will be posted on our website and we will be holding a series of workshops. The workshops can be tailored to individual areas or shared by several localities and help participants think about future role and function and service changes and developments required. If you would like to book a workshop for your team or want further information contact [info@debramooreassociates.com](mailto:info@debramooreassociates.com)

## News

The government recently published guidance relating to the transfer of responsibility for the commissioning of social care for adults with a learning disability from the NHS to local government and the transfer of the appropriate funding

The guidance, including an easy read version can be found at

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/Dearco/leaqueletters/DH\\_087148](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/Dearco/leaqueletters/DH_087148)

## Finally...

I hope you have found this newsletter helpful - we welcome comments and feedback. If you would like to include an article or news item in our next edition please contact us on

[info@debramooreassociates.com](mailto:info@debramooreassociates.com) or visit our website [www.debramooreassociates.com](http://www.debramooreassociates.com)



## Promoting good mental health for people with learning disabilities

The DH sponsored Clear Thoughts project offers easy to read information about mental health in learning disability for individuals, their families/carers and professionals. This is done via the project website [www.clearthoughts.info](http://www.clearthoughts.info) and recent improvements include

- New specially commissioned images developed by Change have been added
- The site now has full audio for all text via Browsealoud software
- New information has been added, including details about the Human Rights Act, Capacity, Decision making with medical professional and the 'Head Start' guide



- **Candle** - another ARC project working with younger people regarding their mental health (CAMHS and New Directions in Learning Disability and Ethnicity) resource can now be downloaded, for free, from the Clear Thoughts website.

## National CAMHS Learning Disability Network

Just a quick reminder to everyone that there is a free electronic network you can join if you are interested in supporting the needs of children and young people with learning disabilities and mental health needs. You can join the network and find out more by visiting the website

[www.jan-net.co.uk](http://www.jan-net.co.uk)