

Valuing People Now: A three year strategy for people with learning disabilities

'Making it happen for everyone'



Valuing People Now is a cross-government strategy for the next 3 years (2009 - 2012) it has a clear emphasis on delivering the vision that was set out in Valuing People in 2001.

All people with a learning disability are people first with the right to lead their lives like any others, with the same opportunities and responsibilities, and to be treated with the same dignity and respect. They and their families are entitled to the same aspirations and life chances as other citizens.

The Key Message

The strategy is written based on a human rights approach with an re-affirmation of the four guiding principles set out in *Valuing People*:

Rights:

- People with learning disabilities and their families have the same human rights as everyone else.

Independent living:

- This does not mean living on your own or having to do everything yourself. All disabled people should have greater choice and control over the support they need to go about their daily lives; greater access to housing, education, employment, leisure and transport opportunities and to participation in family and community life.

Control:

- This is about being involved in and in control of decisions made about your life. This is not usually doing exactly what you want, but is about having information and support to understand the different options and their implications and consequences, so people can make informed decisions about their own lives.

Inclusion:

- This means being able to participate in all the aspects of community – to work, learn, get about and meet people, be part of social networks and access goods and services – and to have the support to do so.

Areas covered in **Valuing People Now** are



Include everyone

- People with more complex needs
- People from black and minority ethnic communities
- People with autistic spectrum disorders; and
- Offenders in custody and in the community



Personalisation

People with learning disabilities, and their families, will be able to commission their own services to live independently and have a real choice about the way they live their lives through person centred planning and approaches.



Having a Life

- Better Health
- A home of your own
- Work, Education and Getting a Life
- Relationships and having a family



People as Citizens

- Advocacy
- Transport
- Access to Leisure and Social Activities
- Being safe in the community and at home
- Access to justice and redress



Making it happen

- Leadership and Delivery Structures
- Partnership Board
- Better Commissioning
- Developing the workforce
- Measuring Performance and Data Collection
- The delivery plan

Partnership

In Kent the key partners needed to play crucial roles in delivery of valuing people now are:

- Kent Adult Social Services
- Children, Families and Education
- East and Coastal Kent PCT
- West Kent PCT
- Kent Learning Disability Partnership Board
- People with Learning Disabilities
- Families/Carers
- Third Sector Providers
- Independent Providers
- Care Quality Commission

Valuing People Now (including accessible documents) is available at

www.dh.gov.uk/en/SocialCare/Deliveringadultsocialcare/Learningdisabilities/index

For local information please contact Kent Partnership Board and District Partnership Groups at www.kentldpb.org.uk