

Hello everyone

Well this last 12 months have been a roller coaster of a year and as result we recognise we have not been in touch with our members as regularly as we would do normally. As you may be aware I have been working for Castlebeck following the terrible events at Winterbourne View and this newsletter picks up on some of the policy and guidance that has resulted.

I have recently spoken at a number of conferences about how we can improve care and the interest and support from people, families and fellow professionals has been overwhelming. It really does feel as if there is a will to work together to put things right not just for people with learning disabilities but all vulnerable adults. Events at Mid-Staffordshire NHS Trust and wider have made us all realise that good care depends on good people doing the right thing regardless of where or who they work for.

I would like to wish our readers a wonderful Christmas and a peaceful New Year and to sincerely thank you for your continued support.



www.debramooreassociates.com

I am only one, but I still am one. I cannot do everything, but I can still do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do.

Helen Keller

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The eLearning Zone



New elearning programmes to support Postural Care & Health Action Planning

We are proud to have worked with the Postural Care Skills CIC to bring you the [Postural Care elearning programme](#). People who find it hard to move are most at risk of developing body shape distortions. This is because they often sit and lie in limited positions. Postural care is about using the right equipment and positioning techniques to help protect and restore body shape. The earlier the intervention, the better - but it is never too late to start protecting someone's body shape.

Coming Soon - [Health Action Planning](#). People with learning disabilities are at increased risk of ill health and premature death. In 2007 the government published guidance on Health Action Planning authored by Debra Moore. This elearning programme supports participants to understand the basics of health action planning and health facilitation and enable them to better support the health of people with learning disabilities.

You can find out more about this and our other elearning opportunities by going to the [eLearning Zone](#) at <http://debramooreassociates.com>

Government publishes final report on Winterbourne View Hospital

The government has published its final report into the events at Winterbourne View Hospital and has set out a programme of action to transform services so that vulnerable people no longer live inappropriately in hospitals and are cared for in line with best practice.



This programme is backed by a concordat signed by more than 50 partners, setting out what changes they will deliver and by when.

The final report into the events at Winterbourne View Hospital states that staff routinely mistreated and abused patients, and management allowed a culture of abuse to flourish. The warning signs were not picked up, and concerns raised by a whistleblower went unheeded. The report also reveals weaknesses in the system's ability to hold the leaders of care organisations to account. In addition, it finds that many people are in hospital who don't need to be.

To read the full final report, go to: www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/12/final-winterbourne

Strengthening the Commitment for Learning Disability Nurses across the UK

The work of the UK Modernising Learning Disability Nursing Review continues with actions and events across all 4 countries. The review document was launched this year at the RCN Congress in Harrogate. It contains recommendations for the workforce highlighting the fact that learning disability nursing has always had a major input into the health of people with learning disabilities, their families and carers, and demand is likely to grow.



Hazel Powell, Project Manager for Modernising Learning Disability Nursing, worked across the UK on the review, which was chaired by Ros Moore, Chief Nursing Officer for Scotland, on behalf of the four country chief nursing officers.

This is a must read document for all learning disability nurses and students and for those interested in the health and well being of people with learning disabilities.

www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/04/6465/downloads

New drive to promote compassion in services



On the 4th December the Department of Health for England launched a new drive to ensure values such as compassion and courage are at the heart of the NHS and the public health and care sectors. There will be a new three-year vision and strategy for nursing, midwifery and care staff that aims to build the culture of compassionate care in all areas of practice.

Called *Compassion in Practice*, it has been drawn up by Jane Cummings, the Chief Nursing Officer for England (CNO), based with the NHS Commissioning Board, and Viv Bennett, Director of Nursing at the Department of Health.

www.commissioningboard.nhs.uk/files/2012/12/compassion-in-practice.pdf



Patient Association publishes their 2012 Report 'Stories from the present, lessons for the future'

This report catalogues 13 accounts from patients or relatives who have experienced poor care in hospitals and care homes around the country. The report is a snapshot of the many stories of poor care heard by the Patients Association Helpline, reflects wider shortcomings in the NHS and makes sobering reading for anyone involved in commissioning and delivering healthcare.

www.patients-association.com/default.aspx?tabid=80&Id=101

CQC has published its State of Care Report



This report looks at the shape of care services in England and the quality of care that they provide to people.

The report concludes that in some areas staffing and skill mix issues, combined with the need to care for people with increasingly complex conditions, are beginning to affect the quality of care being delivered, with a particular impact on the dignity and respect of people.

Where services fail, CQC has found three common factors which contribute to the poor quality of services:

- Providers who try to manage with high vacancy rates or the wrong mix of skills.
- An attitude to care that is 'task-based', not person-centred.
- A care culture in which the unacceptable becomes the norm.

www.cqc.org.uk/public/reports-surveys-and-reviews/reports/state-care-report-2011/12

Personal Health Budgets Rollout



We are pleased to report that Norman Lamb announced the roll out of Personal Health Budgets on the 30th November.

The Government has been piloting personal health budgets at 20 in-depth sites for the last three years and an evaluation report has found that the quality of life for people with them has improved, with some even seeing a drop in their attendance at hospital.

The evaluation report of Personal Health Budgets can be found at www.phbe.org.uk

Personal health budgets will initially be targeted at people who are already getting NHS Continuing Care, around 56,000 people, and others who clinicians feel may benefit from the additional flexibility and control that personal health budgets offer.

<http://mediacentre.dh.gov.uk/2012/11/30/thousands-set-to-take-control-with-personal-health-budgets-cash-for-care/>

'Christmas to remember'

This campaign aims to raise awareness of dementia and was launched on the 5th December. It is a joint digital campaign from Number 10, Department of Health and Alzheimer's Society. It aims to raise awareness of dementia and encourage people to take appropriate action if they spot signs of the condition in family or friends over the festive season.



www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/12/christmas-to-remember/



Updated national framework for NHS continuing healthcare and related tools

The national framework for NHS continuing health-care and NHS funded nursing care has now been revised to reflect the new NHS framework and structures created by the Health and Social Act 2012 effective from 01.04.2013.

www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/11/continuing-healthcare-revisions/

Assessment and Treatment Units and Other Specialist Inpatient Care for People with Learning Disabilities in the Count-Me-In surveys, 2006 to 2010



New IHaL Study of in-patient care for people with learning disability

A new study using data from the annual Count-Me-In censuses of people in mental healthcare hospital beds specifically for people with learning disabilities is published today. The census was done each year from 2006 to 2010 and covered all NHS funded care, whether provided by the NHS or in the independent sector. The study shows wide variations in both quality and the extent of use of these hospitals.

Go to: www.improvinghealthandlives.org.uk



Consultation Corner

Views sought on strengthening **NHS Constitution Consultation** opened on 05 November 2012 and closes 28 January 2013



Proposals to strengthen the NHS Constitution are set out for public consultation, with the NHS, patients and public are all being asked to respond.

The consultation contains a number of pledges and includes a clear steer that

- patients, their families and carers should be fully involved in all discussions and decisions about their care and treatment, including their end of life care
- the NHS is equally concerned about physical and mental health.



www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/11/constitution-consultation/