

Words and their meanings

Advocacy: Speaking up on behalf of a person or group of people with a learning disability

Advocate: A person who supports you to speak up, to be listened to and to put your point of view across

Broker: Someone to help people plan what support they want to buy with their personal budget and help them to find the right support.

Care Manager: A person from the County Council who will assess a person with a learning disability to find out what their needs are. Then they will develop care and support packages and make sure they are working well for the person. Many care managers are nurses or social workers

Changing Place: A toilet for disabled people with a changing bench and a hoist (a system attached to the ceiling that helps to a carer to lift the person). There is lots of space, a non-slip floor and a screen or curtain for privacy

Circle of Support: A group of people such as family, friends and other important people are chosen by a person with learning disabilities to support them and help them make decisions and achieve goals. A circle of support can help to make a support plan, a person centred plan and decide what to do in the day, evenings and weekends.

Community Participation Service: A service provided by Delos that aims to involve people in their local community. People are doing driving and swimming lessons, working a charity shop or library, doing gardening, karate and line dancing. Also people are working on their CVs and doing basic skills assessments. At the end of the project it is hoped that people will need little support and will have replaced their day service with something new that they enjoy,

Consultation: Asking people what they think about something or what they would like to happen

Direct Payment: Some people choose to have their personal budget put into their bank account. The person uses the money from social services to pay for services themselves.

Direct Payments have been in place for a long time but people have had very strict rules about what it can be spent on. In future, as part of a personal budget, people will have greater freedom. Not everyone having a personal budget has to have their allocation paid into their bank account to directly pay for their care. Some people will still want someone to do this for them (including the council)

Health and Adult Social Services: This is the new name for what is traditionally known as Community Services or Social Services. It is a group whose job

is to give help, information and support to people with learning disabilities and their families, Services they look after are what people do in the day, benefits and making sure all services are good.

Helping to Develop Community Lives, also known as day service modernisation: Changing the services that people use during the day to make the services better. It is bringing service up to date. This means making sure people have the chance to choose what they do during the day, for example, going to work or college, doing sports or leisure, and spending time with friends.

Inclusion: Being able to do the same things and go to the same places as everyone else, for example, going to the health centre to see your doctor or going to the leisure centre to go swimming.

Independence: Being able to do as many things as you can for yourself or getting the support to do those things if you want.

Independent Support Planners: People who can help a person with a learning disability to create a support plan. They work independently so they are not influenced by any services or organisations but they work for the County Council.

Individual budget: This is the whole budget that belongs to a person. The Personal Budget from the County Council is just one part of the money. You can choose how you spend it.

Jargon: Words that a service or group of people use that other people do not understand.

Job coach: A person who can support a person with a learning disability in employment. They can help a person to find a job, write a CV and work on interview skills. They can also give encouragement and confidence to the person and work with the employer to support the person in the best way.

NHS Campus Re provision: the government decided that all persons with a learning disability living in NHS homes should not live in NHS accommodation or be cared for by NHS staff (this is because some inspection reports in other parts of the country were very bad).

In Northamptonshire we have 94 people who live in 16 Homes run by the Health Care Trust and by April 2010, it is hoped that these people will be living in the community with their own support through a personal budget.

Ordinary Living: Living in your own home in the community

Pilot: This is the first test of a project to see if it works, for example it can use a small amount of people, for a small amount of time, just to see if the project works and if there are changes that need to be made before the main project work is started.

Person Centred Plan: A plan about what you want in your life. You can say what you want now and what you want in the future. Someone you choose, a facilitator, helps you plan what you want and helps you plan to make that happen

Personal Budget: A personal budget is the amount of money from the County Council allocated to a person with learning disabilities to pay for their care and support. After an assessment, you work with your circle of support to decide what you want to do with your money and write a support plan. When this has been agreed with your care manager, he or she will help you and your circle of support put this plan into action.

Personalisation: Making sure people have control over how they want to live and what they want to do. The way they live is individual to them. The main focus of personalisation is choice and control. This term is used nationally and you might see it in different papers, we feel it is hard to understand so will try not to use it. We think Self Directed Support is a better way of saying this.

Planning Live: A event that can happen over 2 or 3 days, that people with learning disabilities can go along to with their circle of support and make a support plan. There are many professionals on standby that can help give advice and guidance to the group about the support plan.

Resource allocation system: The system that decides how much money a person can be allocated in their personal budget. The system must be a fair and reasonable way of allocating resources to people.

Respite: A place where people can go to have a break. Or it can be a way to give someone a break, like a carer, this can be at your own home or in another home.

Self assessment: This is when a person that needs a service assesses themselves, with help if needed and the information is used to decide what support the person might need

Self Directed Support: Being in control and choosing your own support to live your life how you want to. This includes creating a support plan and getting a personal budget.

Service Provider: People who give a service, for example, health services are providers

Support Plan: A plan that says how you want to live your life, it shows the changes you want to make and how you will spend your personal budget to achieve these things. It says what is important to you, what support you will have and how you will manage it, how you will stay in control and what will happen to you in the future

Support Planner: Someone who helps you write your plan. This can be family and friends, other people with a disability, advocates, someone from the care management team or an independent support planner

Tender: This is an offer to do work or provide a service for a certain amount of money and length of time. For example, the County Council can tender for an employment service, any organisation can put in a tender bid and a panel of people who have an interest in the employment service meet and interview the people who have bid for the tender. They decide who they want to run the service and the organisation is contracted to do run the employment service for the agreed amount of money and length of time.

Transformation Team: A team from the County Council that is working on giving people personal budgets and making sure the process works well