



Learning Disability Services

What we would like to do in the next 5 years

We want to know what you think



This document was written by the **Welsh Government**. It is an easy read version of 'Learning Disability Strategic Action Plan 2021-2026 – Draft for Discussion and Consultation'.

January 2022

How to use this document



This is an easy read document. But you may still need support to read it. Ask someone you know to help you.



Words in **bold blue writing** may be hard to understand. You can check what the words in blue mean on **page 18**.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Where the document says **we**, this means **Welsh Government**. For more information contact:

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This document was made into easy read by **Easy Read Wales** using **Photosymbols**. To tell us what you think about this easy read version, [click here](#).

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What this document is about



This document shows our plans for learning disability **policies** over the next 5 years.

A **policy** is a list of what needs to be done and how it should be done.



The plans should be checked and changed when needed.



We also need to think about the pandemic and how that can affect the plans.



There will also be a review of the plan in **2024**.



There are 9 areas we need to focus on. We will talk more about these in the next section.



We want to know what you think about these plans. Are they the things you would like us to do?



Are there any other plans you think we should also do?

We would like to hear from you and find out what you think. You can let us know by writing to:

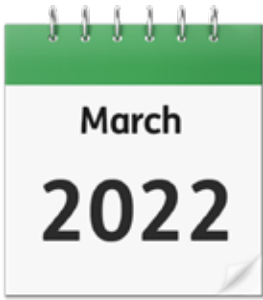


E-mail: Andrew.stevenson@gov.wales



You can also talk or write to the person who sent you a copy of this document.

1. General



We want to make a 5 year plan by **March 2022**.



It needs to make sure the needs of people with a learning disability are met.



To make sure the **Learning Disability Ministerial Advisory Group (LDMAG)** continues to involve people and hear their views.



This group should meet 4 times a year.



To make sure our plans meet the needs of people with a learning disability from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities.



And their carers and families.



To look into making a **Learning Disability Observatory for Wales**.

A **Learning Disability Observatory for Wales** is about looking at information about people with a learning disability to help improve things. For example, information about health.



To improve support by using **Positive Behavioural Support** and **trauma informed care**.

Positive Behavioural Support and **trauma informed care** are ways of supporting people with a learning disability and behaviour issues.



Make sure we all work together to make learning disability services better. This is called **co-production**.

2. COVID and well-being



We want to improve the **well-being** of people with a learning disability in Wales.

Well-being means a person is happy, healthy and is comfortable with their life and what they do.



We would like the group **LDMAG** to help us look into **social prescribing**.

Social prescribing is when doctors and other staff refer people to services in the community to help improve their **well-being**. For example, going to the gym or joining a class.



We would like the local authorities to offer activities to young people with a learning disability to help improve their **well-being**.



We need to make sure that any Welsh Government plans about COVID include people with a learning disability.

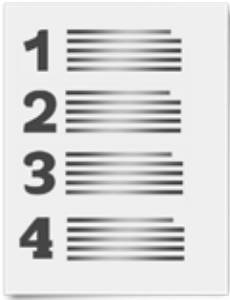


We need to work together to think about the effects COVID has had on people.



We need to make sure there are plans to support people through COVID.

3. Health and Social Care



We need to put in place the things decided from the review called **'Improving Care – Improving Lives'** about **Adult Specialised Services** in 2020.



We need to set up a group with people from across Wales who will check that work takes place. This is to do with support for people who need extra special support.



We need to support people before things become too difficult.



Make sure people have access to good support as close to home as possible.



Support people to return home when possible.



Make sure there is more secure support in Wales.



Make sure any deaths of someone with a learning disability are reviewed by a new service called **Mortality Review and Medical Examiner Service (MES)**.



Make sure we understand the reasons why people die so we can improve services.



We want to give a training programme to staff who work in healthcare services.



This will help make sure health services meet the needs of people with a learning disability better.



Make sure there are good health and safety plans in place for people with a learning disability in health services.



We need to improve GP records. And help make sure people get health checks.



Everyone needs to have a **Health Action Plan**.



These should help improve people's health and reduce deaths.



We need to work with the organisation **Improvement Cymru** to improve the health of people with a learning disability.



Work to help stop people being lonely.



We need to improve access to day services, **respite** services and short breaks.

Respite services are breaks to help give the person and their carer some time off.



We need to make sure there is more support for unpaid carers. Including looking at how to make sure they can get a break.



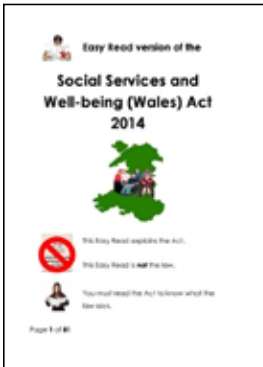
We need to make sure the needs of carers are met.



We need to improve how Direct Payments are used.



We need to provide more support to parents with a learning disability.



We need to carry out a review of the law called the **Social Services and Well-being Wales Act 2014** to make sure people get the services and help they need.



We need to ask the **LDMAG** group to be involved in this work.



We need to make sure staff who work in social care have the right training.

4. Advocacy, self-advocacy, engagement and collaboration



We want to make sure people have a say, make their own choices and have control over their lives.

5. Education and young people



We want to improve the services for children and young people with a learning disability.

6. Employment and skills



We want to improve the support available for people to get training and paid jobs.

7. Housing



Regional Partnership Boards need to make sure they get the views of people with a learning disability before making decisions.



And people with a learning disability are fully involved with their work.



Regional Partnership Boards are councils, health services and other organisations working together to make sure health and social care services are run well.



People also need to be fully involved in having a say about how funding is spent.



People need to have more choice and control over where they live and who with.

8. Transport



People with a learning disability need to have better access to public transport.



For example, bus timetables need to be available in an easy to read way.



These plans should help ensure people get to use community services more.

Hard words

Learning Disability Observatory for Wales

Learning Disability Observatory for Wales is about looking at information about people with a learning disability to help improve things. For example, information about health.

Policy

A policy is a list of what needs to be done and how it should be done.

Positive Behavioural Support and trauma informed care

These are ways of supporting people with a learning disability and behaviour issues.

Regional Partnership Boards

These are councils, health services and other organisations working together to make sure health and social care services are run well.

Respite

Respite services are breaks to help give the person and their carer some time off.

Social prescribing

Social prescribing is when doctors and other staff refer people to services in the community to help improve their well-being. For example, going to the gym or joining a class.

Well-being

Well-being means a person is happy, healthy and is comfortable with their life and what they do.