



**HEREFORDSHIRE'S
LEARNING DISABILITY
PARTNERSHIP BOARD**
everything about us but not without us



Meeting-LDPB

Date/Time-2nd July 2pm-4pm

Venue: Microsoft Teams

Attendees	
Name	Organisation / Role
Tracy Crum	Herefordshire LDPB Chair
Mike Cook	Chief Officer, Echo , Herefordshire LDPB Acting Vice Chair
Glen Crosier	Senior Commissioning Officer, Community Wellbeing, Herefordshire Council
Paul Choppen	Partnership Board Assistant, Community Wellbeing, Herefordshire Council
Frances Kelsey	Lead Commissioner, Worcestershire County Council
Gail Greer	Project Co-ordinator, Speak Easy N.O.W.
Rachel Barrett	Expert Member, SpeakEasy NOW, Chair of Worcestershire LDPB
Dave Evans	Herefordshire and Worcestershire Healthcheckers
Becky Willis	Health Checkers Project Assistant
Rose Hunt	Herefordshire Mencap
Paul Scott	Herefordshire Mencap
Mike Cook	Manger, Echo
Barbara Browne	Executive Assistant to Ian Harper, Service Quality Director
Ginnie Jaques	Shared Lives Manager
Julie SWASH	(HEREFORDSHIRE AND WORCESTERSHIRE HEALTH AND CARE NHS TRUST)
Jack Caine	Herefordshire and Worcestershire ICB
Louise ADAMS	Herefordshire and Worcestershire ICB
Mary Simpson	Healthwatch
Cassie Judd	Worcestershire Association of Carers
Ian Harper	Service Quality Director , Aspire Living
Caroline Kirby	Lead Complex Needs Commissioner / TCP lead NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire
Chris Smith	Manager, Envirobility
Chris Jordan	The Emily Jordan Foundation / Carer Rep
Sam Sinderberry	Expert Member, SpeakEasy NOW
Cat Bennett	Our Way
Jayne McGlone	Parent Carer

Apologies	
Name	Organisation / Role
Aimee Davis	Commissioning Officer, Worcestershire County Council

Apologies	
Lynette Pearson	Area Learning Disabilities Manager North, Worcestershire County Council
Rachael Skinner	Deputy Chief Nursing Officer, NHS Herefordshire & Worcestershire Integrated Care Board
Elaine Chape	Care Contribution Assessment Team, Worcestershire County Council
Sean Ladd	National Star
Hilary Hall	Corporate Director, Community Wellbeing Herefordshire Council
Chris Beckingham Paul	Managing Director – Aspire Living
Rachel Oakley	Walsingham Support
Kim Terry	Worcestershire Association of Carers
Tammy Moss	Hoople
Martin Boniface	Carer Rep
Beverly Hardiman	Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care Trust
Kath Bird	Walsingham Support
Laura Westwood	Lead Commissioner, Adult Services, Worcestershire County Council
Kathryn Wood	West Midlands Advocacy Network
Amy Pitt	Service Director Communities, Herefordshire Council
Adrian Haire	Project Officer Speakeasy N.O.W.
Natalie Lackenby	Area Learning Disabilities Manager South, Worcestershire County Council

Welcome and Introductions

Tracy welcomed everyone, before asking members to introduce themselves.

Meeting etiquette

Tracy went through the meeting etiquette.

Feedback on the past meeting: Both Boards views on the previous meeting and how we can work better together?

Members discussed their views on the Joint Learning Disability Partnership Board Meeting back on February 6th in Worcester. Members mentioned it was enjoyable and thought it was a good opportunity share information, learn from each other and work collaboratively on issues that cross both counties. However a joint board shouldn't replace each counties local board which are part of formal governance.

Jack said he liked having the ability to attend the previous meeting in person as well as remotely. He asked for a more formal structure for the ICB to update members on their latest developments. He also raised the challenges for the Integrated Care Board in attending all the regular partnership meetings and stakeholder groups.

Fran suggested having a theme for each meeting going forward. Community Safety was suggested as a future agenda topic for a joint meeting with both counties being served by West Mercia. Both counties learning disability strategies also include a theme relating to community safety in Being / Feeling Safe.

Introducing the purpose of the meeting

Fran introduced the purpose of the meeting which was:

- For members to have a brief overview of both county's learning disability strategy
- To understand what both counties want to achieve from the strategies
- The common themes and issues across both strategies
- To look at what can be learned from the strategies.

Brief Overview of Herefordshire's Learning Disability Strategy

Tracy gave a brief overview of Herefordshire's Strategy which was launched in 2018, explaining the engagement cycle, themes and discussed some of the issues with the strategy (see attached). Some of the issues she mentioned with the strategy and action plan included:

- The strategy being difficult to understand
- That it was too long and out of date.
- The Strategy needed a glossary and had too many acronyms.

She also discussed how the easy read version of the strategy was bit too basic.

Brief Overview of Worcestershire's Learning Disability Strategy

Rachel and Fran gave a join overview of Worcestershire's Strategy 2023-2028 (Please strategy see attached).

Fran mentioned that the strategy was inspired by the [Good Lives Framework](#) by Learning Disability England.

The strategy was developed by their Learning Disability Partnership Board in co-production with the learning disability community over 12-18 months and supported by the county's Health and Wellbeing Board. It is a guide for organisations and individuals.

Fran spoke how this approach enabled them to widen their focus and used the design company of board member Chris Jordan to help design the strategy. This meant that there was a more cooperative approach led by the partnership board, rather than relying on the Council's corporate communications team and the Council branding and formatting..

The Strategy is hosted by Speakeasy and can be accessed on their [website](#) or via a link to from the [County Council website](#).

Fran and Rachel then discussed the development of the strategy including the different ways they had engaged with the community, the reasonable adjustments they had made to include people with more complex needs and how they had made the strategy accessible. This included:

- Larger fonts
- Explainer paragraphs for difficult words and phrases/jargon
- Simple charts for headline figures
- Use of picture to add additional context, which includes photos of local people throughout.

They have focused on achieving a few key actions in year one and will soon be reporting on their progress and will be setting out the actions for year two.

Identifying Common Themes and Issues

Members of the Herefordshire LDPB discussed a range of learning from the development of the Herefordshire Learning Disability Strategy which included:

- Having more focus on people with a profound learning disability
- Greater focus on mental health
- Local people leading the strategy development rather than an external contractor who need time to understand the local issues
- Greater emphasis on transport and the funding to support travel to the activities on offer across the county
- Have a wider engagement with organisations and individuals during the co-production.
- Having a strategy that covers a smaller time frame such as five years that allows it remain more relevant.
- It may be beneficial to replace the current Implementation plan with a yearly action plan that is more focused on a smaller number of outcomes that can be achieved.

Transport was identified as a common issue in both counties.

Discussion ensued on how to make sure social workers engaged with the Learning Disability Strategy. Fran discussed the named social worker scheme they have in Worcestershire where everyone with a learning disability has an assigned social worker.

How Do We Work Together To Make Change e.g.?

Health Checkers-Becky / Dave Evens

Becky and Dave discussed the partnership working of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health Checkers explaining how Speakeasy Now had co-ordinated the project since 2010 in Worcestershire and it had expanded into Herefordshire in 2022 following the creation of the Interated Care Board. There are 17 Health Checkers in the team, ten from Worcestershire and seven from Herefordshire.

She explained how expanding the team has been a good experience, bringing in new people with different experiences, knowledge and skills. Further explaining that everyone has learned from each other, found out new ways of working and supported each other to speak up about the issues that affect us all.

Health Checkers would encourage more organisations to adopt this way of working and reap great and reap the benefits it brings.

Hear Our Voices- Mary Simpson

Mary went through a presentation about Here Our Voices (please see attached).

She explained how Hear Our Voices had been set up to give people with a learning disability a bigger say in what matters to them in Herefordshire.

Hear Our Voices held two events one in October 2023 and one in May 2024, with 47 participants with a learning disability and 12 organisations taking part across both events. Both events were funded by Herefordshire Community Foundation.

Organisations that were involved included: Echo, Beacon College, Mencap, Our News Our Views, Walsingham Support, Our Way, Envirobility, Health Checkers, West Midlands Self Advocacy Network, Horizon Centre, Shared Lives and Healthwatch Herefordshire.

At the first event everyone spent time getting to know each other and understanding what different groups did. They discussed how they would like to be engaged with and what they would like to discuss.

At the second event the representatives from West Mercia Police, Victim Support and Taurus attended with presentations and exercises on community safety, learning disability health checks and vaccines and speaking up.

At both events there were opportunities to get to know, collaborate as a group, feedback and build confidence. Participants also had the opportunity to share ideas and suggestions for how future events could be improved.

Feedback from the events included:

- People like that individuals with learning disabilities did most of the presenting
- That it was well organised and it was interesting to hear about others.
- A good opportunity to meeting new people, get together, be heard and make a difference
- The police attended and listened rather than just talked
- Health people listening to them and finding out about health checks and vaccines

Hot topics that people suggested for future events include:

- Social clubs and places that are safe to hang out
- Friendships and relationships
- More fun activities
- Healthy eating, exercise and well being
- Community, how to get involved in community groups
- Housing
- Accessibility for people with learning disabilities
- Getting paid jobs.

The date for the next event is going to be Thursday, October the 17th at the Kindle Centre, 10:15am to 2:30. Echo rep group has volunteered to do the ice breaker at the start. Participants also wanted the police and MPs invited to the meeting.

Links to films and reports:

October 2023 Hear Our Voices Get together film (2024 film will be out soon...)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x0cfbb7KFF4>

Report October 2023 <https://www.healthwatchherefordshire.co.uk/report/2023-11-29/hear-our-voices-report>

Annual Health Checks film <https://youtu.be/Epe7wTtWYN4>

Vaccination film <https://youtu.be/3ySJtuKqI-g>

Integrated Care Board (ICB) Jack Caine

Jack detailed some of the programmes of work across Herefordshire and Worcestershire the ICB are involved in. Please see full report attached for more details.

Learning Disability and Autism Program Board

This board meets quarterly and is a chance for senior individuals within the Integrated Care Board to provide feedback what work is being done and whether it's making a difference for people with learning disabilities and autism. Expert by experience in the form of the chairs of Herefordshire's and Worcestershire's LDPBs and Autism Partnership Boards attend. Community groups such as Health Checkers are also consulted on prior to meetings for feedback and suggest items for the Forward Plan.

Annual Health Checks

The ICB are planning to do a study day event in Worcestershire in September and one in Herefordshire in the spring.

Jack also discussed the work that needs doing to understand the inconsistency in the patient experience in health checks across both counties and the wider outcomes for people with a learning disabilities. Jack acknowledged that the ICB had been concentrating on improving the uptake of annual health checks but further work was required to improve the consistency in the quality of annual health checks.

Caroline added how the ICB were training staff at general practices on annual health checks and making sure appointment were booked at appropriate times. They also were identifying were good practice had taken place and reasonable adjustments had been made. Mary highlighted the need for more reasonable adjustments need to be made giving examples such as speaking clearly and using simpler language.

Jayne raised concerns around the level of preventative care being done for men and women on health issues such as the menopause and prostate checks. She also raised concerns around the quality of some of the annual health checks and whether enough staff were adequately trained to communicate with individual who were nonverbal.

Mary suggested some surgery or medical practices could be trained in supporting people with a learning disability who are nonverbal to have annual health who need a specialist environment and expertise.

New Joint Neurodiversity Assessment Pathway

A new joint neurodiversity assessment pathway for children and young people is going to be commissioned in both areas later this year. Currently children and young people receive completely different services for autism diagnosis in both counties.

Voice of Family Carers in Herefordshire

Mary and Rose raised the point of there being no family carer voice in Herefordshire.

Jack mentioned conversation were ongoing with the Worcestershire Association of Carers to see whether they might be able to do a bit more to support the existing carers that we're working with and also broaden the representation out to Herefordshire. He mentioned needing more family carer representatives from Herefordshire at key meetings.

Mike discussed how through the HAT group (Herefordshire Activities Together) which is group of 16 social care organisations thought Herefordshire had been that Herefordshire had been under underrepresented within the NHS and ICB groups.

Ideas for Future Joint Meetings

Rachel asked members for topic ideas for future meetings, community safety had previously been mentioned. Fran suggested combining this topic into the broader theme of Feeling /Being Safe. Chris Jordan and Fran suggested Employment and Purposeful Days respectively.

Fran also mentioned as it was Worcestershire turn to host the next meeting around January 2025 it may have to be a different venue to the county hall due to concrete issues, so was open to suggestions for alternative venues.

Caroline mentioned the ICB may have meeting room space available if booked early enough.

A.O.B

No one had any other business.

Date of Joint LDPB Meeting

To be confirmed.

Action – Fran and Worcestershire LDPB colleagues to confirm the date, venue and theme of the next meeting.