

What is it?

British Association of Social Workers (BASW) - The Capabilities for Social Work with Adults who have Learning Disability

This Capabilities Statement for Social Workers Working with Adults with Learning Disability (the Capabilities Statement) has been commissioned by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) for England and developed by the British Association of Social Workers (BASW) with input from Research in Practice for Adults (RiPFA). It is landmark guidance filling a longstanding gap in this vital field of social work.

Read it here <https://bit.ly/2Nsb3UB>

Next steps on the Long Term Plan

In January, NHS England committed to publish an implementation framework for NHS Long Term Plan, setting out further detail on how the commitments in that document will be delivered. The framework has been published and can be found here at <https://www.longtermplan.nhs.uk/implementation-framework/>

Following on from commitments in the Long-Term Plan and the LeDeR: Learning from Action report NHS England are working with the Primary care team to:

- improve the uptake of annual health checks and flu vaccinations for people with a learning disability,
- improve the quality of registers for people with a learning disability
- working with GPC to introduce a QOF Quality Improvement module for learning disability in 2020/21.

More information about the Long Term plan can be found here at www.longtermplan.nhs.uk

Care Quality Commission Thematic Review of Restrictive Practices, Seclusion and Segregation: Written statement - HCWS1569

Made by: [Caroline Dinenege](#) (Minister of State for Care)

What is it?

The Government has made improving the care and treatment of autistic people and people with a learning disability a priority. Society is rightly judged on the way it treats its most vulnerable citizens.

In November 2018, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care made a statement to the House of Commons following the reporting of the case of Bethany, a young autistic woman who was held in seclusion in hospital for too long.

Like everyone across the House, I have been moved by these individual cases and personal stories. I do not believe this is just about a few individual cases where things went wrong; this is about a system. A system across health, education, social care and criminal justice that needs to change.

Read more here at <https://bit.ly/2JyjZVQ>

New Blue Badge rules in England to come into force on 30 August 2019

Last year [the government announced its intention to expand the blue badge rules in England](#) to make it easier for people with hidden disabilities such as autism to qualify. However, no date was provided for these new rules coming into force.

Now the government has published regulations confirming that these new rules will start to apply from the 30 August 2019.

<https://bit.ly/2PTRPoG>

Children and Young People

GOV.UK Guidance

Reducing the need for restraint and restrictive intervention

How to support children and young people with learning disabilities, autistic spectrum conditions and mental health difficulties who are at risk of restrictive intervention <https://bit.ly/2KPNfId>

NSPCC - Love Life: resources for young people with learning disabilities

Helping young people explore topics such as emotions, relationships and identity. The films and supporting resources are aimed at young people aged 11 to 25 to help them learn strategies for staying safe as they grow up and gain independence.

<https://bit.ly/326FrHm>

Resources and other bulletins

Poo matters – information for families and carers

Some people with a learning disability are more at risk of constipation than the general population. Reviews into the deaths of people with a learning disability have shown us that too many people are dying from constipation. We have developed this leaflet to help families and carers of people with a learning disability know the signs of constipation and what to do if you think someone is constipated.

You can download the leaflet here: <https://bit.ly/2YX90Jh>

Skills for Care - Learning disability and mental health

People with a learning disability can be more likely to experience poor mental health. We've developed free resources to help adult social care staff talk to people about their everyday mental health, and enable them to get the support they need.

Find all the resources here at <https://bit.ly/2XWxr9E>

Centre for Disability Research - Accessible Summary: Women with learning disabilities living on locked wards

Rebecca Fish

In 2012, I spent time in three of women's wards in an NHS learning disability secure unit. I wrote a book about it called 'Locked Away'.

I asked women what they liked about living here, and what they did not like. I also talked to staff. This is what I found out: <https://bit.ly/2JktPrN>

Toolkit - Mental health for small workplaces

Small and medium organisations account for 99% of the businesses in the UK. But research shows that, when it comes to mental health, they often fall behind larger organisations.

We know that there are unique challenges, as well as unique opportunities, that come with working in smaller businesses. We've put together a collection of resources designed to help, focused on Mind's new, free and quick eLearning, Mental Health for Small Workplaces.

For more information click here <https://bit.ly/2GlnyuB>

CQC - Smiling matters Oral health care in care homes

Oral health has a big impact on our quality of life. We express ourselves by talking or smiling. We can take immense enjoyment from what we eat or drink and pride in the state of our teeth and gums. These things are just as important for people living in care homes, so good oral health care must not stop once a

Resources and other bulletins

person enters a home. Older people are now more likely to retain their teeth than previous generations, and they need daily care and regular check-ups. Good oral care helps keep people free from pain – especially important for those who have communication difficulties, who may find it difficult to alert others to where it hurts. For those with chronic conditions, good oral care can help make sure they can take the medicines they need to prolong health.

Look at the guidance here: <https://bit.ly/2Yrm9dv>

Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) - Carers' breaks: guidance for commissioners and providers

This guidance is for commissioners, providers and others involved in the planning, shaping and delivery of support for adult carers, primarily in England. It will be of interest to commissioners within local authorities (including public health), clinical commissioning groups (CCGs), NHS trusts and mental health trusts. It will also be of interest to a wide range of providers – including those from the voluntary, community, private and public sectors, not just those already providing carers' breaks.

<https://bit.ly/2xsoby9>

Choice Support – Supported Loving Toolkit

The Supported Loving network has produced a series of guides to help support people with learning disabilities with issues around sex and relationships.

<https://bit.ly/321Y1Ap>

Blogs

The British Institute of Human Rights - The #StrippedofHumanRights Protests

The #StrippedofHumanRights protests have been organised and attended by people with learning disabilities and autism, alongside their friends, families and supporters. People have gathered in town centres across the country to call for respect to their human rights and an end to the use of Assessment and Treatment Units (ATUs). Please check out [@7daysofaction7](https://twitter.com/7daysofaction7) on Twitter, who organised the week of action, for more information about the 7 days of action campaign and the #StripperofHumanRights protests.

<https://bit.ly/2KPabas>

My own front door <https://myownfrontdoor.net/>

An online magazine and web resource from Rightfullives for self advocates, families, practitioners and everybody campaigning for the rights of autistic

Blogs

people and people with a learning disability. If you'd like to contribute email: markbrown@rightfullives.net

Learning Disability Today (LDT) - How far can reasonable adjustments address health inequalities?

When 12 weeks turns into two years -

Isabelle Garnett's son Matthew spent nearly two years under section in a mental health hospital after going for an assessment his family were told should take no longer than 12 weeks. Garnett fought a lengthy battle with husband Robin to get 18-year-old Matthew out of specialist hospital St Andrew's Healthcare in Northampton.

<https://bit.ly/2XneyQU>

Nesta - New leaders must be rule breakers

Sam Conniff is the award winning author of Be More Pirate, a book and movement that is inspiring people and teams everywhere to learn how pirate crews worked together on clear missions....The Be More Pirate crew and health and care leaders they have worked with will be at Nesta Health 2019 to share how their approach has shifted how they work, what impact it has had, and embolden attendees to Be More Pirate in their own settings.

<https://bit.ly/2JjWptg>

LDT - Cervical cancer screenings: addressing the health inequality founded upon misconception

Women with learning disabilities and autism are almost four times less likely to go for cervical cancer screening tests. Here, Darren Devine looks at the efforts being made to reverse one of the most stark health inequalities affecting potentially vulnerable women. <https://bit.ly/2FM7wdG>

Social Care Future - There may be a 'crisis in care' but communities are showing how to tackle it

When I sat for the early screening of BBC Panorama's "Crisis in Care" two-part documentary I have to admit to being more than a little nervous.

For 10 months BBC reporter Alison Holt and crew were given permission to film all aspects of Somerset's strained care system.....

Read more here <https://bit.ly/2KVGtAO>