

**THE LEARNING DISABILITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD FOR THE CITY
OF LEICESTER**

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Accountability

Learning Disability Partnership Boards will operate within the overall framework provided by Local Strategic Partnerships.

2. Membership

a) Statutory sector interests to be represented on the Board include;

- Social services
- Health bodies
 - health authorities
 - NHS Trusts
 - Primary Care Trusts and/or their successor bodies
- Housing
- Education
- Leisure and community services
- Economic Development
- The employment service
- Careers
- Learning and Skills Council

b) People with learning disabilities and carers – at least two from each group. Both groups will full members of the Board. The Board will ensure that appropriate mechanisms and supports are available so that both groups can play a full part in all discussions and decisions, and adequately reflect the views of other local people with learning disabilities and carers.

c) Independent Providers, voluntary organisations, community groups, other local employers.

The Board's membership should properly represent the the cultural diversity of Leicester, so that the views and needs of people from minority ethnic communities and their families may be fully addressed.

The Board will need to develop effective links with other agencies and partnerships whose responsibilities are relevant to implementing *Valuing People*. These include

- Connexions Partnerships
- Local Learning Partnerships
- Further education colleges
- Education institutions
- Supporting People
- The Benefits Agency

Where these agencies are not represented on the Board, a member will be appointed with responsibility for promoting these links.

3. Role of the Partnership Board

- To oversee and advise on the implementation of the adult aspects of *Valuing People*.
- To advise on the development and implementation of the Joint Investment Plan.
- To oversee inter agency planning and commissioning of comprehensive, integrated and inclusive services that provide choice.
- To work with Primary Care Trusts in order to advise on supporting primary and general health care services to work with people with learning disabilities.
- To promote the use of Health Act Flexibilities.
- To make recommendations to ensure that people are not denied a local service because of a lack of capacity amongst service providers.
- To ensure that all services are culturally competent and able to meet the different cultural needs of all communities in the area.

4. Objectives

- To ensure that the statutory bodies represented on the Board appoint a lead officer to take responsibility for implementing *Valuing People* and taking forward priorities agreed by the Board.
- To develop an updated Learning Disability Joint Investment Plan to include local action plans for implementing *Valuing People*.
- To agree and prioritise bids for the revenue and capital elements of the Learning Disability Development Fund (to be included in the updated Learning Disability Joint Investment Plan).
- To appoint a champion for employment.

- To recommend, in consultation with service providers and commissioners policies and procedures for challenging decisions to exclude people with learning disabilities from services, and to appoint a member to lead on this task.
- To review by **autumn 2002** the role and function of community learning disability teams.
- To ensure that arrangements are in place to enable people living at Gorse Hill Hospital to move to more appropriate accommodation by **April 2004**.

5. Disabled Children and Young People

- To promote effective arrangements for enabling young people with learning disabilities to move smoothly from children's to adult's services in all relevant agencies.
- To build on existing health, social services and education programmes to develop recommendations for an integrated approach to supporting learning disabled children from their early years onwards to gain maximum life chances
- To establish effective links with plans for children and young people, to ensure consensus of shared objectives and agreed targets for improving the well being of learning disabled children.
- To appoint a champion for transition from children's to adults' services.

6. Advocacy and Choice

- To collate information about advocacy services in the area in order to inform decisions on funding advocacy from the Learning Disability Development Fund or mainstream monies.
- To advise local agencies to review their own ways of working to ensure that people with learning disabilities are properly involved in organisational decision making.
- To foster the development of support services and schemes so that more people with learning disabilities benefit from direct payments.

7. Developing Plans

- To work with councils and other bodies to ensure the following are produced;
 - A framework for introducing a person centred approach to planning services by **Spring 2002**
 - A work force and training plan by **Summer 2002**
 - A local housing strategy for people with learning disabilities and related plans for commissioning care and support packages by **Winter 2002/3.**
 - A local employment strategy and local targets for increasing the employment rates of people with learning disabilities by **Winter 2002/3.**
 - A framework for Health Action Plans and identification of health facilitators by **Summer 2003.**
 - An integrated quality assurance framework that will apply across all agencies. The aim should be to have the framework in place by **April 2002.**
- To prepare programmes for the modernisation of day services by **January 2003**, to show the steps needed to achieve modernised services by **2006.**

8. Frequency of meetings

The Board will hold bi-monthly meetings.