

Housing and support plan for people with learning disabilities 2007-2010



Written for the Wandsworth Learning Disability
Partnership Board

October 2007

What is in this plan?

1. Introduction
2. What is the aim of this plan?
3. The views of people with learning disabilities
4. Housing and support today
5. Housing and support in the future
6. What are we going to do and when?

If you would like a copy of the more detailed Housing and Support Plan background paper, or would like further information, please contact

Alastair Bearne
Wandsworth Adult Services
Telephone: 020 8871 8130
Email: abearne@Wandsworth.gov.uk

1. Introduction

This plan sets out what will happen in the next two years to improve housing and support services for people with learning disabilities in Wandsworth. A central aim is that people have more choice in their lives, and having a good place to live (housing) is a key part of this. This plan also takes account of national policies and trends. After this introduction, there are five other sections to this plan:

The 2nd section describes the vision and sets out some key principles and values.

The 3rd section says what housing and support services will look like in the future, and how this will improve the lives of people with learning disabilities. **These are our aims.**

The 4th section says what people with learning disabilities have told us about local housing and support services, and what they want in the future.

The 5th section says what housing and support services are available today, where people with learning disabilities are currently living and what their needs are. This is called **housing need**. Having information about today's housing need helps us to understand what housing and support will be needed in the future.

The 6th section looks at what housing and support will be needed in the future.

The 7th section lists what we achieved in 2003-2007

The last section of the plan says what action will be taken, who will do it and when, and what will change as a result. This is called an **action plan**. The actions are based on the **aims** on pages 8 & 9.

Moving Towards 2012 in Wandsworth



2. What is the vision?

The previous page illustrates the main themes in the overall vision.

Valuing People is the influential paper written by the Department of Health in 2001. The key ideas described in Valuing People have guided the aims of this plan described in the next section. Since 2001, many other specific reports and policies have followed on with related principles.

For example, the Green Paper 'Independence, Well-being and Choice', published by the Department of Health in 2005, describes the vision for adult social care as: 'Our starting point is the principle that everyone in society has a positive contribution to make to that society and that they should have a right to control their own lives. Our vision is to ensure that these values will drive the way we provide social care.'

Self-Directed Support refers both to the personalised provision of services through people taking control of their own support and to the whole systems reforms that are required to achieve this. To enable self-directed support there has to be clear personalised information based on person-centred processes, that is informed by clinical assessments (by for example, therapist, nurses or social workers), and with budgets that are individualised for each person.

Putting people in control, with support to make choices is at the heart of this approach. Our plan is to increase the range of choices so that people can have a good place to live locally. There will be more individually tailored accommodation and support, and we intend to promote mixed communities avoiding large buildings solely for people with learning disability. Additionally, creating separate arrangements for housing and for support will allow more individual choice and control.

Many people need accessible or adapted accommodation. Evaluating housing and related care and support needs of people with a learning disability requires assessment of individual needs but also awareness of wider complexities. The property needs to

help overcome any physical or sensory disability; one in three people with a learning disability have a sensory impairment. Physical disability, cerebral palsy or other impairments of movement occur in 20-30% of people with severe learning disability. Up to 40% of people with a learning disability are likely to experience mental health problems. There is a higher incidence of early onset dementia. Some people can make heavy demands on buildings, which need to be suitable for the use they will get; which consequently need careful design and specification. Partnerships will be fostered strategically between social care, health, housing and providers. This should involve, at all levels, people with a learning disability and their families. At the individual level, networks and partnerships should be being built in order to enable the person to live independently, to access local resources and services, and to determine how their support needs are best met.

The policy context

In planning both strategically and on an individual level there a number of key government policy documents and strategies to take into account. These include:

- Valuing People White Paper (DH 2001)
- Supporting People (Department of Communities and Local Government 2003)
- Improving the life chances of disabled people (Prime Minister's Strategy Unit 2005)
- Building Telecare in England (DH 2005)
- Creating Sustainable Communities: Supporting Independence (ODPM 2005)
- Our health, our care, our say: a new direction for community services (DH 2006)
- Investing in Independence: Housing for Vulnerable People Strategy (Housing Corporation 2007)

Details of policies and the implications for housing for people with a learning disability are contained in the accompanying Housing Learning & Improvement Network policy briefing 'Learning Disability and Housing' under "Briefings" at www.cat.csip.org.uk/housing.

Exploring options for housing

Nationally, the majority of people with a learning disability are supported by relatives in their own homes, but a wide range of different types of housing and support choices have been developed. Extending the range of options and the range of housing and support providers will increase choices locally.

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Some different types of Tenure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full ownership/inheritance• Shared ownership• Homebuy• Trust Ownership• Joint Ownership• Renting from a council or housing association• Renting from a charity or voluntary organisation• Renting privately• Renting from parents or relatives• Lodger | <p>Some types of housing with support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Registered care home• Group home• Supported Housing• Locality Networks• Extra Care• Sheltered Housing• Adult Placement Scheme |
| <p>Some support options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal assistant• Support tenant• Community Support volunteer• Outreach or floating support• Learning independent skills• Culturally appropriate support• Support for health needs• Advocacy• Circle of support• Informal support from family, friends and neighbours• Assistive technology• Domiciliary support• Social Support Scheme• Good neighbour• Meals delivered | |

Taken from: Enhancing Housing Choices for People with a learning disability CSIP November 2006

3. What is the aim of this plan?

This plan is based on the four **key ideas** in Valuing People. Valuing People is the Government's 10 year plan for services for people with learning disabilities. Valuing People said that every person with a learning disability should:

Have the same choices as everybody else;

Be able to maximise their independence;

Be included in their community;

Have their human and legal rights respected.

The **key ideas** behind this housing and support plan are similar to the four key ideas of Valuing People;

1. People with learning disabilities should have the same choices as other people about where and how they live.
2. People with learning disabilities should be able to maximise their independence.
3. Carers should have the support they need.
4. Housing and support services should be person centred and tailored to the individual needs and preferences of people with learning disabilities.

The **aims** of this plan follow from these four ideas. They are

1. To ensure there is enough choice of good local community housing and support services for people with learning disabilities in response to person-centred processes. .
2. To ensure there is good accommodation with care and support for people with learning disabilities, including for people with complex and profound learning disabilities, young people with learning disabilities, older people with learning disabilities and people currently living in hospital.
3. To make sure there is good, accessible advice and personalised support to help people with learning disabilities and their carers plan for their future housing needs and build on person-centered processes.
4. To continue to develop the partnership between people with learning disabilities, carers and providers of housing and support services.
5. To improve information about all local housing and support, so that people with learning disabilities and carers can make informed and creative choices and professionals can support them more effectively.
6. To ensure housing and support services are person centred and tailored to the individual needs and preferences of people with learning disabilities.

These **aims** are linked to the **action plan** in section 7. These aims and progress with the action plan will be reviewed each year by the Learning Disability Partnership Board.

4. The views of people with learning disabilities

Every person has their own personal point of view about where they would like to live. During 2006, an independent organisation called Paradigm met many people, carers and staff. Their **Strategic Review of Services for People with Learning Disabilities in Wandsworth was finished in October 2006. This says that ‘People want their own home, in neighbourhoods which they know, living with people whom they want and being supported by the support staff they choose.**

Many people with learning disabilities have told us what they think about local housing and support services.

People who want to move home do not know what the options are. People with learning disabilities and carers want good, accessible information and better advice on what housing choices there are.

Support staff and social workers do not always have the time to talk about moving home and help people make plans for the future.

Parents will not always want us to move out.

People with learning disabilities want to be able to choose who they live with, e.g. friends or partners. They do not want to be thrown in with other people just because they all have disabilities.

People with learning disabilities want to choose their support wherever they live. This means good, flexible support in the community so people do not have to live in care homes.

There are people with learning disabilities who are happy with where they are living, but this does not mean they do not want to move home at some time in the future.

Valuing People contained a commitment to carry out a national survey of people with learning disabilities. This demonstrated that people with a learning disability often have little control over their lives:

64% people in supported accommodation had no choice over either whom they lived with or where they lived.

- 39% did not have enough privacy.
- 54% said someone else decided how much money they could spend each week.

12% said someone else decided what they could spend their money on.

It also found that people with a learning disability have few opportunities to be independent:

- 50% of all adults with a learning disability were still living with their parents; 12% were living with other relatives; 7% were living either on their own or with partners.
- 10% of people with a learning disability living in private households helped care for another adult who was elderly, ill or had a disability.

5. Housing and support today

Residential and nursing care homes:

There are 238 long term places and 19 respite and emergency places in residential care homes and 2 places in a nursing home that are registered for people with a learning disability, in Wandsworth:

381 people are living in a residential or nursing home, **166** of these people are in homes outside of the borough, where Wandsworth has responsibility.

54 places in Wandsworth are registered for people with learning disabilities who also have a physical disability. **34** places are specifically registered for people who are also over 65 years old.

Some of these places are in homes that the government says are too big. There are also some people who are in residential care homes who could live more independently and some people whose care home is not ideally suited to their needs, for example because of stairs or inadequate space.

Housing and support in the community:

There are currently **105** community housing places designated to support people with learning disability to live in the community:

Knowing where are people living today helps us to understand how things might change in the future. **We know that:**

105 people have tenancies and live in supported group homes or flats supported by Odyssey, Metropolitan/Threshold, KeyRing, Lifeways or Mencap.

23 people live in supported housing where there is sleep-in support

22 people live in supported housing where there support at night can be called.

60 people live support schemes where support is available during the day.

About **245** people with learning disabilities are living in the family home, being supported by members of their family (LD Register 2003).

Another **60** people are living with a family under the Social Services Adult Placement Scheme, and another 8 people are supported by respite with an APS family.

14 people are still living in Orchard Hill long stay hospital.

92 people are living in their own homes with floating support funded by Supporting People. Additionally, Adult Social Services funds community support for **115** people living in their own homes or with their families.

There are also people who live in mainstream housing services such as sheltered housing or live in the community with their own networks.

6. Housing and support in the future

More housing and support will be needed in the future. **How do we know this?**

The total number of adults with learning disabilities will increase slowly (estimated from about **1088** in 2003, to **1133** in 2008 and **1185** in 2013).

In 2003, the Learning Disability register showed that there were at least **60** people with learning disabilities living in the family home where the main carer is aged 70 or older.

In 2003, about **130** people with learning disabilities aged between **12** and **17** were being looked after in the family home, some of whom would need housing when they leave school or go to college.

Supported living is becoming the model of choice across the UK. Some specialist residential and nursing home care will also be needed in the future. **How do we know this?**

Community team data

In 2006, a snapshot survey of professionals within the Community Learning Disability Team identified 21 people who needed a change of accommodation. There were 19 men and 2 women aged from 17 to 63 in this group. It was thought that 11 people would need a level of support provided by care homes or equivalent 24 hour support packages and that 10 people needed supported housing with daily or weekly support. However, there was a very wide range of individual needs and preferences so that some people need wheelchair accessible accommodation, some need specialist support with mental health problems, or with autism, or with personal care. Different people wanted to live in different parts of Wandsworth, either to maintain links with family or friends or to be able to access work, groups or support services. This survey demonstrated that, as far as possible, there can only be an individually arranged change of accommodation and support.

Transitions data

In 2007, a snapshot of young people with learning disability aged 17 identified 17 people with complex needs including six with severe learning disability. Medical conditions include severe sensory impairments, autistic spectrum disorder, and severe epilepsy. Most people will need to attend a residential college, and have respite care in Wandsworth in holidays. Others are likely to need extensive support to stay with their family or to need specialist residential care.

Revenue Funding

Funding for accommodation, care or support comes from many sources. Historically, the largest amounts are provided by Adults Social Services and by the NHS or local Primary Care Trust. This funding is needed to support people with the most complex needs and profound disabilities. Other nationally arranged funding is available to fund or part-fund types of independent and supported living. For example in 2006-08, the Housing Corporation will have invested £385 million in housing for vulnerable people. It makes sense to make as much use of national funding as possible.

| | |
|---|--|
| The Housing Corporation funds new affordable housing and regulates housing associations in England. | Grants are available for housing associations to purchase and renovate local properties. |
| Housing Benefit | Rent, including eligible service charges such as communal heating |
| Council Tax Benefit | Council Tax |
| Income Support and Premiums | Daily living expenses |
| Incapacity Benefit | Part of income support for people unable to work because of illness or disability |
| Disability Living Allowance (under 65) | Care component (3 levels) Mobility component (2 levels) |
| Attendance Allowance (65 or over) | Personal care (2 levels) |
| Independent living Fund (16-65) | Care/support up to £455 pw, subject to specific criteria. Must be on high rate DLA. |
| Supporting People Grants | Funds supported housing, which provides for vulnerable people needing both housing and support |

Adapted from Enhancing Housing Choices for people with a Learning Disability CSIP 2006

What we achieved in 2003-2007

- We commissioned services to support individual people to live independently by improving money skills, travel skills, communication and confidence, from local organisations including OST, Generate, Threshold and Baked Bean Theatre Company.
- We have set up a transitions service to help young people make the move into adulthood with support to assist with further education, housing, training or employment.
- We worked with the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) who monitor the standard of residential and nursing homes. CSCI have set 43 specific standards, and inspectors look at most of these at each inspection. Between April 2006 and April 2007, CSCI carried out 51 inspections with at least one inspection of 27 specialist care homes registered for adults with learning disability. Overall across all the homes, the scoring of inspection outcomes was that 601 specific standards were met, 170 were almost met, 4 were exceeded and 1 was not met.
- We commissioned two new care homes at Terrapin Road and Laetus Lodge which can provide specialist residential care for 15 people.
- We have tried to arrange that the housing and support needs of each person with learning disabilities known to the council living in residential care are reviewed every 1-2 years.
- We reviewed supported housing services for people with learning disabilities. Reviews are now carried out every three years as part of the Supporting People Strategy.
- We arranged for service users to be trained as evaluators for our Supporting People service reviews, three of whom are from supported housing services for people with learning disability, and they have done this for the past year.

- Supporting people team have created a forum for tenants .
- Supporting people team set up a providers forum to improve communication between social services and housing and support providers.
- We have set up a multi-agency 'My Life' Working group to develop knowledge and skills in individual planning.
- We published "Moving Home", a booklet to help for people with learning disabilities who are thinking about moving home.
- We produced a Housing and Support Plan for people with learning disabilities In December 2003. It set out how housing and support services will be improved in the coming years.
- We set up a Housing sub-group that meets every 6 months. It discusses housing issues and includes housing providers, council officers and service users and carers.
- We have employed a new Commissioning Officer who will maximise housing and support opportunities for people with learning disabilities.
- We helped the Partnership Board to be more accessible to service users by holding more meetings in the evenings, and by setting up a parallel board to create more service user involvement .

8. What are we going to do and when?

| This is what we plan to do | By who? | By when? |
|---|---|-------------------|
| To develop a system to introduce individualised budgets, to give people with learning disabilities more control and choices over where to live and who provides support. | Adult Social Services 'In Control' project | 2006 onwards |
| Enable and support people with learning disabilities to develop and implement their own person centred plans | PCP Implementation Group | On going |
| To develop partnerships with voluntary, private and statutory organisations to increase the choice and availability of community housing for rent or shared ownership & develop more individually tailored housing options. | Adult Social Services, Housing Department & Housing Providers | Ongoing |
| To increase choice for people with learning disability by separating arrangements for accommodation and for support. | Adult Social Services | From 2007 |
| To use an approved list system for care homes, domiciliary and community support organisations in order to facilitate future local developments and improve and monitor quality. | Adult Social Services | April 2008 |
| Review the procedures for Adult Social Services nominations for local housing to the Housing Department, to make as efficient as possible. | Housing and Adult Social Services | December 2007 |
| Ensure there are enough, good quality, floating support services for people with learning disabilities. Review Supporting People floating support provision. | Adult Social Services and Housing | During 2007/2008. |
| To establish a Supporting People Service User Forum | Adult Social Services | July 2007 |
| Fund for one year for a dedicated worker to support people with learning disabilities who want to be more independent to move to supported living from family or care homes. | Adult Social Services | Summer 2007 |
| Continue to explore options for "reconfiguration" (or changing the way care is provided) with local service providers to increase supported living tenancies and to ensure specialist support. | Adult Social Services and care home providers | On going |

| This is what we plan to do | By who? | By when? |
|---|--|--|
| To work with residents of one large care home together with families, staff, and community team staff to look for suitable alternative accommodation and support. | Adult Social Services, PCT and care providers | End 2008 |
| Find alternative housing and support options for people living in Orchard Hill hospital. | Wandsworth, PCT and Wandsworth Council | On going |
| To convert an existing property in Putney into 8 supported living flats, with on-site support, for adults with learning or physical disability. | Adult Social Services, Housing Department & Servite Houses | Bid for Housing Corporation funding for 2008/2010 cycle. |
| To work in partnership with Peabody Trust to include 12 supported living flats and space for community support in their developments in Clapham Junction Estate. | Adult Social Services, Housing Department & Peabody Trust | 2011 - 2015 |
| Increase the options for people with learning disability aged over 55 to move to mainstream sheltered housing or for over 60's to move to extra care housing being created in Arabella Drive, Roehampton. | Housing and Adult Social Services | Summer 2008 |
| To promote the use of assistive technology / telecare in helping people live more independently | Adult Social Services, Housing Department | 2007 onwards |
| To work together to raise standards in registered care homes, demonstrated by increasing the proportion of 'excellent' outcomes and reducing the 'almost met' outcomes. | Adult Social Services, PCT and care providers | 2007 onwards |
| To work with six neighbouring Boroughs to share qualitative and financial information about care homes and to collaborate on new specialist services for people with very complex needs. | Adult Social Services | 2007 onwards |
| To review high cost placements that are out of South West London to see whether local services can be developed. | Adult Social Services | 2007 onwards |
| To ensure that in future placements outside SW London are only made when local services cannot be commissioned. | Adult Social Services | 2007 onwards |

| This is what we plan to do | By who? | By when? |
|---|---|------------------|
| Except for emergencies, placements to registered care homes will only be made when supported by the outcome of person-centered planning processes. | Adult Social Services | From ? |
| To develop more choices for respite care. | Adult Social Services | 2007 onwards |
| Work closely with care home providers to ensure good specialist homes are available and that residents in care homes who can live more independently and become tenants are identified and supported to do so. | Adult Social Services and Care Home providers. | From Summer 2007 |
| Ensure that information is available about all housing options, care home vacancies and future developments. | Commissioning Officer, Adult Social Services | 2007 onwards |
| To use the www.MyLifeMyWorld.info website that is being created to promote communication and share information about all support and housing options in Wandsworth for people with learning disabilities. | Learning Disability Partnership Board | Summer 2007 |
| To use the Housing Department website to make information more available. http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/Home/CommunityServices/Housing/default.htm | Housing Department and Adult Social Services | 2007 onwards |
| To extend training about person-centered thinking so as to promote more person-centered planning and outcomes. | Adult Social Services and independent sector | Ongoing |
| Encourage supported housing organisations and registered care homes to be involved in multi-agency training strategy in Wandsworth. | Adult Social Services | From Summer 2007 |
| Improve the collection of information about current and future housing needs. Review the use of the Learning Disability Register to do this. | Adult social Services, WPCT and other organisations | By April 2008 |
| Publish a housing policy statement for people with learning disabilities. | Housing Committee | January 2008 |