



# The Social Inclusion Planner

*A unique source of support  
in making plans for inclusion*

## WHAT is the Social Inclusion Planner?

The Social Inclusion Planner is a fully featured software package that supports the development of effective plans for social inclusion. It has emerged from the distinctive training developed and delivered by the National Development Team, and brought to reality with support from the Scottish Executive, North Lanarkshire Council, and NHS Lanarkshire. The SIP is available for download from the NDT Web site. And it's free. **Yes, FREE!**

## But how can a computer application help people to achieve social inclusion?

It's all very well to believe in social inclusion for people with learning disabilities or mental health issues, but that doesn't make it easy to achieve. For most people, working effectively to support social inclusion is not something that 'comes naturally'. It's work that requires clear thinking, a high level of skills, and a body of knowledge to work from.

The problem is not just that many staff have not received training for the task. The underlying problem is that there hasn't been any well-defined skillset or body of knowledge to offer people trying to figure out how to support inclusion.

The SIP goes a long way towards filling that gap. At its core is a database of over 100 activities that can be used in the process of achieving inclusion. This database has been developed by the NDT, drawing together the knowledge that people have already gained from working for social inclusion, plus relevant tools that were not previously identified under the 'social inclusion' heading.

## What does the SIP do?

The SIP enables you to build plans for inclusion that draw on the 100+ inclusion activities in the SIP database. Each activity is displayed with a description, a real-life example, and hints and hazards on using it.

## Who's it for?

The SIP is focused on supporting the social inclusion of people with mental health issues or learning disabilities, but is also relevant to other disadvantaged groups. Staff in services with a responsibility to support inclusion are likely to find it particularly useful, but it may also be used by service users to develop their own plans.

## How do I get the SIP?

Go to the NDT Web site - <http://www.ndt.org.uk> - and follow the links to the SIP pages. Here you can download the SIP as a self-installing package, and get more advice and information on using it.

*The SIP has been developed by the National Development Team with support from -*



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## SIP Features

### Browse and build

Plans are created on the planner screen, where all 100+ inclusion activities can be browsed. Ideas for turning these into stages of a plan for inclusion can be jotted on to the Plan Pad, on the same screen, and easily added to the plan.

### Share the knowledge - and don't reinvent the wheel!

Learning from doing - whether about local resources, useful contacts, or lessons from practice - can be shared between people using the same copy of the SIP, via Local Notes.

### Develop and implement several plans in parallel

Achieving inclusion isn't a one-off exercise. So the SIP allows several plans to be recorded for one person, each at different stages.

### Monitor and chase progress

Quick reporting facilities allow you to check progress on all the plans where you're involved, and those where you've missed target dates.

### Monitor the overall pattern of action to promote inclusion

The SIP lets you see the big picture at the click of a button. Are some inclusion activities being under-used? Maybe people need training to use them. Or are there some kinds of activity that don't seem to get results? Perhaps there's a 'blockage' that needs a strategy of its own.

### Let everyone have access who wants it.

Each user of the SIP can be given their own account. This means that each person - service user, support work, manager - will have an appropriate level of access to the plans on the SIP.