



Learning Disability Professional Senate

**Update on the Learning Disability  
Professional Senate – March 2017**

# What is the Learning Disability Professional Senate?

- The aim of the Learning Disability Professional Senate is to provide a single voice through which we can lead and inform NHS England, Department of Health and other strategy leads about the needs of children and adults with learning disabilities.
- It brings together professional leaders from across the UK, to provide a collective voice of specialist health and social care practitioners. The Senate provides cross-professional collaboration, strategic advice and innovation to develop both mainstream and specialist services for children and adults with learning disabilities.
- The Senate recognises and works with the range of professionals working with children and adults with learning disabilities to champion inter-agency, multi-disciplinary, holistic approaches.

# Transforming Care Programme

- The LD Professional Senate has worked closely with NHS England on the development of the Service Model. This incorporates the work that the Senate published on 'Delivering Effective Specialist Community Learning Disabilities Health Team Support to People with Learning Disabilities and their Families or Carers'. We have worked to assist in the development of service specifications for commissioners which are now published.
- We have also worked with NHS England on pathways for Children and Young People, and have contributed to the Dame Christine Lenehan, Director, Council for Disabled Children, review for the Department of Health to improve the co-ordination of care, support and treatment provided to children and young people with complex needs (and behaviour that challenges) involving learning difficulties (including autistic spectrum condition) and mental health problems.
- We have worked with NHS England to look at Standards and Key Performance Indicators for Assessment and Treatment Units that promote efficiency and consistency across Units – this is now being disseminated to commissioners, professionals and providers.

# STOMP LD – Stopping Overmedication of people with learning disabilities

- The LD Senate are committed to supporting this initiative.
- This is about fundamentally rethinking the role of psychotropic drugs for the management of behaviours that challenge in learning disabilities.
- We fully endorse that it is the role of all professions to challenge medication issues and to provide alternative psychological and other therapeutic interventions for behaviours that challenge.

# CTRs

- The Senate fully endorses the importance of professionals being involved in CTRs for people both pre admission and when a person with a learning disability is in an inpatient unit.
- We encourage our professionals to act as clinical independent advisors to ensure that care plans meet people's needs.
- Updated policy, toolkit etc published this week

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/learning-disabilities/ctr/ctr-policy-changes/>

# Senate outputs

## Challenging Behaviour: A Unified Approach – update

- This is a revised and updated clinical and service guideline for supporting children, young people and adults with learning disabilities who are at risk of receiving abusive or restrictive practice. It is a brief, user-friendly 'how to' guide that is easy to use and has an up-to-date reference list of additional resources. It outlines
  - Background and purpose
  - Values and definitions
  - Roles, skills and responsibilities
  - Multi-disciplinary working
  - Working with Commissioners

# Outcomes – A Rights and Equality Based Approach

- We have produced this document to help professionals choose and develop appropriate outcome measures to use in everyday practice.
- By taking a Rights and Equality based approach to measuring outcomes for individuals with learning disabilities, and using it as a set of core principles in the delivery of health and social care services, there is the potential to establish services which are truly person centred.
- This approach will also effectively address sociological issues of attitudes and discrimination. It will ensure high quality services for individuals with inequalities minimised.
- A Rights and Equality based approach will not just ensure that outcomes are achieved without violation of any rights but it also ensures that the outcomes achieved are appropriate for individuals and their families.
- Can find it on Faculty resources page

# Standards and KPIs for Assessment and Treatment Units

- We were asked by NHS England to look at Standards and Key Performance Indicators for Assessment and Treatment Units that promote efficiency and consistency across Units
- This is now being disseminated to commissioners, professionals and providers.



## Briefing papers

- Each of the main professional groups that make up the LD Professional Senate have produced Briefing Papers specifying the role that their professionals are expected to take in implementing the Service Model, and these are now being sent to each of the Transforming Care Partnerships.

# Connections to local services

- Key area of concern for all professional bodies
- Need to ensure that frontline staff are connected to the agenda
- For psychology – information is disseminated via regional SIG convenors.
- Need to support other staff to connect with their reps on the Senate
- NHS England want to engage to work with us re culture and engagement

# Key contacts

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