Learning Disability Strategy
Aberdeen is home to many people including people with Learning Disabilities.

Sometimes people with Learning Disabilities are not included when plans are made for the people living in Aberdeen.

We need to make sure that people with Learning Disabilities are a key part of the population of Aberdeen.

We also want people to know what they can expect from Health and Social Care Services.
To do this we will develop a Learning Disability **Strategy**.

A **strategy** is a plan of work.

The strategy will show what we will do to make things better for people with Learning Disabilities in Aberdeen.

The strategy will focus on people’s health and care needs.

**Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership** will write the strategy. The **Partnership** is the name of the new organisation where Health and Social Care work together.
The Partnership wants people to have better, healthier and happy lives.
Who is the strategy for?

This strategy is for people with a **Learning Disability**.

People with Learning Disabilities can have important roles at home, work and in the community.

A **Learning Disability** is a lifelong condition that affects people’s development.

This means they need help to:

- Understand information.
- Learn skills.
- Cope independently.
The wellbeing of people with Learning Disabilities is important across Scotland, not just in Aberdeen.

In Scotland, there is a **national strategy** for people with Learning Disabilities.

The **national strategy** is called the Keys to Life.

The Keys to Life is a 10-year strategy for people with Learning Disabilities.

We want a local strategy for the people living in Aberdeen.
There are many new things happening in Aberdeen that people with Learning Disabilities should hear about and be able to take part in.

By developing the strategy, we hope people with Learning Disabilities can have as many opportunities as other people.

Across Scotland, there are ways of working called **Best Practice**.

These ways of working are called **Best Practice** because they show good working and help to make a difference to people.

It is important that Aberdeen can work this way.
Having a local strategy for people with Learning Disabilities is Best Practice.
About our Strategy

Our strategy will be for 5 years, 2018 to 2023.

This strategy focuses on people with Learning Disabilities and their health/care needs.
The strategy has been written with lots of input from people and organisations.

We have talked to lots of people about what should be in our strategy.

We talked to:

- People with Learning Disabilities.
- Families/carers.
- Professional/workers in health and social care.
- Organisations that work with people with Learning Disabilities.
- Organisations that work within Health/Social Care.
We had meetings.
We held events.
We had online and paper surveys.

We listened and talked to more than 60 people from different organisations.

We have had 10 different events.

We have had 100 responses to our surveys.

We know there are many more people who want to be involved and have a say.
After the strategy is written, we want to keep having conversations about what we can do to make life better for people with Learning Disabilities.
National Priorities

The Keys to Life have 4 national priorities:

- A healthy life.
- Choice and Control.
- Independence.
- Active Citizenship.

These priorities are known as **Strategic Outcomes**.

**Strategic Outcomes** are used to measure how much progress is being made to achieve the recommendations in the strategy.

3 new focus areas will be added to the national strategy, these are:

- Learning.
- Living.
- Working.
Aberdeen’s local strategy will refer to these outcomes and areas but will also think about things that local people have mentioned.
Our Vision

We want you to have best use of local services and be part of the community.

We want you to be involved in local activities and groups.

We will work together to help people with Learning Disabilities to be included, listened to and have a say in the community.

We will work together to improve and maintain the health and wellbeing of people with Learning Disabilities.
We will give people with Learning Disabilities the support they need at the right time.
Our Priorities

We have 3 important outcomes in the strategy for people with Learning Disabilities.

Outcome 1

People feel connected to their communities:

We will do this by focusing on:

- How people can be welcomed into communities and be involved in activities.
- What different community resources are available and what is needed.
- Housing options for people, including those with higher support needs.
- How to make services better for people with Learning Disabilities.
Outcome 2

People will be valued for their contributions and abilities.

We will do this by focusing on:

- The information resources that are available for people.
- The skills, abilities and experiences people have.
- The ways that people can contribute their experiences and views.
- How plans are made for people entering adulthood. This is called transitions.
Outcome 3

People will be supported to maintain or improve their health and wellbeing.

We will do this by focusing on:

- The ways good health can be promoted.
- How long term health conditions are managed.
- Support that is needed for positive wellbeing including mental health.
- Specialist health conditions and treatments.
Making it Real: Next Steps

We will develop an action plan.

This is a plan of what we will do to achieve our outcomes.

The outcomes will make a positive difference to the lives of people with Learning Disabilities in Aberdeen.

We will review the plan to make sure things are working for people.

You can be involved in reviewing how things are going.