

## **Report on the local project**

### **London/Canterbury 2003**

#### **Local project (title and city):**

The development of person centred planning in services for people with learning disabilities in Kensington and Chelsea.

This project represents a service development and evaluation partnership between the Royal (London) Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Social Services Department (local administration/ municipality), Kensington and Chelsea Primary Care (NHS) Trust and the Tizard Centre, University of Kent at Canterbury (academic partner). This has since developed into a joint learning disability service through a partnership between health (K and C PCT) and social services (RBKC).

#### **Co-ordinator of the local project:**

Paul Cambridge, Senior Lecturer in Learning Disability

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#### **Background of the local project (problem addressed):**

The implementation of person centred planning (PCP) for people with learning disabilities in the local area/ agencies and the evaluation of the process and its effectiveness.

## **Objectives of the Project:**

The primary objective is to establish effective systems and arrangements for PCP in the local area, which local agencies and professionals are committed to, in which service users play a determining role and in which process and final outcomes are achieved in relation to user participation, self-determination, user satisfaction and quality of life.

## **Methodology and Strategy:**

Mapping and documenting the development and implementation of the PCP process.

Identifying hurdles and opportunities.

Analysing and interpreting problems and potentials and finding solutions.

Defining best practices in PCP. Particularly in relation to:

Comparing local practice and arrangements in PCP with those developing elsewhere.

Comparing local practice to national policy and national learning disability strategy.

During the duration of the project a number of additional research questions have emerged, including:

How service users understand the PCP process and its potential impact on their lives.

How user self-determination and choice can be assessed.

What is the role of the PCP facilitator in relation to accountability to service users and accountability to services.

How culture, ethnicity and spirituality impact upon and affect the PCP process.

The role and influence of family and carers on PCPs and their involvement and interests in the process.

Differences in social networks in learning disability.

The role of advocates and use of advocated as independent PCP facilitators.

**Description of the activities of the project:**

Developing strategies for planning and consultation.

Working in partnership across health and social care agencies and across commissioning and providing agencies locally.

Developing partnerships with service users and handing power to service users.

Taking advocacy forward for people with learning disabilities.

Reviewing the effectiveness of policies and procedures with relevance to PCP within those organisations commissioning and providing services for people with learning disabilities.

Defining practice, professional and management responsibilities and accountability.

Establishing local contacts and networks.

**Achievements/Outcomes (Please give specific examples when possible):**

Reviewing local macro-organisational systems in relation to PCP (paper)

Reviewing the relationship between PCP and care management and individualisation (paper).

Developing a local comparative framework comprising project profile, organisational and policy context and glossary (papers and various materials).

Reviewing advocacy arrangements locally in relation to theory and practice elsewhere (paper).

Examining race, culture, gender and sexuality (diversity) as it effects access to services and service responses, including PCP (paper and discourse).

Actions through experiences of service users (paper).

Ideas and planning for user conference (various materials)

**Information on co-operation between the partners involved and other interest groups:**

Establishment of a joint evaluation of PCP with a neighbouring local authority (City of Westminster) conducted by outside researchers from the Institute of Applied Health and Social Policy/ Foundation for People with learning Disabilities.

Developing links and information exchange to the national policy implementation and support teams for 'Valuing People'.

Quality Networks project with service users as inspectors of services in conjunction with project management from the National Development Team.

'It's My Life' group, identifying and examining key themes and issues for people with learning disabilities to help the Partnership Board focus its work and priorities.

Operational connections and links with advocacy and users groups e.g. Equal People.

Work in RBKC to pull together legal issues as they concern people with learning disabilities in the context of disability and disability services more widely.

**Involvement of people with learning disabilities:**

At all levels and in different ways from the Partnership Board, through advocacy projects to user-inspectors and partnerships in PCP.

Also, see connections reference above and below.

## **Information on obstacles encountered and how they were resolved:**

Challenges included responding appropriately to cultural diversity, linking project work with wider advocacy developments, location PCP in wider maro-organisational and management systems and within local care management arrangements, ensuring user participation is meaningful and productive, facilitating joint working at agency and professional levels, securing outside evaluation and scrutiny.

## **Products developed and available (minutes, documents, papers ...) – Please send us available products by post.**

Papers, reports, official minutes of meetings, pilot projects, reviews, consultation meetings, evaluation records, ongoing discourse etc. – held by project group.

Chapters for a book edited by Paul Cambridge and Steven Carnaby (Jessica Kingsley publishers) on PCP and care management:  
Hector Medora and Sue Ledger plus a service user on PCT implementation in K and C.

Paul Swift on implementation and the local evaluation of PCP in K and C and Westminster.

Department of Health funded project on the relationships between Health Action Plans and PCPs in relation to Valuing People, examining 5 PCPs integrated with HAPs.

Project led by Sue Ledger on the histories of people with learning disabilities leaving institutions.

**Forthcoming events (What will be the future of your local project?) /**

Local partnership meetings, planning meetings for London and user conferences, London STEPS Conference 2004.

**Activities to disseminate the results of the local project:**

Local development work and links with national network, research groups and national and regional policy implementation and support teams, circulation pf papers, dissemination of findings and ideas at meetings and interest groups.

**Recommendations to the project management**

Currently being formulated, but this is based in an action research model with ongoing two way development and implementation.

**Hector Medora, Zenobia Nadirshaw and Paul Cambridge, October 14 2003.**