



Gogledd Cymru **Gyda'n Gilydd**
North Wales **Together**

Gwasanaethau ddi-dor i bobl ag Anableddau Dysgu
Seamless services for people with Learning Disabilities

North Wales Learning Disability Transformation Project

North Wales Together: Seamless Services for People with Learning Disabilities



We are the North Wales Learning Disability Transformation Project (North Wales Together: Seamless Services for People with Learning Disabilities). In this booklet you'll find information about the Project, what we're doing and why, and how you can get involved.

Who we are and what we do

'North Wales Together: Seamless Services for People with Learning Disabilities' is one of four Transformation Projects in North Wales. This is why we're also known as the Learning Disability Transformation Project.

Our aim is to support individuals and organizations to make sure that people with learning disabilities are able to live a great life. This means lots of things, including being able to live more independently, and getting the right care and support closer to home.

By supporting better joined up working and person-centred approaches, we want to promote a seamless model of learning disability support - based on what matters to the individual.

Co-production - working together in real partnership - is at the heart of what we do.

The Project has five different work streams:

- ▶ **Integrated structures** - to be integrated within 10 years.
- ▶ **Workforce development** - staff are able to communicate and change services to make it easier for people with LD to use.
- ▶ **Commissioning and procurement** - housing and support services
- ▶ **Community and culture change** - access to activities, opportunities to meet new people and access work.
- ▶ **Assistive Technology** - use technology to make people more independent

Integrated structures

Supporting health and social services to work together better to support people with learning disabilities.

- ▶ Reducing duplication of record systems so people only have to 'say it once'.
- ▶ Making sure there is joined up support for the health issues of older people with learning disabilities, including people with dementia.
- ▶ Reviewing the systems and the support available for individuals and their families around diagnosis and assessment.

Workforce development

Supporting staff around communicating well with people with learning disabilities, and making health and social care services easier to use.

- ▶ Making sure people who want support in Welsh can get it without having to ask.
- ▶ Bringing different parts of the workforce together to share best practice.
- ▶ Developing a consistent values-based skill set for staff across the region.
- ▶ Raising awareness of healthy lifestyles and mental well-being, and tackling health inequalities.



Commissioning and procurement

Working with other organisations to make sure we have the types of housing and support people need.

- ▶ Exploring and piloting pooled budgets between health and social care.
- ▶ Supporting sustainable models of joined up support from health and social care, including high end jointly funded nursing placements for adults with severe learning disabilities who have health related needs.
- ▶ Continuing to explore and develop housing options to meet the needs of people with learning disabilities.
- ▶ Improving the use of and support available for support budgets / direct payments.
- ▶ Making sure carers have the support and carer break (respite) services they need, including 'planning ahead' support for families, and work to identify hidden carers and assess their needs for support.



Community and culture change

Working with the local community to make sure people with learning disabilities can access lots of different activities and meet new people if they want to.

- ▶ Working with local employers and support services to promote employment opportunities for people with learning disabilities, and break down barriers.
- ▶ Working with mainstream information, advice and assistance, and social prescribing models, to help people find out about the community groups and activities available in their area, and the support to get involved.
- ▶ Working with staff, citizens and parents/carers to open up more opportunities for friendships and relationships for people with learning disabilities, and promote positive risk taking.

Assistive Technology

Finding ways to use technology like alarms and mobile phones to support people to be more independent.

- ▶ Developing skills, knowledge and training about the potential of existing technologies (such as mobile phone app and voice controlled personal assistants) to support people with learning disabilities.
- ▶ Improving the availability of assistive technology and communication aids for people with learning disabilities.
- ▶ Improving knowledge and understanding about support for people with staying safe when using the internet.

Why we're doing all this

The North Wales Population Assessment tells us:



810

children with profound (160) or severe (650) learning disabilities in North Wales



5000

children with learning difficulties



2,900

adults with learning disabilities receiving services



Projections will **increase** over the next few years then **decrease slightly** by 2035.



Older people with learning disabilities are likely to increase by **20% to 35%** by 2035

The full population assessment including an easy-read and audio-visual version is available online at www.northwalescollaborative.wales/north-wales-population-assessment.

The North Wales Learning Disability Strategy 2018-23 set the direction for our work:

The vision of the Strategy is that people with learning disabilities will have a better quality of life; living locally where they feel 'safe and well', where they are valued and included in their communities, and have access to support that promotes independence, choice and control.

It promotes the principles of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, including:

- Voice and control
- Prevention and early intervention
- Wellbeing
- Co-production

AND

- It focusses on how health and Social Services can work together to ensure inclusion and Integration

**The Strategy was co-produced with people with learning disabilities, parents/carers and staff.
People said that the main things that mattered to them were:**

- ▶ Having a good place to live
- ▶ Having something meaningful to do
- ▶ Friends, family and relationships
- ▶ Being safe
- ▶ Being healthy
- ▶ Having the right support



How to get involved

The Project will be funded by Welsh Government (through Healthier Wales) until the end of February 2021. We'll continue to co-produce and try out ways of working, to try to make sustainable, positive changes to the lives of people with learning disabilities.

Consultancy firm IPC Oxford Brookes has been appointed to evaluate the impact of what we do. We're really keen to work and co-produce with people with learning disabilities, parents/carers and staff across North Wales, and there are a number of ways you can get involved.

For more information, please contact us:



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