

From Norman Lamb MP
Minister of State for Care and Support



Ref: POC3000729846

To: PCT Cluster Chief Executives
Directors of Adult Social Services

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CC: Strategic Health Authority Learning Disabilities Leads
Local Government Association
Association of Adult Social Services
National Valuing Families Forum
National Forum of People with Learning Disabilities

Telephone: 020 7210 3000

Gateway Reference number: 18246
ROCR Approval: pending

12 NOV 2012

Dear Colleague,

**DH REVIEW: WINTERBOURNE VIEW HOSPITAL -
GOOD PRACTICE PROJECT 'WHAT DOES GOOD LOOK LIKE?'**

You will be aware that the Department of Health interim report of the Review on Winterbourne View Hospital was published on 25 June 2012 with the final report due for publication this autumn.

The Department's review brings together information from a range of reviews and investigations including the programme of focused inspections of learning disability hospitals recently completed by the CQC, the NHS South of England review, and the Winterbourne View Serious Case Review.

We are determined to see services that deliver the right model of care and better outcomes for people with learning disabilities and/or autism and behaviour which challenges. The Department alongside the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services, the NHS Commissioning Board, the Local Government Association, the NHS Confederation, Royal Colleges, the Housing and Support Alliance and other partners are committed to working together to this end.

Local authorities and NHS bodies need to develop services that make best use of their existing funding and work in partnership across health and social care. The focus must be on personalised care around the identified needs of each individual, and recognition locally that placing people in services out of area, or in assessment and treatment units longer than is clinically indicated, is not the answer.

Changing commissioning behaviour and developing responsive services within the local community will require real leadership at a local level. My purpose in writing to you is to seek your help with one of the actions coming out of the interim report to:

'Improve the quality of services which empower people with learning disabilities and their families to have choice and control'

This is a good practice project, which the National Valuing Families Forum will lead, working with the National Forum of People with Learning Disabilities, the LGA, ADASS and the NHS.

Work has already started to scope the project around five indicators shown in the interim report. These are:

- (1) **Co-production** – involving people who use service in designing and planning them;
- (2) **Community building** – moving towards community-based support;
- (3) **A capabilities approach to disability** – looking at people's strengths and promoting what they can do;
- (4) **Integrated services** – covering health, care, housing and leisure; and
- (5) **Personalisation** - as a foundation on which other strategies build.

Whilst the focus is on local authorities, we also want to reflect good practice in integrated working with the NHS for people with learning disabilities. We want to know 'what good looks like' and share this with people with learning disabilities and family carers, councils, organisations in the new health and care system and stakeholders.

I very much hope that you will take part in this innovative project. The good practice examples we receive will be used in one of the following ways:

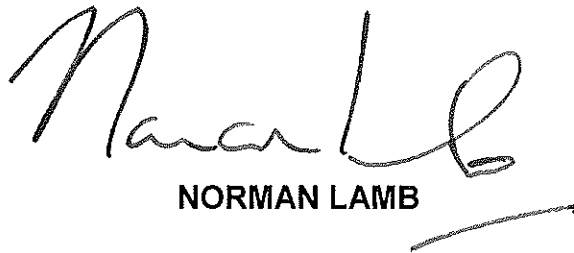
- (i) as a formal presentation at a finishing seminar which I will host with the NVFF and National Forum (we hope those involved in the work locally will attend to present also) following a visit by a Forum member and a member of the Steering Group for the project. The details of the good practice example will also be published in a project report;
- (ii) with further details gathered by phone or email by DH working with the two fora and published in the project report;
- (iii) short details, as provided by you in response to this letter, published in the project report.

The attached framework describes the details we are looking for. It would be helpful if you could confirm at this stage that you are content for all details to be published.

If you would like to take part, can you please return the completed framework to: goodpracticeproject@dh.gsi.gov.uk by **noon on 13 December 2012**. Any queries about the project or this letter should be addressed to: **Pam Nixon, Learning Disability Policy Lead, Department of Health**, pam.nixon@dh.gsi.gov.uk tel: 0207 972 4901.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Norman Lamb', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

NORMAN LAMB