

David Felce  
Co-chair LDIAG

**DEPUTY MINISTER'S  
RESPONSE TO THE ACTION  
PLAN PROPOSED BY THE  
LDIAG**

# Steps leading to the Action Plan and the WAG decision

- LDIAG draft a new policy statement
- Positive consultation response and WAG issue the new policy (March 2007)
- LDIAG draft an Action Plan to follow up the policy statement (2008)
- Positive consultation response (2009)
- LDIAG recommends to WAG that WAG issues the Action Plan (2009)
- WAG decides not to issue the Action Plan but to fund 6 of the proposals within it

# What we asked for and **what we got**

- ⦿ **Health and Social Care Charter (1 year funding)**
  - expected outcomes
  - ways people can monitor service quality
- ⦿ **Outcome-oriented data set (1 year funding)**
  - effective local management
- ⦿ **National Workforce Action Plan**
  - for the social care workforce
- ⦿ **Disability awareness training (3 years funding)**
  - within public sector workforces

# What we asked for and **what we got**

- ⦿ **Learning Network (3 years funding)**
  - to help authorities and providers to collaborate and learn from each other
- ⦿ **Closer collaboration with research (no funding)**
  - LDIAG liaison with LDAN
- ⦿ **Implementation Task Force**
  - to make change happen
- ⦿ **Targets for person-centred planning**
  - everyone has a care co-ordinator, a current plan and an annual review

# What we asked for and **what we got**

- ⦿ Target for transition planning
  - all teenagers have plan before they leave school
- ⦿ **Accessible information (2 years funding)**
  - collaborative action by authorities
- ⦿ Advocacy Strategy
  - **stated intention to do this**
- ⦿ Target for authorities to produce strategy for independent and supported living
  - including reinvestment of efficiency savings

# What we asked for and **what we got**

- ⦿ Target for authorities to produce strategy for employment and day occupation
  - more employment, more varied opportunities, less use of large day centres
- ⦿ Targets for increasing health checks, healthy living and health promotion
  - **WAG remain committed to health checks**
- ⦿ Target for people with challenging behaviour to have the opportunity to live locally
  - action to resettle people in out-of-area placements

# What we asked for and **what we got**

- ◎ Priority for investment
- ◎ Expanding the availability of supported accommodation
- ◎ Why?
  - number of adults with learning disabilities increased by 2,100 over 15 years
  - expansion of supported accommodation not keeping pace
  - number of adults living with families increased by 575 over 15 years (to 5,120)
  - doing nothing now undermines policy ... & lead to
    - later crisis

# Supported accommodation is expensive

- 575 more places would cost £29m p.a.
- But Action Plan suggests that can review staffing in existing accommodation and make savings
- This could reduce the extra investment needed from WAG to £7.5m p.a.
- WAG still said that it could not afford it

# What happens now?

- ⦿ LDIAG continues for a few months
  - finishing off its current work
  - helping to get going the 6 proposals WAG want
- ⦿ LDIAG then gets replaced with a new Advisory Group
- ⦿ I will not carry on as Co-chair
  - my job was to advise WAG and, as they have not taken my advice, it would be better for someone else to take over

# What about the future?

- ⦿ Of course, we need to keep on trying to get what we need
- ⦿ 3 important things in the Action Plan that we did not get
  - Targets
    - these are commitments to achieve something
  - Local strategic planning and a central task force
    - authorities and government working together to make change happen
  - Government money for priority investment
    - If the government can't afford it, who can?
- ⦿ We weren't successful this time but we need to keep up the campaign