



Health Scrutiny Committee
15 November 2012

Health Service for People with Learning Disabilities

Purpose of the report: Scrutiny of Services

The Committee will scrutinise the accessibility of primary and secondary health services for people with learning disabilities.

Introduction:

1. Surrey County Council undertook a Public Value Review of service for people with learning disabilities in 2011, producing a commissioning strategy in 2012.
2. The Adult Social Care Select Committee scrutinised the commissioning strategy and highlighted the issue that some people with learning disabilities find accessing general health services difficult. A recommendation was made that the Health Scrutiny Committee investigate the accessibility of health services for people with learning disabilities.

A partnership approach

3. In Surrey, services for people with learning disabilities are very much delivered in partnership between health and social care. Surrey & Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust is the county's mental health trust. They are commissioned by both NHS Surrey and Surrey County Council Adult Social Care to provide services to people with learning disabilities.
4. **Annex 1** is a paper from Surrey & Borders outlining their work on helping people with learning disabilities to access primary and acute care across the County through the use of PLD Liaison Nurses.
5. Attached at **Annex 2** is a paper from Surrey LINK, outlining its involvement with the PLD Liaison Nurse programme. They have also sent in a report (**Annex 3**) of an event held last year with Macmillan to

highlight the risks of testicular and breast cancer for people with learning disabilities. This paper gives further weight to the need to ensure that people with learning disabilities are supported in accessing health services.

6. At the meeting, representatives from NHS Surrey, primary care, acute care, Surrey & Borders and Adult Social Care will present the ways in which people with learning disabilities are helped to access health services in Surrey.

Recommendations:

7. The Committee is requested to scrutinise the accessibility of health services for people with learning disabilities.

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Sources/background papers: None