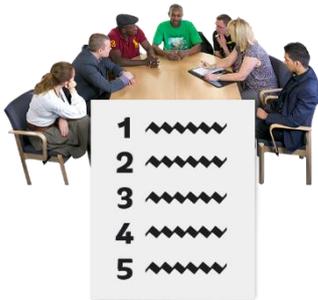


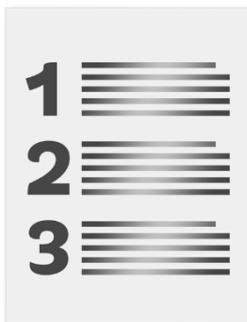
Learning Disability England Members Talk About the Social Care Future Inquiry



This is a summary of what people said during a meeting in April 2021.

The members in that meeting were self-advocates, family members and paid supporters.

When we say 'we' here we mean for all of us.



Social care is for people of all ages.

Social care is not just about care homes.

Social care is about communities.



Here are some quotes made by people at the meeting:



“Disabled people get a rotten deal when it comes to human rights”

This is what a self-advocate said.



“They get away with breaking the law when it comes to people with learning disabilities”

This is what a social care worker said. He was talking about extra care charges and Do Not Attempt Resuscitation Orders.



“We have been fighting for social care for decades. Our son is now 35”

This is what the parents of an adult with learning disabilities said.



“They kept her there for 14 ½ years. It cost millions yet made her life worse”

This is about someone who was sent to live in an Assessment and Treatment Unit.

What people said they want their social care to be like (Our Social Care Vision):



We expect consistent, skilled support.



We expect support from people who know us well, who can support us well, and who will stay with us.

Fund support that is person-centred and looks at our whole lives, not just one small part of it.



We expect to pay and develop social care workers properly.

Systems and money that make sure social care workers get paid properly and get training and opportunities so that they can have good careers.



Start any change with human rights, equality and inclusion.

We do not want to go back to how it was before Coronavirus.



Take notice of our experiences, our skills and the amazing things we have done during the pandemic.



It is time for real co-production. Work together with people with learning disabilities, families, staff and social care organisations.



Fund community led work.



Make better use of technology for all of us.

Make sure people and their families have computers, tablets, phones and other technology we need to communicate, stay connected, get information, and live as independently as we can.

What people said needs to change:



- People with learning disability and autism have different needs. No matter where we live, or who we are, we should be treated with respect.



- Use the law to protect our rights and help us get the support and care we need. This includes the Human Rights Act, the Care Act, the Autism Act, and Hate Crime laws.



- Change the Mental Health Act so it is no longer used to put and keep people in specialist services like Assessment and Treatment Units.

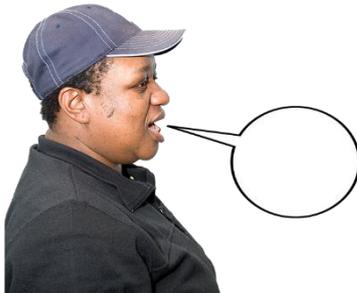


- Make it easier for people to take control of their own care and support through Direct Payments, Individual Service Funds, Personal Budgets and other ways.



- Make it easier for people to access the care, support and therapies they are entitled to.

Things people would say about their lives if support worked how we want it to:



“I enjoy life”

“I feel safe here”

“Nobody picks on me”

DNR



“My PA stopped them from saying: ‘do not resuscitate’”



“I use my phone and computer to stay in touch”



“I have a Circle of Support”

“My community knows me well”



“My support helps me to stay out of hospital”



“I choose who I live with”

“I choose my staff”



“I get good information I understand”



“I know my social worker and they know me”



“I have a job”

“My staff have career plans”



“My care plan works well”



Things people would notice if social care was always really great:



All services work together so people can have a good life.



Services check that support is good. They fix any problems quickly.



Support organisations have long-term funding.



There is an interpreter if needed.



Other professionals respect PAs.



Everyone uses people's communication system whatever it is.



Services understand visual impairment or other adjustments someone might need.



Everyone knows the plan when if someone needs to go to hospital.



Leaving school or college is exciting, not worrying.



Moving area or home means you still get good support.

What all kinds of members, including organisation workers, can say if social care works well:



I am not afraid to complain.



We are listened to.



We have confidence in social care policy.





We can make plans.



My team stays the same.



There are enough staff if someone is off sick.



I no longer live in fear of support being cut or have to worry about extra care charges.



Small organisations thrive.



There is a choice of local providers.



I love my career.