

# Better Health for All Report

## Annual Report of the Director of Public Health Wakefield District 2011

**Dr Andrew Furber – Director of  
Public Health NHS Wakefield  
District/Wakefield Council**



# Better Health for All Report

- This year's Public Health Report looks at what things make some people more likely to have worse health and wellbeing.
- I use learning disabilities as a good example of working together, improving access and getting it right. We need to make this happen for other groups.



# Better Health for All Report

The report also looks at differences in health between Wakefield and other areas. The good news is that Wakefield is catching up with the rest of the country but there is still some way to go to reduce the gaps between different places within the district.



# Better Health for All Report

A lot has been done to improve the health of all the Wakefield District population, but meeting the needs of smaller groups of people who have the most complex health needs remains hard to do.



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Some vulnerable groups such as homeless people, Irish Travellers and people with learning disabilities have poorer health. They are more likely to die younger than other people.



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I have chosen learning disabilities as a good example of where health and social care work together to meet the needs of this vulnerable group.



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Reports such as *Death by Indifference* show there is still more to do to improve the health of this group.



# Better Health for All Report

- In Wakefield District there are about 6,050 adults who have learning disabilities.
- 1,250 of these have moderate to severe learning disabilities and are known to services.



# Better Health for All Report

People are living longer and we expect this to be the same for people with learning disabilities. This means they may need more support to stay independent.



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## The health of people with learning disabilities

People with learning disabilities have more health needs and poorer health than other people due to many reasons, such as:

- Poor housing and not enough money
- Less opportunities for taking part in health promotion opportunities
- Failure of some services to make changes to meet peoples' needs.



# Better Health for All Report

Here are some examples of what is happening to make health services better.

- Training for GP staff and hospital staff in learning disabilities.
- Learning Disability Champions in our hospitals who help patients get better care.



# Better Health for All Report

**Here are some examples of what is happening to make health services better.**

- Annual Health Checks carried out by doctors and nurses to treat existing and new health problems, and help people to stay healthy.
- Healthy lifestyles programmes to promote health and wellbeing.



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## Examples of what is happening in Adult Social Care.

- Over 70% of people known to adult social care services are now in settled accommodation.
- There are now work-style opportunities that give training and meaningful day time activities.



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## Examples of what is happening in Adult Social Care.

- Almost 200 adults with learning disabilities buy their own services to meet their needs.
- A support worker is in place to help carers especially those who are older.



# Three things need to happen next

## People that make big decisions for health and social care need to:

1. Understand and meet the needs of other vulnerable people and groups.
2. Build on the good progress made in supporting people with learning disabilities so that health and wellbeing gets better for other people too.
3. Recognise the big things that affect health such as having a job and good housing.



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**The report also has three stories and film clips about people using services and living in the Wakefield District:**

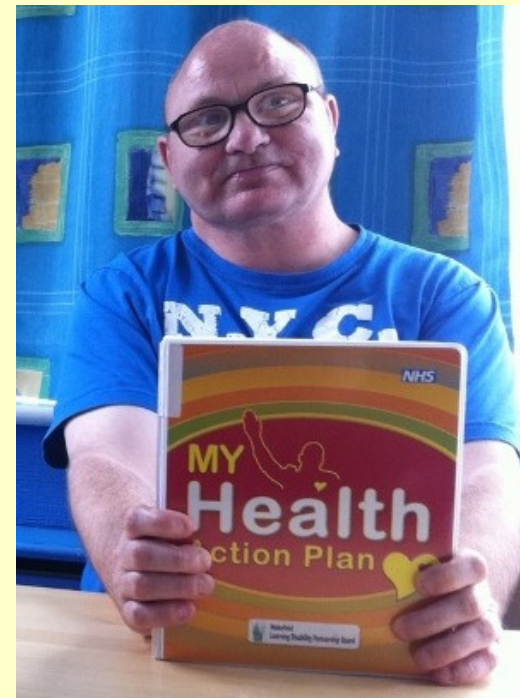
1. Peter and Jill Warburton's story about their son's experience of going into hospital.



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The report also has three stories and film clips about people using services and living in the Wakefield District:

2. Tim's visit to his doctor for an Annual Health Check.



# Better Health for All Report

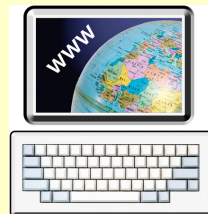
**The report also has three stories and film clips about people using services and living in the Wakefield District:**

3. Catherine's experiences of living and working in Wakefield.



# Better Health for All Report

You can read the full report and listen to the three stories on the Learning Disability Partnership Board's website: [www.wakefielddpb.org.uk](http://www.wakefielddpb.org.uk)



and



NHS Wakefield District's website:  
[www.wakefielddistrict.nhs.uk](http://www.wakefielddistrict.nhs.uk)

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Thank You