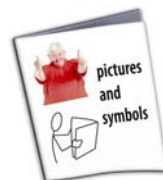




Housing Sub Group Terms of Reference January 2008



Plain English Summary



**Dorset Learning Disability
Partnership Board**

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1. Mission

“To develop housing and support options for people with a Learning Disability in Dorset”



2. Bill of Rights

The Housing sub group believes that all people with learning disabilities should have the following rights:



BILL OF RIGHTS



- 1. The right to feel safe when going out.**

 - from strangers, from burglars and from bullying
- 2. The right to feel safe in our own homes.**

 - to learn how to be safe in our home
 - to feel safe from staff
 - to be able to report staff when they are unkind
- 3. The right to confidentiality.**

 - when making a report it won't come back on you
 - we decide who sees our life plan
 - around health issues (patient - doctor)


- 4. The right to relationships.**

 - to learn about friendships
 - marriage
 - engagements
 - sex education
- 5. The right to have feelings.**

 - the right to grief
 - the right to get angry



2.1 Bill of Rights

6. The right to say NO!

- bullying
- drugs or drink
- strangers
- to parents
- to staff



7. The right to Adulthood.

- make our own decisions
- to get married
- have children
- have sex
- birth control
- to vote
- to have a drink



8. The right to live where you want to live.

- to live where you want to
- to live with who you want to



9. The right to independence

- to make decisions
- to go out
- take care of our own stuff
- run our own lives
- to choose what to do
- come and go when we want
- be the boss of our own life



10. The right to transport

- accessible transport
- the right to learn to drive



3. Stakeholders

There are many people that we need to work alongside us to help achieve our mission:



4. Goals

These are the things that we want our sub group to do:

The group will check on services, talk about and share ideas to make new policies and help make long term plans about housing for people with learning disabilities in Dorset.



Have good knowledge of other groups that are working to improve housing options for people with learning disabilities in Dorset



Give advice and support to people and groups that provide services for people with learning disabilities in Dorset.



Report regularly to the Partnership Board and the Supporting People group about the work that is going on in Dorset.



Hold separate meetings if needed to look at issues more closely, such as person centred planning and hate crime.



Work jointly with other housing/support providers, health professionals and councils.



4. Goals

These are the things that we want our sub group to do:

The group will look at the need for different services and help to develop Dorset's long term plans.



The group will look closely at the way services are run to see if they are person centred and also good value for money.



The group will look at needs in order to work out how money should be spent.



The group will make recommendations to the Supporting People Commissioning Group (a group that meets to look at supported living services and how money is spent on these).



The Group will share information about housing issues and good ways of working.



4.1 Goals

When asked, we will supply information and fill out local and national surveys to help other services run better.



Support people to work on projects that give people more choices about where they live and what types of housing they can live in.



5. Membership

The Housing sub group should be made up of the following people:

- People with Learning Disabilities
- Carers
- Supporting People managers
- Commissioning managers
- District and Borough Council Housing Officers
- Housing Providers
- Advocacy workers
- Social Workers
- Other people who provide housing and/or support services
- County Councillors
- People who work for the emergency services



6. Rules about communication

We have agreed some ground rules to make our meetings easy to understand and give people time to get ready.

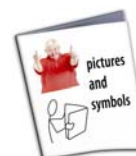
Any new papers or consultations that people want the partnership board to look at must be sent to the agenda group first.



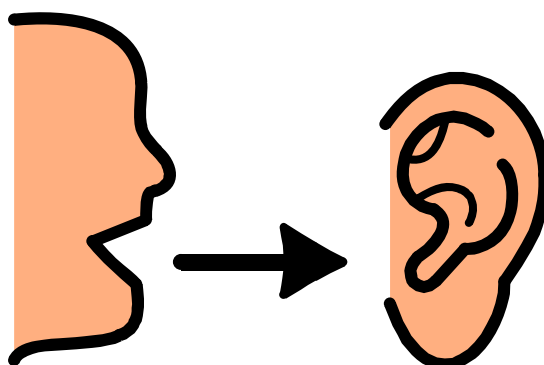
Traffic light cards must be used at every meeting where people with learning disabilities are there too.



Minutes will be made into easy read on request.



Total Communication tools must be used for any presentations to the sub group.



7. Sub Group Rules

Private business (Confidentiality)

Sometimes we may listen to private information about people or services. This information should remain with the group members and not be shared outside of the meeting (unless it is an issue about abuse or neglect that needs to be passed on).



Meetings

Community living sub group meetings will be held in different places around Dorset every 3 months.



8. Quality Checking

We want to check that our work is really making a difference to people with learning disabilities and their supporters in Dorset

We will listen to feedback from people with learning disabilities, carers and services and learn from what they say to us.



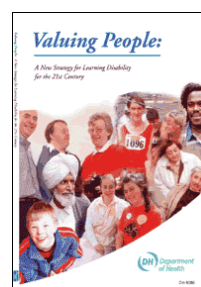
We will write a report once every year for people to see what we have been doing and the outcomes of that work.



All of our meeting minutes will be on the internet and people will also be able to ask for printed copies if they need them.



We will report on our work at every board meeting and check our progress against the valuing people targets every year.



Diversity Statement



The Dorset Learning Disability Partnership Board believes in treating all people equally and valuing the differences between people, their ways of living and their culture at all times.



Dorset
Learning Disability
Partnership Board

Plain English summary by Christopher Watson

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Images courtesy of Photosymbols



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The possibilities are endless.