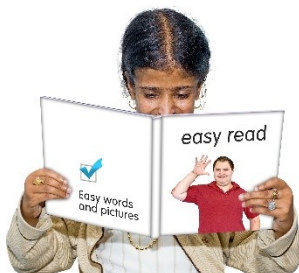


Adult Learning Difficulties Service in Gwynedd



What people told us



Easy Read version



We have to make changes to our services.



In 2015, we asked people with learning difficulties and their families and carers what they think.



We sent everyone a questionnaire. 25 people filled it in and sent it back.



We held meetings in Pwllheli, Porthmadog, Dolgellau, Caernarfon and Bangor. 25 people came.



This report says:

- the reasons we need to make changes
- what people said to us
- our ideas for what to do next





Part I

The need for change



There is a new law from April 2016.
The new law is called the Social
Services and Well-being (Wales) Act



The new law:



- gives people a stronger voice and more control



- gives more rights for carers



- says we must involve people more in planning services



- says we must help people to live as independently as possible. We must make sure people have the right support.



- reminds us to make sure everyone with a learning difficulty is part of their community.



But – we have to do this with less money.



We have made some changes already:



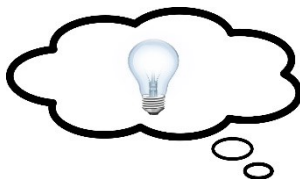
- more work experience



- group activities



- telecare to help people be more independent



We wanted to know what you think.
We wanted to hear your ideas.



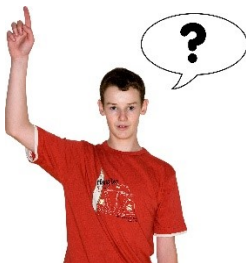
We have listened to you.



Part 2

What people said on the questionnaires

We sent out questionnaires to everyone. 25 people filled in and returned their questionnaire



Here are the questions and people's answers.



1. Why are you filling in the questionnaire?



8 were adults with a learning difficulty



11 were a family member, friend or carer



4 were staff



2. Do you know why we need to make changes?



Almost everyone knew we need to make changes so everyone can live as independently as possible.



Most people understood we need to make changes because of the new law.



Most people understood we need to make changes because we have less money.



3. Do you understand what we want our services to achieve?



We gave 5 answers. Most people understood all 5 things we want our services to achieve:



- To help people to live as independently as possible.



- To help people make the most of their lives



- To work on what people are good at



- To help the people who need our services most



- To support local communities to help



4. What do you think of the changes we have made?



Most people thought it was a good idea to help people to get work with local businesses. People were worried:



- it would cost too much



- people would get their hopes up too much



People were not sure about telecare.



Most people thought it was a good idea to have more group activities. But people said:



- some people do not like groups



- people may want to do different things



- can you go back to your own support if you don't like the group?



Most people liked the new way of supporting people to live in their own home. But people said:



- we need more information



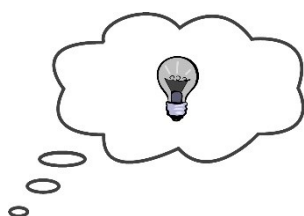
- it is a bad idea to put lots of people in the same area



5. What do you think of our ideas for the future?



Most people liked all our ideas. They liked some ideas more than others.



Here are the ideas, and what people said.



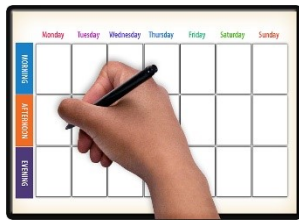
Helping people to join local community groups and activities:



- people in the community will need support and training



- Council departments will need to talk to each other



Organising your own group activities:



- What about people who need a lot of support?



- Where will the money come from?



- If you need support for daily life, how will you be able to organise group activities?



A friends scheme:



- It costs money to train volunteers



- There are not enough volunteers



- Do we know if it works?



More Adult Placements:



- Will the carers be suitable?



More respite, and new types of respite:



- Want to know more, to know if it is right for us



- It will be expensive



More things to do in the daytime:



- Who will pay?



- will the Council get it right?



More people using Direct Payments:



- A lot of people were not sure about this



New ways to live independently, with support:



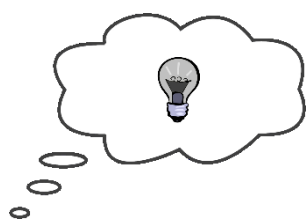
- We need more information



- Moving home and changes
can be very hard



- It is too soon to know if Pant yr
Eithin is working well



6. What are your ideas?



15 people gave us their ideas.

Here are some ideas people told us:



- Day trips and weekends away



- Shopping trips



- Football for disabled people



- Courses on daily living and looking after your money



- More group activities and days out, like the Gateway Club.



Here are things some people said are needed:



- More support for autistic adults. Groups are not a good choice for autistic people.



- All disabled people need to be treated equally



- Better support for young adults



- Suitable housing



- Good quality care, from the same people



- A panel for parents and carers to talk about the future of services



- More links between education and social services



Many people said they are worried about:



- the cuts



- the future



7. What else do you want to tell us?



Workers need to learn more about autism



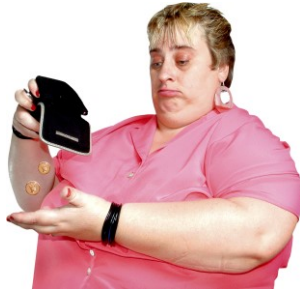
Some people need specialist staff.



Respite is good. But it needs to be local.



The new services are good for people who only need a little support. They are not good for people who need a lot of support.



The ideas are good, but how can they happen with less money?
Being more independent can be expensive.



Gwynedd Council needs to make sure there is as much money as possible for services for people with learning difficulties.



It is important to help the people who need support most, and not the people whose parents shout loudest.



Where will the volunteers come from?



How do you support people to live as independently as possible?



How do you ask the local community to help adults with learning disability?



8. Can we come back to ask more questions?



14 people said we can ask them more questions.