Learning Disability Partnership Board 8th July 2019

CARERS ISSUES

LD Partnership Board   
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Assessment process – recent experience (a) getting a new needs assessment, rather than just tinkering with the old one, proved to be a challenge (b) allocated worker was able to do a review, but not a full assessment for the future – wasted visits (c) suggestion that this long-term planning was for the Accomodation social worker to do – is this realistic ? (d) concern that wish to plan for long-term regularly repeated since 2006 had just been filed

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Assessment process (continued) (e) The assessment form – despite all the objections to this, and all the work completed to completely revise it, no changes have been made – so a form that was judged unfit for purpose has been used for all assessments carried out in last two years

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The assessment form

* nowhere to note down differences in view between family carer and person being assessed
* **nowhere to record the evidence on which the views of the assessor were based.**
* So no way to challenge the result – unless the lack of this itself constitutes grounds for a legal challenge
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* No easy read guidance, and some language that is really difficult to understand (eg Question 1 – ‘To manage my personal wellbeing and dignity I need’…)
* No clear bold statement at the outset about the purpose of the assessment (eg ‘To assess the impact of your disability on your ability to live the life you would wish for’)

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- A very small thing – space for the completed assessment to be signed, with a date, and who it has been circulated to.

- When Panels are involved, there is never any feedback from them

- Finally, some people experience long delays between the support plan and budget being agreed and the actual money arriving.

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Speed of response to crises – The vision for Adult Social Care that was presented to an earlier Board meeting talked about how Services would be responsive. For people at the end of their tether this really matters. Is there a target for how quickly a response can be expected ?

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Barriers for people with LD to join a GP

There seems to be an assumption that everybody has a passport and a utility bill to prove their identity. How realistic is this for many people with a learning disability?