



- I'm here today to talk about Learning Disability England.
- This presentation was co-written by two members of staff at Learning Disability England, one of whom has a learning disability.



- Learning Disability England is a new organisation that brings together people with learning disabilities, families and friends, and organisations.
- It's for everyone with an interest in learning disability and will be co-led by these three different groups.
- We focus on things that are important to us all - creating a strong, loud voice on national issues!

We want to bring people together to:

- Fight bad things that are happening.
- To campaign for the rights of people with learning disabilities and their families.
- Create one strong voice so that the government and the media can't ignore us!



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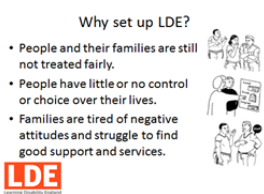
- Fight bad things that are happening.
- To campaign for the rights of people with learning disabilities and their families.
- Create one strong voice so that the government and the media can't ignore us!



- Learning Disability England is like a megaphone.
- It will take people's voices and make them louder.








- One important thing about Learning Disability England is that people speak for themselves.
- Only people with learning disabilities talk to the media about the things that affect them!

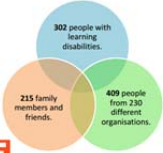







We and all the different self-advocates, families and organisations we're working with decided to set up Learning Disability England because we need change. Our research showed us that:

- People with learning disabilities and their families are still not treated fairly.
- People little or no control or choice over their lives.
- Families are tired of negative attitudes and struggle to find good support and services.

We also know that:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with learning disabilities are being locked up in ATUs. Some people have died in these places. • Life can be a constant battle for families. They are angry and tired. • Big organisations often talk for people and families when we know that they can speak for themselves. • Cuts mean that everyone is struggling to do good things on not very much money. Self-advocacy in particular is under threat because there is no money to fund it.
<p>The time is right for something new.</p>  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are doing good things and fighting for the rights of people and families but progress is slow. • We came together with lots of people, families and organisations because we think it's time to try something new.
<p>The story so far</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Now I'm going to tell you a little bit about how we brought people together to create Learning Disability England. • We've been working on creating Learning Disability England for a long time. • The idea first came from the self-advocacy organisation People First England putting their heads together with the charity Housing & Support Alliance. • People First England and Housing & Support Alliance held a big meeting to discuss their ideas in October last year. • Since then we have been working to get lots of different people on board and decide how Learning Disability England will work.
 <p>We did a consultation about Learning Disability England.</p> <p>A consultation is where you ask people what they think about something.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did a consultation about Learning Disability England. • A consultation is where you ask people what they think about something.

 <p>LDE Learning Disability England</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of people got involved in the consultation and told us what they thought about Learning Disability England. • We spoke to 302 people with learning disabilities. • 215 family members and friends. • And 409 people from 230 different organisations.
<p>In total we spoke to 926 people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of people said they thought Learning Disability England was a good idea. • 18% said they were not sure. <p>LDE Learning Disability England</p>	<p>In total we spoke to 926 people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of people said they thought Learning Disability England was a good idea. • 12% said they were not sure. This is understandable as there were some parts of Learning Disability England that were still unclear at the time.
<p>Why would you want to be a part of Learning Disability England?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "To make sure people with learning disabilities are treated right." • "To speak and have more of a chance of being heard." • "It's about time everyone came together" <p>LDE Learning Disability England</p>	<p>We asked people why they wanted to be a part of Learning Disability England.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One self-advocate said: "To make sure people with learning disabilities are treated right" • Another person with a learning disability said: "To speak and have more of a chance of being heard". • A family member said that it's about time we all came together.
<p>The Why Workshop</p>  <p>LDE Learning Disability England</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back in April we held an event called the Why Workshop. • People, families and organisations came together to talk about why we are creating Learning Disability England and what we should try and change. • We also talked about how we could make things better.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We launched Learning Disability England on 14th June at the House of Lords. • People with learning disabilities, families and organisations came together to remember the bad things that have happened, be inspired by the good things and think about our hopes for the future. • It was a great day and we got lots of support from people all over England.

<p>How will LDE work?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All members of Learning Disability England will vote on what we do.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning Disability England will not make any big decisions unless one third of votes come from people with learning disabilities. 	<p>After talking to lots of different people we were able to decide how Learning Disability England will work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The most important thing is that all members of Learning Disability England will vote on what we do. We have designed a voting system where everyone can take part in the way they prefer. There will be two different systems. The first will be called What Matters and it will be where people vote on what they want our priorities to be – that’s a really long process. The second is called What We Think and this will be the process we use when we need to respond to something quickly. We know that people with learning disabilities sometimes get left out of processes like these so to make sure that doesn’t happen Learning Disability England will not make any big decisions unless one third of votes come from people with learning disabilities.
<p>How will LDE work?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will connect up good work that’s already happening and make it stronger. We will employ a self-advocate and a family member as policy leads. We will not have a Chief Executive. 	<p>One of the things people were worried about in the consultation is that we would ‘reinvent the wheel’. We’re really clear that we don’t want to do this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instead we will invite our members will lead on work that they are experts in and are already doing. We will connect up good work that’s already happening and make it stronger. <p>It’s very important to us that this organisation is led by people, families and organisations working in partnership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will employ a self-advocate and a family member as policy leads. We hope we will be able to employ more people in the future. We will not have a Chief Executive. A chief executive is the spokesperson for an organisation and it would not be right to have a professional speaking on behalf of self-advocates and families. The spokespeople for Learning Disability England will be people and families.



- Learning Disability England is all about sharing power between people, families and organisations.
- We worked with solicitors to create a structure that would help us do this.
- Learning Disability England isn't structured like most charities.
- Our members will elect a representative body that will guide the organisation. The representative body will be an equal split of people with learning disabilities, family members and people from organisations.
- The representative body will appoint the trustee board.

• **How much to join LDE?**

£12 is the cost of individual membership
 £25 for self advocacy and carer organisations
 £595 Membership for professional organisations is from £595 for basic membership.

To become a member visit www.learningdisabilityengland.org.uk



- All people with learning disabilities, family and friends of people with learning disabilities and organisations can join Learning Disability England.
- The cost for an individual to join is just £12, that's £1 a month.
- Organisations led by people with learning disabilities or self-advocates can join for just £25 a year and membership for professional organisations starts at £595.

All members get:

- **A vote** – There will be democratic processes for making sure all of our members have a say about what we do.
- No big decisions will be made unless one third of the vote is from members with learning disabilities
- **News and information** - You'll get a regular newsletter sent to your email address. Members with learning disabilities will get at least two newspapers every year sent to their home.
- **Advice** – from January 2017 members will be able to call us for independent advice.
- **A chance to get involved** - We will regularly train self-advocate and family spokespeople to talk to the media and politicians and will build a list of spokespeople.

Thank you for listening.

Any questions?



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Does anyone have any questions?