# PHE Advisory Board Paper

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<th>Title of meeting</th>
<th>Public Health England Advisory Board</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Wednesday 19 June 2019</td>
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| Title of paper   | PHE learning disabilities advisory group: a briefing for the PHE advisory board |

The PHE advisory group are people with learning disabilities, families and carers.

We have advised the PHE learning disabilities work programme for five years.

A small part of this work programme has been about autistic people. Mostly this has been about autistic people who also have a learning disability.
In that time, lots has happened. PHE now have:

- better data about the health of people with learning disabilities
- more evidence
- a network of people to share this information with

How have we worked with PHE?

We have challenged – we told PHE that we didn’t like being asked to comment on things that had already been decided.

We changed the way we worked so we helped plan work before it was done.

We have suggested topics that are important, such as epilepsy, postural care and constipation

We have changed things - we helped to makes changes to the PHE easy-read information about the flu vaccination.
We have made links. We pointed out that dental care is linked to dysphagia and constipation. These are important health issues for people with learning disabilities.

We have raised concerns about why we don’t get the health care we need.

We told PHE that people with learning disabilities were having problems getting dental care. This is because the forms we need to fill in for free treatment are confusing.

Although we have done lots of work, people with learning disabilities still have poorer health than other people.

They die 15-20 years younger than other people. Often, the reasons for their death can be avoided.

We are pleased that PHE promises to work to improve the health of people with learning disabilities in its equality objectives.
| PHE work closely with NHS England.  
We are also pleased that improving the health of people with learning disabilities and autism is a priority in the NHS Long Term Plan. |
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<td>This year PHE have made some changes to how they do work about the health of people with learning disabilities (and autism)</td>
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<td>We want to talk to you about how we can carry on working with PHE to improve the health of people with learning disabilities.</td>
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| We also want to make sure that PHE are thinking about autistic people, especially those who do not also have a learning disability.  
Our group are not experts on the lives or health of autistic people who do not have a learning disability. |
Appendix A

Publications from April 2018 to April 2019


Robertson, JM, Emerson, EB, Baines, SMJ & Hatton, CR 2018, 'Self-reported smoking, alcohol and drug use among adolescents and young adults with and without mild to moderate intellectual disability' Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disability. DOI: 10.3109/13668250.2018.1440773


Blogs
