

Valuing People **NOW**



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Thank you for everything you have done to make Valuing People Now happen

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Valuing People Now – Main Achievements



Since Valuing People Now was published in January 2009 and endorsed by the Coalition Government in 2010 there have been many positive changes for people with learning disabilities and family carers. There has been more investment by the NHS and Councils, more choice and control in where people live and how they are supported. There is ever more investment of people with learning disabilities and family carers in planning for themselves and in contributing to local, regional and national decision making.

The National Forum and National Valuing Families Forum have made sure the voice of people with learning disabilities and family carers is heard at a national level.

There has been much innovative practice in health, housing and employment and a wealth of advice and best practise has been published to support local commissioners and providers. Much of it is available at <http://www.valuingpeoplenow.dh.gov.uk/>

Here are some of our main achievements.

The National Learning Disability Programme Board and its regional boards are making sure that the work keeps on track; they share good practice and provide a forum for people with learning disabilities, families, carers and delivery partners to discuss progress.

There is now a Learning Disability Partnership Board (made up of NHS and local authority staff) in every area, and people with learning disabilities and family carers have places on these boards. All 152 partnership boards completed annual reports last year and the results were summarised in the Valuing People Now Summary Report

"My life is much brighter now. Valuing People Now has given me the opportunity to share my experiences and encourage others to think positively about their future. I have made new friends at work and through everyone's support, I have become more confident. I would like to see other people with learning disabilities having the same opportunities as I have had."

Shamima Essat
Valuing People Now support assistant,
Leicester Council.

"I like being on the Partnership Board, I now do more things on my own. People ask me to go to meetings to say what I think."

Scott Clower
Self-advocate on the Nottingham City
Partnership Board

"If it hadn't been for Valuing People I wouldn't have been involved in anything as I would have still been in a day centre. I now have a job and I am off benefits and live independently."

Amanda Platts
Co-chair of the National Forum of
people with learning difficulties

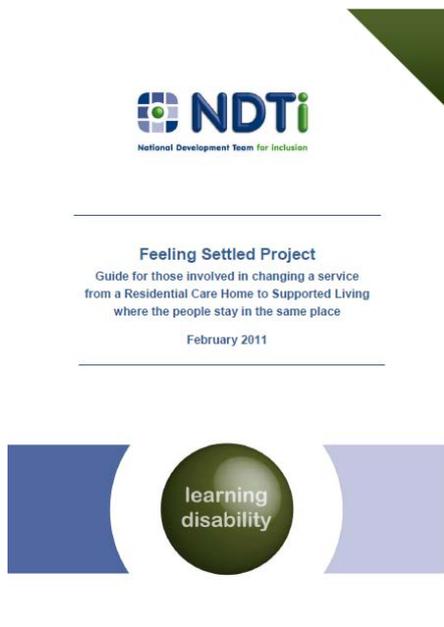
"We come across more and more people, who have jobs, own homes, come and go as they please and live a full life. People just did not used to have all that!"

Joe Mellone
Editor of Our Say Magazine

National Updates

Housing

New Guide Launched to Help Change Services from Residential Care to Supported Living, Improving Choice and Control for People with Learning Disabilities



Feeling Settled is a new guide to moving from residential care to supported living supported by Valuing People Now, the Care Quality Commission and ADASS.

Feeling Settled is for people with learning disabilities and their families who want to increase their rights, choice and control but stay in their own home – with people that they choose to live with and in neighbourhoods where they have friends and connections.

Funded by the Valuing People Now Provider Forum and the Association for Supported Living, and developed by NDTI, it describes how different agencies and people need to be involved and makes sure the person with a learning disability is at the centre of the planning all the time.

Feeling Settled is launched together with the latest guidance from the Care Quality Commission on registration for supported living. It uses case studies and examples to help commissioners and providers to develop real person centred solutions.

You can download your copy at <http://www.valuingpeoplenow.dh.gov.uk/valuing-people-now/housing>

A summary of the guide has also been produced as an 'NDTi Insight' available at the NDTi website at <http://www.ndti.org.uk/publications/ndti-insights/>

Employment

Valuing People Now Employment resources

As part of Valuing People Now employment work, the Department of Health has published new practical tools to help Local Authorities support people with learning disabilities into work and invest in supported employment, which evidence suggests can save money for social care.

The materials include:

- The business case for Local Authorities to support more people with learning disabilities into work and invest in supported employment, which evidence suggests can save money for social care.
- A 'How To' Guide with learning and practical information from the Valuing People Now employment demonstration sites (including Getting A Life, Jobs First and Project Search).
- A guide for Local Authority Commissioners.
- The Government's new best practice guidelines for supported employment and job coaching.

To access the resources please visit:

<http://www.valuingpeoplenow.dh.gov.uk/content/employment-resources-hub>

In May 2011, the employment resource hub is transferring to the British Association of Supported Employment (BASE). From then, the resources can be viewed on the BASE website at <http://base-uk.org/>. Further resources will be made available on the BASE website as they are produced. This is part of the Government's plan to support a shift from central Government to local leadership, where change to achieve the employment aims of *Valuing People Now* is led and driven locally.

Health

Response to Raising Our Sights



Government Response to Raising our sights: services for adults with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities – A report by Professor Jim Mansell

On 10th February 2011 the Department of Health published its response to 'Raising our sights: services for adults with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities', by Professor Jim Mansell (March 2010). Professor Mansell's report responded to concerns raised in the consultation for 'Valuing people now', that needs were not being fully addressed for adults with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities.

The response to Raising Our Sights and the easy read version can be found at

<http://www.valuingpeoplenow.dh.gov.uk/content/launch-response-raising-our-sights>

NEW - Asthma resources for people with learning disabilities

Asthma UK is pleased to tell you that *the All about asthma* materials are now available to order. The resources aim to promote better asthma management by using easy to read language and illustrations to help people with learning disabilities manage their asthma more effectively.

Asthma UK's *All about asthma* pack includes the following which can all be ordered individually:

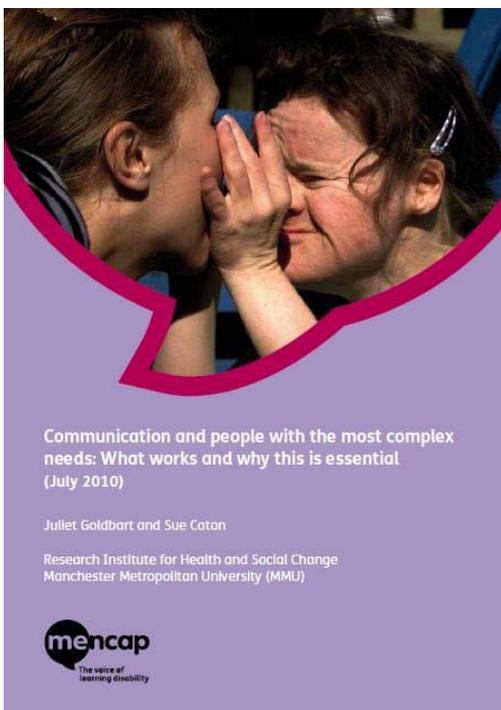
***All about asthma* booklet** - explains what asthma is, the triggers and treatments and how to look after your asthma.

All about asthma - Asthma Attack Card - what to do in the event of an asthma attack.

All about asthma – Inhalers Card – a handy tool to remind people when to take their inhalers, available in both pocket size and A5 size.

These are now ready to order **free** at <http://asthma.org.uk/easytoread> or by contacting our Supporter Care Team on 0800 121 62 55; info@asthma.org.uk <<mailto:info@asthma.org.uk>> .

New guide on communicating with people with the most complex needs



'Communication and people with the most complex needs: What works and why this is essential' was launched recently. This guide was commissioned by Mencap in partnership with the Department of Health, as part of the programme of work set out in Valuing People Now to ensure people with the most complex needs are included. It is written by Professor Juliet Goldbart from Manchester Metropolitan University, an expert in the field of communication and people with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD).

The guide is aimed at commissioners, to support them in commissioning support and services, which meet the communication needs of people with the most complex needs, including people with PMLD. However, it will also be useful for family carers, frontline staff and people with a learning disability.

Celebration Event

On 7th March, the Valuing People Now Team held a celebratory event. This event was held to thank all the people who have given their time and efforts to make Valuing People Now happen, for people with learning disabilities and their families.

The event was attended by members of the Valuing People Now Team, external stakeholders and service users.

David Behan Director General for Social Local Government and Care Partnerships opened the event.

The National Forum and the National Valuing Families Forum gave speeches and spoke about how Valuing People Now has affected their lives and the impact it has made.

The entertainment came courtesy of Lizzie Emeh from 'Heart n Soul'. Lizzie is the first person with a learning disability to release a solo album. She performed two songs including Loud and Proud. Her message to people with learning disabilities is "Let's be loud and proud. Live your life the way you want to!"



Learning Disability Today Exhibition Manchester

On 4th March 2011, the Learning Disability Today exhibition took place at The Point in Manchester.

The event was supported by the Valuing People Now Team and gave delegates an opportunity to hear about our work and progress around our five main areas: employment, housing, health, relationships and well-being.

The day began with a keynote address from Anne and Scott. They spoke about our achievements to date and what will be happening next.

There were three sessions led by Valuing People Now leads on housing, health and employment.

The seminar on relationships and families led by Rachel Mason Consultant of 'Families participation in strategic planning' for learning disability partnership boards in the southwest. It looked at how the effective use of Information Technology is a key element of personalisation and to enabling people with a learning disability to maximise their independence and make sustainable and meaningful links with their peers and the community.

There was also a seminar on advocacy, which discussed the importance of advocacy in facilitating people with learning disabilities to get housing, employment and access to healthcare.

Special Olympics Great Britain -Transforming Lives through Sport

Special Olympics Great Britain offers year-round sports training and competition for adults and children with learning disabilities in England, Scotland and Wales.

As a UK registered charity, Special Olympics GB encourages every individual to become more self-confident, while improving their fitness, health and wellbeing by taking part, training and competing in 23 Olympic-type sports.



Although commonly mistaken for the Paralympics, Special Olympics and Paralympics are two separate organisations. Special Olympics is recognised as the third member of the Olympic family, but it is not just a sporting event, –it is a sporting way of life for all people with learning disabilities between the ages of 6 and 80.

Some things you might like to know:

- There are around 1.2 million adults and children in the UK with learning disabilities and more than 200 babies with these disabilities are born every week.
- Special Olympics Great Britain offers a wide range of sports from athletics to gymnastics and tennis to swimming and football.
- The charity has a busy calendar of local, regional, national, and international sport events happening throughout the year. These competitions are open to the public.
- 46 Special Olympics GB athletes represented their country at the Special Olympics European Summer Games held in September 2010 in Warsaw. The team won an impressive 88 medals, including 39 golds.
- 2011 is the year of the Special Olympics World Summer Games in Athens (24th June-4th July) and Special Olympics GB will send a team of 152 athletes who will compete in 18 different sports.

Special Olympics Great Britain is passionate about the power to transform the lives of people with learning disabilities through sport. It currently has over 130 clubs around the country delivering high quality sport coaching and competition opportunities.

Their main goal is to grow the programme from 8,000 athletes to 12,000 and from 2,600 volunteers to 4,000 by 2013.

Jim Blair Consultant Nurse and Senior Lecturer for Learning Disability at St George's Hospital in London is a Director of Special Olympics GB and Chair of the Health and Well Being Committee, "Athletes gain a significant sense of worth through competing, socialising and achieving personal dreams and ambitions that cannot be easily met through other means".

The Special Olympics GB Health and Well Being Committee, made up of athletes, parents, and senior health professionals from a variety of clinical backgrounds, was set up in February 2011 as an advisory group that will develop health and well being policy and guidance for Special Olympics GB.

An open meeting to highlight and discuss health needs of learning disabled people is being hosted on 11th March at St. George's Hospital Tooting Boardroom 2 Level 2 Hunter Wing 2-4pm. All welcome. Please contact Tel: 020 8725 2155 (Deb Bunyan)

For more information on Special Olympics GB and how to get involved as an athlete, coach, volunteer please visit www.specialolympicsgb.org.uk

A campaigner who has helped countless people with learning disabilities by raising awareness of their needs has received an honour from the Queen.



Alexandra Bell, 58, has been made an MBE for her services to people with learning disabilities in Northamptonshire.

Mrs Bell, of Havelock Street, Kettering, has a mild learning disability, is partially sighted and has two grown-up daughters with learning disabilities.

She is chairman of Kettering Mencap, an organisation she has been involved with for 23 years and sits on the committee of the charity's national board.

Mrs Bell said, "When I found out I couldn't believe it. It took a while for it to sink in, after that I was on cloud nine.

"I just feel passionate – that is what has driven me all of these years.

"People should have a greater understanding of disabled people, not just put them down. They are not able to do what they want. They can't go out at night on their own. It is difficult."

She added "Things are changing slowly but they don't change overnight."

Her work in the community has helped give pupils from Wren Spinney Special School and adults with learning disabilities work opportunities at

The Shop, a sweet shop in Gold Street, Kettering.

She recently stepped down as co-chairman of Northamptonshire Learning Disability Partnership Board after serving on it for eight years.

Charles MacNally, director of health and adult services for Northamptonshire County Council, who was among the team who nominated her, said, "I think it is important people who do tremendous work for the community are recognised and I am extremely pleased for Alex.

"Through her enthusiasm, passion and energy she has served as a role model to many other local people with disabilities, by showing them that they too have much to offer, and by giving them the confidence to come forward and serve their local communities in a similar way."

Regional Valuing People Now Work East Midlands

Housing in the East Midlands



- The Department of Health East Midlands has paid for a team of people called the *Care Services Efficiency Delivery Team* to help all councils in the East Midlands to make sure there are better housing options for people with learning disabilities.
- This has shown that whilst helping more people to live in their own homes, the 9 councils could save over £11 million during the next 5 years.
- A case study of the learning from this work is being put together and will be available in March 2011.
- During 2011 5 Councils will be supported by Bob Stanton to have some further 'tactical' support to move ahead with their local housing plans.
- A further 4 Councils will be supported by the Challenging



Behaviour Foundation to review a small number of people who have complex challenging behaviours and are in very high cost placements.

- Sue Wilson, who will be carrying on providing social care programme support in the East Midlands, will share findings and learning as these projects progress.



Supporting people into Self Employment

- We have provided support together with NHS East Midlands to all localities to develop a MiEnterprise site during 2011.
- This will mean every local area will have developed a community interest company, which will offer membership to people with learning disabilities, autism and mental health needs who would like support to become self employed.
- To find out more about how MiEnterprise works visit www.mienterprise.org.uk or email: jon@mienterprise.org.uk
- To find out what's happening in your local area contact your local employment lead.



NHS Campus closure



- Currently just one person remains in an NHS Campus in the region and it is expected that they will move to their new home by 31 March 2011.
- All areas are continuing with the quality monitoring and the person centred approach and principles used are being applied to review the needs of all individuals currently in funded services.
- The campus network met in early February 2011 to capture the lessons learned through shared reflection. This will be supported by some comprehensive pieces of work being carried out in some areas in the region in terms of quality of life outcomes, sharing the positive and often moving stories that clearly show improved outcomes for people and collated process information to help future commissioning.



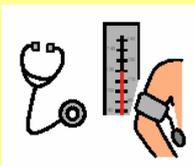
Health update

- The second year of the health self-assessment and performance framework was complete by December 2010.
- It was clear that the process was much more inclusive and

most areas had very good engagement with mainstream health colleagues.



- All areas in the region made good progress in the four top targets.
- Again the process has highlighted several examples of good practice and some of these will be shared at the Better health celebration event to be held on 24th March 2011 at the Walkers Stadium, Leicester (contact Pam Swift pam.swift@nhs.net to book a free place)
- As part of the validation team this year the SHA had a family carer and self advocate, their contribution was enlightening and ensured a more robust process.
- Health Facilitation - There are now 34 health facilitators and acute liaison nurses in the region compared with 6.5 in 2008. As identified in the Six Lives Progress report these posts are central to making sure that mainstream services are responsive in terms of implementing reasonable adjustments and raising awareness of mainstream staff to the possible needs of people with learning disability, and in the East Midlands we are now in a good position.
- Mainstream health event 'Making health services safe and equal for all' 9th March. NHS East Midlands along with the RCN and DH are currently planning an event for mainstream health staff 'Making health services safe and equal for all'. The conference will cover topics such as Mental Capacity Act, Safeguarding Adults self assurance and assessment, Beverley Dawkins will be talking at the event about death by indifference and emphasising that get things right for people with learning disability get it right for everyone.
- Congratulations to Kylie Jarvis, who has been successful in being elected as a governor of Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust. Kylie is vice-chair of Leicestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board, and was voted on in the category of 'member of the public'.



For further details or for more information on health please
Contact: Judi Thorley ✉ judith.thorley@nhs.net

'Fulfilling and rewarding lives'



The strategy for adults with autism in England (2010)

Supporting implementation of the Autism Strategy

- An East Midlands Autism Partnership has been working together to support local areas to implement the autism strategy and meet their statutory responsibilities.
- To find out what the partnership has been doing please visit <http://www.puttingpeoplefirst.org.uk/Regions/EastMidlands/Autism/>

Partnership Board Websites

All 9 partnership boards have active websites with information on there work, meetings and local good practise. Their website addresses are:



- Derby City - www.derby4all.net
- Leicester City - www.ldicn.org.uk
- Leicestershire - www.betterlives.org.uk
- Lincolnshire - www.lincs2life.org.uk
- Northamptonshire - www.northantsldpb.org.uk
- Nottingham City - www.nottinghamcitythewayforward.net
- Nottingham County - www.nottscountypb.org
- Derbyshire County - www.derbyshire.gov.uk/Social_health/services_adults/adults_with_disabilities/dldpb/learning_disability_partnership/default.asp

Farewell and thank you from Helen Mycock



- Helen Mycock's Valuing People programme lead role will end on 31 March 2011.
- Helen would like to say a big thank you to everyone in the East Midlands, particularly to all her colleagues and partnership board members for all their support over the past 4 and half years, and for helping to make so much progress across the East Midlands region. It has been a pleasure to work with such positive and motivated people.

From 1 April 2011 , Sue Wilson will take a lead on social care programmes and should be contacted for any Valuing People Now issues :



telephone



Sue Wilson ☎ 0789429973 📧

E-mail



swilson.gal@northamptonshire.gov.uk



Message from the National Directors

This is our last Valuing People Now newsletter. As we move from a national programme to local leadership which will continue to improve the lives of people with learning disabilities and their family carers.

The Government is committed to delivering the vision of inclusion and equality set out in Valuing People Now and to improving outcomes in the three key areas of health, housing and employment.

The National programme Board will continue and the Department of Health has provided some ongoing funding for the National Forum and the National Valuing Families Forum. There will be a small policy team and continued funding for the Public Health Observatory and the Confidential Inquiry into premature deaths of people with learning disabilities. However, the greatest focus now is on continuing to make Valuing People Now happen for everyone, everywhere. There is still too much variation in health, housing and employment. The role of the Partnership Boards is key and there is a real opportunity to link them to Health and Well Being Boards. Healthwatch is another opportunity to ensure services meet the needs of people with learning disabilities.

Thank you all for everything you have done to make Valuing People Now happen. Keep strong in advocacy groups, in local boards and in supporting individuals and families.



Anne and Scott

We want to hear from you, write to us at:

Department of Health
133-155 Waterloo Road
110 Wellington House
London
SE1 8UG



Everyone agreed for us to use their pictures and information

With thanks to photosymbols