

What is it?

Department of Health & Social Care – Open letter dated 30th January 2019

Mental Capacity (Amendment) Bill

<http://bit.ly/2GdMHJY>

Iriss - Participation: its impact on services and the people who use them

Key points:

- Participation is a priority in many health and social care policies which encourages practice to encompass consultation, engagement, co-design and co-production
- There is evidence that projects and services which use co-production methods, such as co-delivery of services, are beneficial for people
- People who use services make valuable contributions to the design and delivery of health and social care
- There is still a need for more evidence on costs savings, social return on investment and impact on health and wellbeing, developed and delivered through participation
- The long-term effects of participation, particularly indirect effects, can be difficult to measure and attribute to participation approaches
- Key implications for practice: participation approaches such as co-design and delivery of training and more formalised roles must be prioritised to encourage an assets-based approach in everyday practice
- Evaluation of participation should consider the impact on the people who use services which have been developed through participation

Read more <http://bit.ly/2ta8FFq>

Choice Support – Supported Loving

For people with a learning disability, finding love is often more than just chemistry – it can come down to getting the right support from your staff.

What is it?

Supported Loving is a campaign set up by Choice Support to highlight the importance of good support in helping people with learning disabilities find love.

Research shows that, like everyone else, people with learning disabilities want a loving relationship with a partner. Yet in the UK just 3% of people with learning disabilities live as part of a couple, compared to 70% of the general population.

Read more here <http://bit.ly/2WGrBZP>



www.parliament.uk **Online abuse law not fit for purpose**

The Petitions Committee publishes its report "Online abuse and the experience of disabled people", revealing the extreme level of abuse that disabled people receive online.

- [Read our report](#)
- [Read the report conclusions and recommendations](#)

The disabled people who took part in the inquiry were enthusiastic users of social media, but many were driven from online platforms while their "abusers went unchecked." <http://bit.ly/2DcrV9v>

GOV.UK - Support visits if you need help to claim benefits

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Visiting Team can visit you at home to help you with your benefit claim.

You cannot book a visit yourself. Tell DWP you need help to claim benefits and, if you're eligible, they'll arrange a support visit. You can also be referred for a support visit by a charitable organisation like Citizens Advice or Age UK.

Support visits can take place somewhere other than your home, for example at a hospital. This will usually be discussed with you when you're referred.

Find out more here: <http://bit.ly/2HXb00j>

Children and Young People

Special Needs Jungle (SNJ) – parent led information and resources

The SENCo – parent relationship: Making it work to benefit the SEND child

SNJ is read by lots of SENCos and other school staff, which is pretty amazing, considering it started out as a blog by parents for parents. Of course, the advice

Children and Young People

that's on here is actually just as useful for schools who want information in an easy-to-digest format.

Today's post is about the SENCo-parent dynamic and has advice for each to help you develop a good working relationship to benefit the person who matters the most: the child. <http://bit.ly/2MYoAQ9>

Resources and other bulletins

Think Local Act Personal (TLAP) response to the Universal Personalised Care – Implementing the Comprehensive Model

Clenton Farquharson MBE, Chair of the TLAP Board says,

"I applaud the aspiration of the Universal Personalised Care Comprehensive Model. It demonstrates the NHS's shift to a more personalised approach to health where people with long-term and mental health conditions can rightfully expect support which fits around the context of their lives, rather than patients to be solely diagnosed and treated." <http://bit.ly/2GpGI3T>

SCIE Person-centred future planning

A quick guide for practitioners supporting people growing older with a learning disability. Thinking about the future is an important aspect of person-centred planning, which should aim to build on the person's strengths and skills, and help them consider what they want most in life as they get older.

<http://bit.ly/2MSK808>

Disability Rights UK - Legacy benefits and universal credit

Universal credit has now been fully rolled out and you cannot normally make a claim for these benefits, known as legacy benefits:

- child tax credit
- housing benefit
- income-related employment and support allowance
- income-based jobseeker's allowance
- income support
- working tax credit

You must claim [universal credit](#) instead. For more information

<http://bit.ly/2SeVFNg>

Workshops, webinars and training

NHS England - Preventing deaths in people with a learning disability

20 March 2019 10:00am – 4:00pm in Manchester

Translating learning into action from mortality reviews to improve health and care outcomes and save lives.

This event aims to provide an excellent learning and networking opportunity for people with an interest in ensuring high quality health and care services for people with a learning disability. Find out more <http://bit.ly/2DWYuKh>

Blogs

Russell Webster - Criminal Justice & substance misuse expert and author of this blog.

Everything you need to know about secure units

A new NHS England [report](#) summarises the findings of the first (scoping) stage of a service evaluation, evaluating the provision of secure services for detained young people, under 18 years of age, from England, between February and September 2016. This involved identifying every secure unit in Great Britain that could detain young people from England and establishing the basic characteristics of each unit, in order to identify similarities and differences between them, prior to further exploration in the later stages of the study.

<http://bit.ly/2Dd0wV7>

Martin Webbers Blog - Is social prescribing the solution?

[NHS England has announced that it is creating an 'army' of social prescribing link workers to work in primary care as part of the \[NHS Long Term Plan\]\(#\). Their role will be to connect people with a variety of health needs to alternative non-medical sources of support within their local community.](#)

There is growing evidence of the effectiveness of social prescribing, though we are still a long way from definitive studies. <http://bit.ly/2MSXyto>