

Updates from the CB-NSG steering group – March 2011

A whole range of actions take place between meetings to implement the action plans developed by CB-NSG members. The steering group have compiled the following information to update you on progress. **Many thanks to all CB-NSG members who have contributed to this work.** If there is a particular strand of work you would like to contribute to or if you have information about related work to share, please get in touch.

For regular updates visit the Strategy Group pages of the Challenging Behaviour Foundation website: www.challengingbehaviour.org.uk

The information below is organised into the nine action plans currently being taken forward as well as general updates.

General updates

1. Engaging with people with learning disabilities

National Forum members have discussed the charter and Michael Radcliffe has signed up to the CB-NSG charter on behalf of the National Forum. Feedback was as follows: The self advocacy sub-group found your charter difficult to understand so it took us along time to go through it. They liked and agreed with the ideas within it but thought it was complicated for an 'easy read' version. In their presentation to the rest of the National Forum they said: "We agree with all the points in the charter but especially like the parts about individual support, properly trained staff and helping children early before their problems get really bad." The vote for the National forum to sign up was passed unanimously.

2. Social Care Institute for Excellence – SCIE TV

SCIE have made two films highlighting best practice in supporting people whose behaviour challenges, one focussing on improving services and the other independent living. The Challenging Behaviour – National Strategy Group is featured as good practice in the improving services film. The films go live on 18th May 2011 at <http://www.scie.org.uk/socialcaretv>

3. All Party Parliamentary Group

The APPG went ahead on 1st December, despite the arctic conditions in much of the country. Minutes of the meeting are available from Peter Hand (peter.hand@mencap.org.uk). The CBF has conducted a follow up mailing to all MPs and also to Peers with a known interest in learning disabilities. A further APPG meeting is being planned for November 2011.

4. National Children and Adult Services (NCAS) Conference

Roger Banks, Theresa Joyce and Viv Cooper addressed the NCAS conference in November. Turn out was lower than expected however there was good engagement and sharing of experiences amongst those present.

5. South East Regional Housing project

Regional funding has been identified to support a number of people with learning disabilities whose behaviour challenges and their families move from inappropriate living arrangements to more personalised, local accommodation.

6. Local demonstration sites – developing individualised support & services

Working with a number of partners the CBF is supporting local authorities to transform services and support to enable individuals with learning disabilities whose behaviour challenges to live locally. A part time project manager will be appointed to lead this work. For more information and details of how to apply see the CBF website: www.challengingbehaviour.org.uk

7. Strategic Health Authority (SHA) Leads

The SHA leads have discussed the CB-NSG charter and agreed to include it in their work plan for 2011 including in consultations with GP commissioning consortia.

8. Mental Health Charter

Following on from the CB-NSG charter an Outcomes Charter for the mental health of people with learning disabilities has been drafted on which consultation is taking place until the end of March. For more information contact Jo Poynter: jo@vpst.co.uk

9. Charter sign up

To date 36 organisations and 90 individuals have signed up to the charter. Recent sign up to the charter includes: Steve McCabe (MP for Selly Oak, Birmingham); Grahame Morris (MP for Easington) and Julian Huppert (MP for Cambridge). Additionally Sarah Teather, Minister of State for Children and Families has agreed to provide a message of support for the CBF website.

10. Publicity

The Spring edition of “Challenge” CBF newsletter will include updates from the work of the CB-NSG. The following additional publicity focussing on the work of the CB-NSG has been completed.

- Roger Banks presented on the work of the CB-NSG at the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual

Disabilities (IASSID) conference

- Roger Banks presented on the work of the CB-NSG at the Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health (ACAMHS) conference
- South East regional challenging behaviour event

Updates arising from action planning work

Early intervention action plan

1. Roger Banks – Unified approach stage 2

The Faculty of the psychiatry of learning disability has agreed to fund some continued joint work on challenging behaviour (follow up to Unified Approach). Work with children, early intervention, offending behaviour are all areas that require further elaboration for a joined up professional perspective. A working group is currently being formed and will link with the Challenging Behaviour – National Strategy Group.

2. Theresa Joyce & Roger Banks – Pathway

Three meetings have been held to initiate work on the pathway. A further meeting is planned for 5th April 2011. To date an initial structure has been developed and work is underway to draft the first assessment and support 'tiles' setting out the detail for each given assessment or type of support. It is envisaged that the final product will be an online interactive resource hosted by the Challenging Behaviour Foundation.

3. CBF - Engage with National Children's Bureau

A meeting has been arranged between the CBF and NCB (Christine Lenehan) in April to make links and ensure reciprocal links between the CB NSG and the Council for Disabled Children.

Families action plan

1. Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) – Suite of pamphlets re support for families

The Social Care Institute for Excellence has produced 3 "at a glance" guides for family carers:

- Getting the right support for a child whose behaviour challenges: a guide for family carers
- Getting the right support for a teenager whose behaviour challenges: a guide for family carers
- Getting the right support for an adult whose behaviour challenges: a guide for family carers

SCIE launched all 3 guides at the CB-NSG meeting on 11th March. They are available online at: www.scie.org.uk or hard copies can be ordered from hugh.constant@scie.org.uk

2. Peter McGill – National indicators of family satisfaction behaviour subset

After writing a business case, the Department for Education recently allowed Peter McGill access to the behaviour subset data of the national indicators of family satisfaction.

Planning, Commissioning & Monitoring action plan

1. Peter McGill – Valuing People Now Scoping Exercise

“Developing better commissioning for individuals with behaviour that challenges services – a scoping exercise” was published in November and has been disseminated to all CB-NSG members. A recommendation of the report is that the CB-NSG should co-ordinate and drive the process of improving the quality of outcomes for individuals whose behaviour challenges and their families.

2. Sarah Bernard & Jan McCarthy (SLAM NHS Foundation Trust) – pamphlet for commissioners on workforce skills

Sarah Bernard presented a draft of the pamphlet on workforce skills to the September 2010 national CB-NSG meeting. Final revisions are now underway to complete this resource. Funding has been obtained to design, print and disseminate the publication.

3. Peter McGill & Jo Poynter – High cost placements

Peter McGill & Jo Poynter have translated their presentation from the last CB-NSG meeting on high cost placements into a journal article *“High cost residential placements for adults with learning disabilities”* and submitted it for publication in JARID. Work is underway for more detailed follow up research.

4. NDTi – How to guide for commissioners

The NDTi report *“Guide for commissioners of services for people with learning disabilities who challenges services”* was published in November and has been disseminated to all CB-NSG members.

Reducing restrictive behavioural practices action plan

1. Jackie Edwards (family carer) – Information sheet for family carers on raising complaints effectively

Jackie Edwards has drafted an information sheet for family carers “*Raising complaints effectively*”. CB-NSG members provided feedback at the CB-NSG meeting on the 11th March. It is intended that once complete this will be published as a CBF information sheet and be made available to family carers free of charge.

2. CBF – linking with autism strategy delivery plan

In October the CBF facilitated family carers to attend an event hosted by Kate Hardy, the focus of which was family carers of individuals with complex needs. This was one part of the wider consultation on the autism strategy delivery plan.

3. Alison Giraud-Saunders (FPLD) – NHS Security Management Service resource

The FPLD were commissioned by the NHS Security Management Service to write a booklet for their staff to raise awareness about learning disability. The author is Hazel Morgan. This was needed because of the law that allows the NHS to evict people from NHS premises who are seen as violent or aggressive – unless they have a disability or health problem that may be causing their behaviour. We hope to be able to circulate a copy to CB-NSG members.

Personalisation action plan

1. Jill Davies – InControl workforce training group

Jill obtained the following useful information. Under the new Qualification and Credit Framework there is a new learning disability qualification (starting in January 2011). There is now a learning disability pathway through the HSC Diploma. Learners can also take smaller LD qualifications for CPD. For more information see:

http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/qualifications_and_training/qualificationsandcreditframeworkQCF/qualificationsandcreditframeworkQCF.aspx

Skills for Care have also produced a “*Toolkit to help people employ their own personal assistant*” which includes a sample job description, person specification and contracts etc.

2. CBF – Home & Communities Agency

The CBF wrote to the Homes & Communities Agency (HCA) regarding the availability of appropriate housing for individuals with learning disabilities and

behaviour described as challenging. In response a meeting between Viv Cooper and James Berrington was held in January 2010 to discuss the issues in more detail. The HCA agreed to link to the work of the CB-NSG.

Health action plan

1. CBF – request Public Health Observatory conduct a health action plan project

The CB-NSG steering group has written to the Public Health Observatory to ask if they will consider “*How well do Health action plans & passports work for individuals with learning disabilities and behaviour described as challenging?*” as a project. This request was made alongside a number of other requests focussing on the needs of individuals whose behaviour challenges services.

Evidence based practice action plan

1. CBF – consultation responses

The CBF has submitted responses to:

- Liberating the NHS
- SEN call for evidence
- Commission on the Funding of Care and Support

The CBF is currently preparing responses to the Public Health White paper and the Joint Committee on Human Rights Call for Evidence to enable independent living for disabled people. CB-NSG members are encouraged to respond also.

2. David Allen, Christine Harcombe, Jan Seamer, Bob Tindall, Brenda Mullen & CBF - Service provider self evaluation

A meeting was held on Friday 4th February to hold initial discussions and agree a work plan. It was agreed to develop a self evaluation measure for providers of adult services and support.

Key issues to measure

- Quality of life outcomes (use existing quality of life tools)
- Quality of behavioural support (in accordance with Unified Approach)
- Reducing restrictive practices (cross reference with Deb guidance)
- Health needs
- Environment (non- challenging)
- Skill development
- Leadership (support & supervision)
- Training & induction (Staff stress, turnover, injuries & sickness)

We will be writing to members to request information on self evaluation measures which members have used or developed themselves. We have also asked members if they would like to pilot the CB-NSG self evaluation measure.

Workforce action plan

1. Lesley Barcham – funding for training for service user/family led support

Lesley Barcham has suggested the following sources of information may be helpful in relation to the discussion about training for personal assistants, funding etc.

<http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/atagance/atagance14.asp>

<http://www.panet.org.uk/>

<http://www.socialcarecareers.co.uk/>

http://www.manchester.gov.uk/downloads/file/12101/personal_assistant_employee_guide

Local support & service action plan

1. Sue Carmichael & Vivien Cooper – Engage with Public Health Observatory

Three members of the CB-NSG are on the management group for the Public Health Observatory and we have good links with Professor Eric Emerson who is a core member of the CB-NSG and spoke at the meeting on 11th March.