

Learning Disabilities – ‘Big Picture Planning Day Saturday 11 February 2006

Feedback from workshop sessions (notes taken from flipcharts)

Each group considered the same question ‘What would you like services to look like in 5 years time’ – plus any issues people wanted to flag up.

Group 1

*Support for parents attending today’s meeting.

*More involvement in political decisions government committees made up of carers, parents.

5 years time

*Incidence/stats for people with Learning Disabilities to be able to plan services.

*Need for Government Departments to share information more, at early stages to be able to plan.

*Database set up for anyone with a need, disability.

*Community set up, flats etc. people to have some support, individual lives, part of community stability.

*Someone to turn to for parents/carers like a key worker/social worker.

*Compatibility of houses who lives together.

*"Supported living" + - good thing if staff available, learn from the past.

*Day Services – still have a large unit meeting place. Should be open to the community two way thing.

*Improve awareness of special needs.

Elderly people with learning disabilities offered the same as people without a disability. Specialist unit/services for elderly.

*Respite made more available.

*Benefits review for carers who reach pension age – people continue to care.

*Free transport all people with special needs.

Group 2

Accommodation:

- Continuity – No Change without consultation.
- Carers involved in service planning, community,

- More bungalows - small units – like Braddan.
Small family units.

- Local Services –

Provide services in the local

i.e. North

- Respite

- more carer's support

Plan respite services.

- Insufficient respite – “Asked for respite 12 months ago – still waiting. Never in 40 years”
- Respite in the family house.
- more flexible respite.
- Care allowances stop once you reach 65

had a holiday

years.

Health:

- No Speech Therapy
- No Physiotherapy
- No Occupational therapy

Work:

- Business Ventures for people with Learning Disabilities – Like in other countries.

Group 3

GAPS IN CHILDRENS SERVICES

- After school clubs
- Holiday – occupation during holidays on continuous basis
 - off island breaks.

- Breaks for family and child schools in general working well but

COLLEGE

- Currently – 2 years full time if considered appropriate.
 - Then 18+ = 2 days
 - This is not sufficient.
 - Transition - ? Lack or basic skill training

PARENT/CARER TRAINING

Communication

Transport – College, Respite, Activities

Weekend Respite – not 9 - 5 Monday/Friday

Activities – Price concessions

Keeping carers informed – Facilities

- Benefits

Equality – Learning Disability/other

- Individual Services to meet Individual Needs.
- Driving Lessons
 - Experience
 - Pleasure
 - Off Road
- Daily Living Skills with Refreshers “Rhythm of Life”
- Educating the public
 - Services etc
 - Public Transport
 - Bus pass
- Equality
 - Living at Home/in Community House
- Continuity in SALT
 - What happens when Mencap can no longer fund?
 - Considered very beneficial “one of the best things that has ever happened”
- Befriending to fill gaps where family is not available

– give independence.

- What happens when a carer can no longer care?
 - Appropriate facility to individual need “cruelty to move to inappropriate environment.
- Respite – General
- Social Worker – Availability
- Concern over staffing levels/Finance
- Location of houses – danger
- Employment – support (more staff) Comm.
- Respite – Ramsey (night/weekend)
- Disability awareness in employment – training for employers
- Health Services – understanding – communication

Group 4

Support in Home

Transport

Proactive approach to potential clients and carers.

Address compatibility

Find ways to implement recommendations of review group.

Choice of P

Find an agreed central strategy that everyone will support on same level.

Source a mechanism which can assess and analyse including need given the wide diversity of that need.

Seek ways of achieving economies within existing budgetary structures.

Group 5

TRANSPORTATION

1. Should be organised better for costings, i.e. single passengers for same journey in taxis.
2. **Respite** (only in Douglas – should be Island wide)
Not enough – no respite service in Ramsey for overnight stays why can Ramsey Cottage not provide?
3. **Social Work Team**
Parents/carers in Group 5
Would appreciate an annual visit. For information sharing, i.e. explain what benefits entitlement allowed and should be claimed for.
4. **Assurances**
No cut backs will be made throughout the services (DHSS).

Group 6

*Adult Placement (Respite!)

- needs to be maintained and expanded – including outside Douglas – when is insufficient (i.e. North of Island)

* More social activities needed – all over island (i.e. North again has NIL!)

* More respite beds urgently needed

* Choice re accommodation – not just Community Homes

- * Update on housing list situation required.
- * Flexible out of hours day service required.
- * Supported living programme needs to be progressed.
- * Additional Learning/Educational Programmes/Courses needed.
- * Legal Protection to ensure benefits not lost if client receives legally from parents.
- * Don't discard working programmes – need assurance no cut to vital services already provided.
- * **Health** – specialist services needed, i.e. therapists (speech & Languages) occupational therapist. Also needed specialist community nurse required (currently S.A.L.T. funded by MENCAP – thank you!!!)
- * Staff training in supporting of sexuality issues + service user awareness training.
- * Service users on working Programmes
- * **“My Plan”** – former I.P's to enjoy priority – for those who benefit from this process.
- * Continue Dialogue Started Today – regular feedback needed.
- * Identify agreed action list based on budgetary constraints i.e. a 'must do' list irrespective of budget cuts.
- * **MORE MEETINGS IN THE NORTH**

Group 7 – Equal Lives group

HOUSING

- > Some people want houses of their own, some people want to live with people they like
- > People are worried about closing houses – can it happen to me

JOBS

- > A lot of people think jobs are important
- > Difficult to get jobs and not enough support

FULFILLING LIVES

- > Get out more – life is too boring.
- > People want the chance to do a lot of different things.
- > One person does house work too much but IT is better than doing nothing.
- > Staff not to be moved about.

WHAT STOPS US FROM HAVING A FULFILLING LIFE?

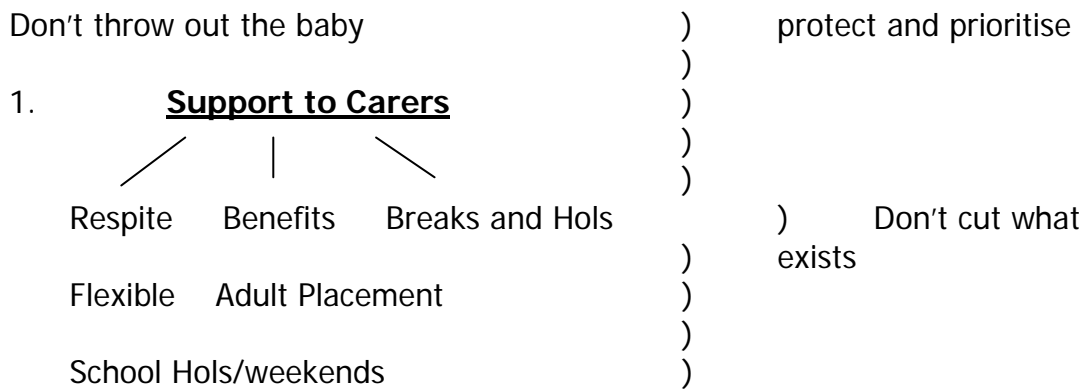
- > Lack of support stops us doing a lot of ordinary things.
- > Money - we have to pay twice everywhere we go, e.g. Holidays, Theatre, buses.
- > Transport
- > Not enough chance to have friends and relationships
- > Being in charge of your own life

WHAT IS A FULFILLING LIFE?

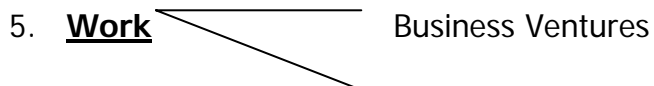
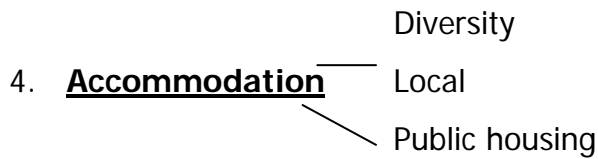
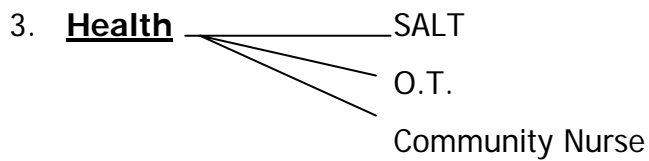
- > Making own decisions – Getting the help we need

- > Houses that we like
- > Jobs
- > Things we do like
- > Friends and relationships
- > Having enough money to do things

ANDREWS QUICK SUMMARY OF ALL WORKSHOP FEEDBACK!



2. **Education** ————— Deterioration at 18



Benefits – (Social Security)

6. Transport

7. Community Support

8. Money

..... AND KEY FEATURES

1. Involvement. In Planning
Including
Difficult Decisions
Including those not here
Anticipate needs
Info
Training
Consultation
Reassurance
Housing
Choice - OPPS
Decisions - Likes &
Annual Visit - Dislikes
2. INDIVIDUALISM
3. GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIB. The North
4. CONTINUITY Key Worker
Support in Community
Benefits support
5. OPEN TO COMMUNITY/INTEGRATION
- Transport / Public Awareness
6. EQUITY Whole Community Involvement
7. ALL PULL TOGETHER!