

Winter 2009

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DORSET LDPB NEWSLETTER



**Dorset L D P B (Learning Disability Partnership Board) Co -
Chair One Year On**

About Me

I have now been the Co- Chair for the Dorset Learning Disability Partnership Board for twelve months. Like every new job it's hard to get your head around at first, especially Dorset County Council. Also it's sometimes hard to track people down when you want to see them if you don't know where they are. When I first started it took me a while to find my way round County Hall!

Things I Have Done

Things that I have done whilst I have been in the job have included going around all the different day centres and seeing what they are all like and how different each of them is and talking to some of the people who go there. I get on well with the other colleagues who I work with and I enjoy being on interview panels. I have also attended quite a few of the Friendship Club events which are run through Dorset People First.

Things I Would Like To See Happen

What I would like to see in the next few years is for more people with any disabilities of any kind to be in work, full time or part time in jobs they want to do and getting paid for what they do.

(Article by Richard Maxfield, December 2009)

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CHANGING PLACE

West Dorset's first Changing Place in Bridport is now open! See page 3 for full report. !

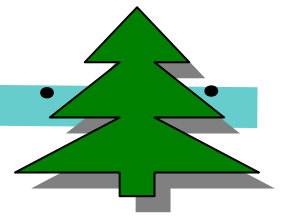
OUR WEBSITE

The LDPB website continues to develop. For any of you not reading this online, please give it a try!

Visit us at
<http://dorset.ldpb.info>

DATABASE PROJECT

CONTACT FOR DORSET LDPB - Allyson Evans, Project Officer
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National Development Team for Inclusion Conference 2009

Five LDPB representatives from Dorset went to Bristol for this event.

Report by Kerry Martin, Dorset Learning Disability Partnership Board's "Expert by Experience" representative at the conference, who chose to write about she found it the most significant

Nan's talk as presentation.

**Dr. Nan Carle - State
Commissioner for Disability,
State of Arizona, USA**



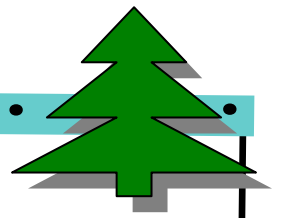
Leadership for Inclusion in difficult financial times

Nan was very compassionate about working with and for inclusion and she made me feel that there is hope.

She talked about the difficulties they face in Arizona, which seem similar to those difficulties we experience on a daily basis in the UK.

She said that - 'how does a decision move us forward or away from strengthening and protecting the interests and rights of each person using our services? Tough decisions must be made in ways that support people to be part of the solution'

She also said 'It would be irresponsible to make decisions absent of the core meaning and purpose of valuing people'.



West Dorset's First Changing Place

On 29th September a group of people gathered at Bridport Leisure Centre to celebrate the official opening of the first Changing Place In west Dorset. The facility is open to anyone who wishes to use it during all the opening hours of the Leisure centre. It was funded by the Learning Disability Development Fund with additional contributions from West Dorset Mencap and West Dorset District Council. We hope it will help a lot of people to spend more time out and about in their community, and will encourage people from other places to visit the Bridport area.

The occasion was marked with a very special cake made by "Oh Crumbs"!



Above: left, Richard Maxfield , Co-chair of the LDPB, and Karen Wood, Occupational Therapist, in the new Changing Place ; right, a special cake!

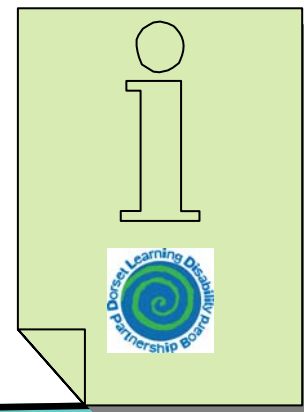
National Initiatives for Valuing People

In November the Department of Health issued new guidelines which include recommendations about who should be member of the Board and give a format for the Annual Report that each Board will be required to produce starting next spring.

Dorset LDPB will be looking at the guidelines at its meeting on 21st January.

If you can access the internet, you can see the easy read version of the guidance at

<http://valuingpeople.gov.uk/dynamic/valuingpeople365.jsp>



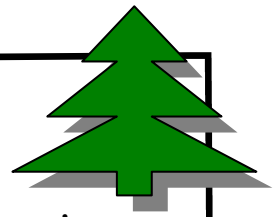
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"Nothing about us
without us"

What does the LDPB do?



The work of the LDPB is all about making the priorities set out in Valuing People Now happen. Dorset LDPB has a set of targets that are reviewed regularly. A plain English version of these targets will be on the LDPB website from the first week of January 2010

Dates for 2010

LDPB meetings

21 January, 18
March, 24 June,
21 October.

Annual LDPB Conference

This year's annual conference was on the subject of health. About 80 people worked in groups for part of the day and produced action plans for four areas "Your Doctor", "Your dentist", "Your hospital" and "Your Community Team", looking at ways that we can better support people with a learning disability when they use these services. The action plans will be followed up by the Health Action Group (part of the LDPB), and can be seen in Easy Read on the Partnership Board's website at



<http://dorset.ldpb.info/our-work/health.html>

LDPB Meetings "Go Large"!!!

To give more time for discussion, all the main meetings of the LDPB will now run from 10.00 for 10.30 start to 15.30



Above: a delegate takes off ?... and a group at work
(photos by Bekah Evans)