



Learning Disability England



HAPPI Hour - Building the right home and support

6th July 2021
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Learning Disability England exists to make life better for and with people with Learning Disabilities and their families.

How we work

1. Membership – for people and organisations creating stronger links together
2. Influence and campaigning – speaking up and sharing others important work
3. Solving problems together & sharing what works
4. Share information and build networks so we learn together



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Our context - Do people have real choice?

- UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities:
 - a) Persons with disabilities [should] have the opportunity to choose their place of residence and where and with whom they live on an equal basis with others and [should not be] obliged to live in a particular living arrangement
 - b) Persons with disabilities [should] have access to a range of in-home, residential and other community support services, including personal assistance necessary to support living and inclusion in the community, and to prevent isolation or segregation from the community

Where we have heard this



- Finding our way home - 'big conversation' about the housing choices. Learning Disability England and Housing LIN worked together on this.
- Social Care conversations (Covid taskforce and Social Care Futures)
- Lots of members conversations
- Research York & Bristol and MMU conducting

Where do people live – the 2019 - 2020 numbers

These count people aged 18 – 64 who get long term social care support

Many people are living with family and friends (mostly family) –
That is 37% of people with learning disabilities

This is 10% more than in 2014/15.

More people in 'supported living' rising: 23% in 2018/19

Less people in residential care – 15% in 2019/20

Numbers of people in other types of housing and support (e.g. independent tenancies, shared lives) have gone up and down in recent years.



What we learnt from these conversations



‘we all want to live in the place we call home with the people and things that we love, in communities where we look out for one another, doing the things that matter to us’

What we learnt from these conversations



People's experiences are different depending on

- where you live
- if you get social care support
- if someone can advocate for you or help you speak up



Choices can be very limited for many people

What we learnt from these conversations



- Housing decisions get made for many reasons - not always based on what people want or need
- Sometimes decisions get made for people or they are 'placed' somewhere
- There is no 1 kind of housing that will work for everyone

There are some things to build on



- More people have a home that works for them
 - Some people have a home they have chosen
 - Home ownership is good for some people
- Individualised housing planning helps
 - Having a good plan for finding a home works well
- Good information in some places is helping
 - When people have good information on housing choices and rights it helps them get a home

What people say will help



- Having same and equal housing choices
- People need housing that helps them stay near family or friends or the community they are part of
- Good information on housing rights and access to housing and up to date information on different housing options.
- Advocacy for people who don't have family to support them to exercise their housing rights

What needs to improve – coherent plan and action?



- A 'national standard' that local councils should have to meet.
- A more flexible funding system for housing associations
- A quicker and simpler way of using grant funding for housing from NHS England
- The HOLD programme should be made available to a larger number of people.
- Housing support more readily available to manage your home

More information – Finding our way home

- [Jodie Williams' video about her experiences here](#)
- [Jordan Smith's video about his experiences here](#)
- [Full version of the Finding Our Own Way Home report here](#)
- [Easy read version of the Finding Our Own Way Home here](#)

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