



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



Meeting-LDPB

Date/Time-3rd June 1:30-3:30pm

Venue: Hereford Room, Microsoft Teams

Attendees:	
Name	Organisation / Role
Mike Cook	Chief Officer, Echo
Tracy Crum	Chair, Echo
Hannah Offord	Commissioning Manager – Living Well (Adults Commissioning)
Laura Sirrell	Commissioner- Living Well (Adults Commissioning)
Paul Choppen	Partnership Board Assistant, Living Well Community Wellbeing, Herefordshire Council
Rose Hunt	Herefordshire Mencap
Paul Scott	Trustee Herefordshire Mencap
Ian Harper	Service Quality Director, Aspire Living
Barbara Brown	Executive Assistant to Ian Harper, Service Quality Director, Aspire Living
Chris Smith	Manager, Envirobility
Kath Bird	Head of Operations & Development – Central Region, Walsingham Support
Chris Beckingham-Paul	Managing Director, Aspire Living
Chris Draisey	Herefordshire IST Clinical Lead Community Learning Disability Service Herefordshire
Amy Chandler	Healthwatch Herefordshire
Cllr Carole Gandy	Herefordshire Council
Sam Bemand	Community Learning Disability Team
Michelle Billings	Clinical Lead -Hereford CLDT, Community Learning Disabilities Team

Apologies	
Name	Organisation / Role
Gill Gorle	Parent Carer
Tammy Moss	Quality Manager, Hoople Care
Sean Ladd	Manager, Star College
Jack Caine	Senior Programme Lead – Learning Disability and Autism, NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire
Hilary Hall	Corporate Director Community Wellbeing, Herefordshire Council
Kathryn Wood	Speakeasy Now
Ginnie Jaques	Registered Manager Shared Lives, Community Wellbeing
Nick Gregory	Team Senior and Engagement Worker, Herefordshire Carer Links

Apologies	
Name	Organisation / Role
Val Howard	Parent Carer
Ruth Haywood	Deputy Chief Executive, Onside Advocacy

Welcome and Introduction

Tracy welcomed everyone, and asking members to introduce themselves.

Meeting Etiquette

Tracy went through the meeting etiquette, including muting microphones, using cameras, and raising hands for questions.

Previous Minutes

Paul went through the outstanding actions from the past two meetings.

11th March 2025.

Name	Actions	Detail
Paul	Action 1	Member raised that they had not received an update on the staff restructure within adult social care. Paul will chase with Zakia.
Paul & Laura	Action 2	Manny suggested that the board should have an action log that can continuously updated. Paul and Laura will create this.
Manny	Action 3	Manny said she would invite Mark to a future board meeting to discuss assistive technology.
Paul	Action 4	Manny asked Paul to send out the transition policy with the minutes.
Manny	Action 5	Manny said she would have Chris invited to any future working groups regarding the accommodation needs for people with complex needs.
Paul	Action 6	Tracy also asked if Paul could add a space to the document for her to sign it off.

Matters Arising

Adult Social Care Restructure chart Paul was asked to contact Zakia Loughead to get phase 1 of the Adult Social Care Restructure chart, which he would then share with board members.

Action 1 Due to the restructure still being in progress this action is still outstanding

Family Carer Representation on the Board

Rose raised concerns at the March meeting about the lack of family carer representation on the board. Paul contacted Nick Gregory from Carer Links who would add a piece about the need for family carer representation on the board to Herefordshire Carer Links Newsletter.

Action Log

Manny had suggested at the previous board meeting that there should be an action log that can continuously updated.

Action 2` - Paul still needs to create this.

Signing off Board documents

At the last meeting Tracy had requested that minutes and other documents relating to the board that need signing off include a signature space. Paul has added this to the minutes from March 11, 2025, and the Terms of Reference so Tracy can sign them off in person today.

Health Inequalities

Chris Beckingham Paul and Ian Harper went through a presentation based on a report on the experiences that people have whilst in hospital, during discharge and health inequalities generally. Aspire had documented cases where individuals who they supported received poor care, these issues included:

- Lack of communication and transparency,
- Delays to care and readmission to hospital and poor discharge planning
- Concerns from Aspire support staff being ignored
- Poor attitudes from hospital staff
- Insufficient staff training,
- Hospital pass ports not being checked
- Missed diagnosis.

Aspire submitted the report to the Integrated Care Board and have held meetings with them on how care can be improved. The suggested improvements include:

1. The ICB ensuring all commissioned providers are compliant with OMMMT (Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training) on LD and Autism.
2. That Learning Disability Liaison teams are informed when a person with a Learning Disability is in the Emergency Department (ED) so that they can support both the person being cared for and hospital staff to make appropriate adjustments.
3. That the ICB ensures all providers have the ability to flag on clinical systems that a person has LD so that all staff who care for the person are aware of this and can make appropriate adjustments.
4. That health passports for people with LD are referred to when someone attends ED and / or is admitted to hospital.
5. That due consideration is given to discharge planning for people with a LD, including liaison with care providers, so that the required support arrangements can be put in place prior to discharge.
6. Staff training delivered by people with lived experience.

Barabara raised the need to find more ways of collaboration between hospital staff and the carers and support staff of individuals.

They have held conversations with Rachel Skinner from the Integrated Care Service (ICS) which has resulted them being given a place on the Learning into Action Group to give a provider perspective into the LeDeR reviews (Learning from Lives and Deaths). This group meets monthly.

Chris Beckingham Paul also requested that LeDeR be put on future LDPB meeting agendas as a recurring item.

Please email paul.choppen@herefordshire.gov.uk if you would like to be sent the presentation.

Updates on the Vice Chair

Tracy Crum informed members that subject to approval Ian Harper had agreed to be the Temporary Vice Chair for the LDPB. Ian explained that the aim was for this to be a short-term appointment while the Board looks into new ways of encouraging more people with lived experience to get actively involved in the board.

Proposed Motion Tracy put forward a motion to the board for Ian Harper to be approved as the Temporary Vice Chair.

This motion was seconded by Hannah Offred and agreed by Michelle Billings.

Hear Our Voices

Rose Hunt discussed the fourth Hear Our Voices event which was held on the 15th of May which was held in partnership with Amy Chandler from Healthwatch. Over 60 people attended the all-day event, 40 of which had a learning disability. The event was also attended by Cllr Gandy, Claire Frowd from the Hereford Community Foundation and Laura Francis the Community Engagement Lead at Royal Mencap, as well as members of the CLDT and colleagues of Healthwatch.

In the first part of the event participants were asked questions regarding the Learning Disability Strategy Refresh public engagement. The first set of questions were:

1. Where you live
What is working well?
What is not working well?
What could be changed to make it better?
2. Being healthy and safe-
What is working well?
What is not working well?
What could be changed to make it better?
3. What are the three most important things to you for a good life?

During the second part they asked the following questions:

1. What activities do you spend time doing?
2. What is working well with the things you currently spend time doing?
3. Is anything not working well, what would make it easier to do a community activity?
4. What are your goals for the future?

At the end of the event participants are asked for their hot topics for future events, to which friends and relationships was the most popular, employment and health was also highly requested.

In the afternoon Healthwatch colleagues discuss community champions, John Champion from West Mercia Police answered questions that had been posed to him from the previous event on hate crime. Rose was also able to announce that funding for the Safe Place app has been funded for a second year by Royal Mencap.

Herefordshire Mencap currently has funding for two more Hear Our Voices events in October 2025 and May 2026.

Lived experience engagement for the Community Activities, Supported Living and Learning Disability Strategy Refresh consultation

Hannah Offord and Laura Sirrell plan to take the feedback from the Hear Our Voices event and organise it into themes which will then help inform further public engagement sessions on the Learning Disability Strategy Refresh. The feedback will also help inform the community activities and supported living reviews that are in progress.

Hannah and Laura are also seeking interest from those with lived experience in being involved in a task and finish group that will help make sure these reviews are done well.

A.O. B

Bus Passes- Herefordshire Mencap is trying to get bus passes to be accepted 24/7. Currently in Herefordshire the use of bus passes is restricted between 9:30am-11pm on weekdays Monday to Friday. Local areas determine this for themselves.

At a Council meeting on the 7th March they were informed that the issue would be discussed at the next Enhanced Partnership meeting where the councillors meet with the bus operators. To which at this subsequent meeting the request for bus passes to be accepted 24/7 was refused due to concerns from bus operators around funding.

Herefordshire Mencap are also working with other local Mencap groups across the southeast on the scheme. Ellie Chowns the MP for North Herefordshire has campaigned to government on the issue.

Rose is regularly in contact with Cllr Philip Price the Cabinet Member for Transport, the leader of the Council Jonathan Lester, Chairman of the Council Councillor Roger Phillips, and Chief Executive Paul Walker informing them of other councils across England allowing 24/7 use of bus passes. Rose is also working with counsellors to put in a freedom of information request FOIR in for the figures regarding the use and issuing of concessionary/disabled bus passes in Herefordshire.

Cllr Carole Gandy asked to be involved in future conversations. She said she would speak to Cllr Price about what could be done.

Aimme commented about how spaces for wheelchairs on buses often get taken up by prams.

LD Week

Tracy Crum reminded members that Learning Disability Week was due to take place between the 16th – 22nd June this year.

Our News Our Views

Ian Harper informed the board that an email had gone out to readers on Aspire's plans for the Our News Our Views (ONOV). This includes having a greater social media presence to which they could use to keep people with lived experience of learning disabilities up to date on live news and current events. They would also like ONOV to cover important topics moving forward as well as the usual articles.

They are currently recruiting their editors, co-editors and reporting team, which will be led by people with lived experience. They are also looking into the back office functions of the project including how to bring money into the business through funding streams and advertisement.

Allocation Policy

Laura Sirrell recapped how they had previously spoken to the group about the allocation policy and making the document more accessible. A version has been drafted, Laura and Mair Edmunds (Housing Officer) have requested some changes. Paul will be working with Hannah McSherry (Strategic Housing Manager) on formatting the document into easy read over the coming weeks.

Update on the LD Strategy Refresh Work

Chris Beckingham Paul updated members on how the subgroup had met a couple of times to frame the questions for the survey on the Learning Disability Strategy. The survey will be sent out to providers and people with lived experience to gain insight into the issues affecting them and what needs to be covered in any new or refresh of the existing Learning Disability Strategy. Meetings are also taking place with the Communications Team on how they survey can be promoted through the Council's social media channels.

A discussion ensued around whether a Joint Learning Disability Strategy could be produced between Herefordshire Council and Worcestershire County Council.

Joint LDPB Meeting

Paul Choppen discussed how due to issues in agreeing a date and finding a suitable venue, the joint meeting scheduled for the 1st of July has been postponed. Conversations are ongoing around finding a new date potentially in September. Fran had proposed that a Joint LDPB meeting could take place on the 23rd of September on the date scheduled originally for Worcestershire's LDPB meeting.

Action 3 Paul said he would keep this board updated with further developments around a new date for the joint meeting.

A discussion was had over whether this board's September meeting should still go ahead, as well as the general state of the Hereford LDPB and how it could be improved including the potential of looking at how other counties LDPB are run.

Members agreed that the September Herefordshire LDPB meeting should still go ahead.

Action 4 Chris also suggested that a term of reference should be created for the Joint Herefordshire and Worcestershire LDPB. Paul will discuss this with members of Worcestershire's LDPB.

Action 5 Ian Harper agreed as a member of Gloucestershire's LDPB he would have a conversation with other members about the possibility of Tracy attend one of their future meetings to see how their board is run. Laura also asked if Ian if you find out the structure of Gloucestershire's LDPB and bring this information back to Herefordshire's September LDPB next meeting. Barbara also asked Ian to get a copy of Gloucestershire's LDPB minutes.

Ian suggested that there needs to be a better level of communication between both boards over the dates of each board's meetings.

Action 6 Paul Choppen will liaise with Aimme Davis from Worcestershire's LDPB around co-ordinating the dates of both counties future board meetings.

Action 7 Hannah Offord also said she would have a discussion with the Live Well Forum in Powys which she used to be a member of about Tracy potentially attending one of their meetings.

Named Social Worker

Rose Hunt brought up the question of whether people with a learning disability would be provided with a named social worker in Herefordshire going forward. She discussed how it had come up as key action with family carers report on the focus reviews they had done for LeDeR.

Hannah mentioned how Adult Social Care restructure was still ongoing and there hadn't been any confirmation on this as of yet, however she will seek an update from Manny for the meeting on Thursday.

Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 2nd of September 2025 from 1:30pm-3:30pm Fownhope Room, Plough Lane Offices, HR4 0LE and via Microsoft Teams

Actions

Actions	Name	Detail
Action 1	Paul	Will get the adult social care restructure chart from Zakia to share with members of the board once it is finalised.
Action 2	Paul	Paul still needs to create an action log for the LDPB
Action 3	Paul	Will keep this board updated with further developments around a new date for the Joint LDPB meeting.
Action 4	Paul	Will discuss the idea of the Joint LDPB having its own terms of reference with members of Worcestershire's LDPB.
Action 5	Ian	<p>Agreed to have a conversation with Gloucestershire's LDPB about the possibility of Tracy attend one of their future meetings to see how their board is run.</p> <p>Laura also asked if Ian if you find out the structure of Gloucestershire's LDPB and bring this information back to Herefordshire's September LDPB next meeting.</p> <p>Barbara also asked Ian to get a copy of Gloucestershire's LDPB minutes.</p>
Action 6	Paul	Will liaise with Aimme Davis from Worcestershire's LDPB around co-ordinating the dates of both counties future board meetings for better future planning.
Action 7	Hannah	Will have a discussion with the Live Well Forum in Powys about Tracy potentially attending one of their meetings.

X

Tracy Crum

Chair, Learning Disability Partnership Board

