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CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

Progress and Challenges

Q.1 Do the findings of the evaluation broadly reflect your views about services for people with learning disabilities/carer?

Yes No

Mindroom would agree that although there has been some improvement
There is still a great deal to be done to ensure equality of service
provision across Scotland.

Q.2 Can you give examples, either locally or nationally, of what you think has worked well over the last 10 years of *The same as you?*

Improvements in terms of moving away from day centres, to supported
employment schemes and college placements.
Increasing the opportunities for independent living in the community
rather than long stay hospitals.
Access to more flexible benefits with Direct Payments.

Q. 3 Can you give examples of issues in current work and/or policies that still need to be addressed?

The implementation of Government policy and legislation needs to be Monitored more closely and the gaps between policy and practice need to be filled.

Good Practice – Organisations

Q. 4 Can you provide examples of what you have done over the last 10 years, within your organisation, to improve services and access to services within your local area?

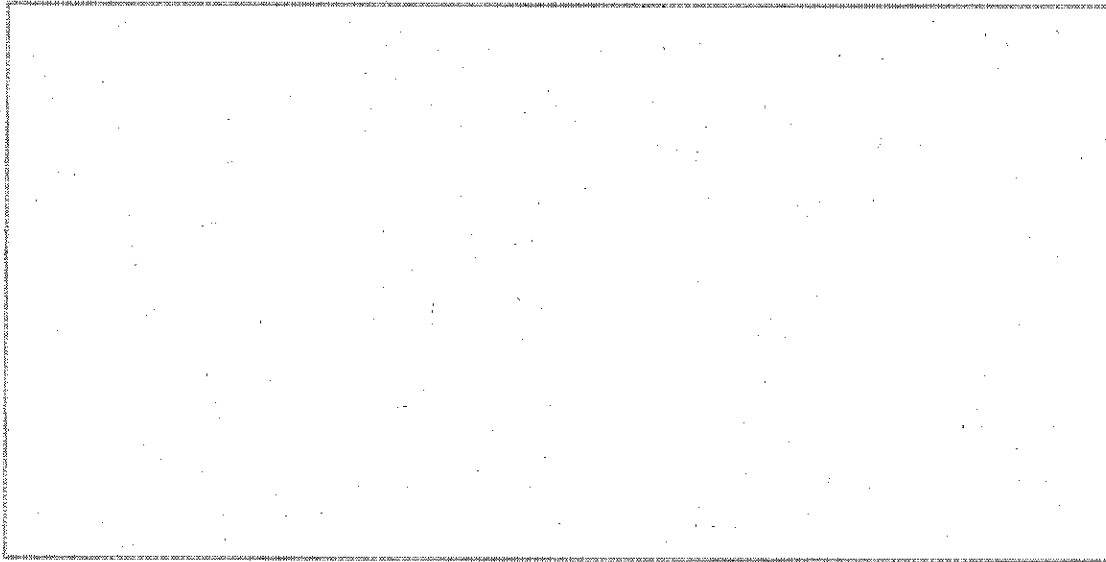
Mindroom is a Scottish charity dedicated to creating and raising awareness of learning difficulties. We are also passionate about providing direct help and support for children and adults with learning difficulties and their families. We build working relationships with parents, carers and individuals, and where appropriate provide emotional and practical support, guided by the focus of their enquiry.

Mindroom is dedicated to making life better for people with learning difficulties. We do so by raising awareness, promoting knowledge, understanding and commitment among politicians, policymakers, professionals, parents, care providers and the UK population at large. We offer high quality training, practical help and advice for individuals and organisations who work with learning difficulties. We continuously monitor and evaluate our work to allow us to improve the effectiveness of what we do.

Our response is tailored according to the needs of the person making the enquiry.

Good Practice - Individuals

Q.5 What have you done, as an individual, to make positive changes within your local area?



Future Priorities - Healthcare

Q.6 What still needs to be done to ensure that people with learning disabilities have access to better and more appropriate healthcare?

Again there is inequality in service provision across Scotland. Government policies, good practice guidelines and legislation need to be implemented across all local authorities.

Future Priorities - Education

Q.7 What still needs to be done to ensure that people with learning disabilities have access to better educational opportunities?

To close the gap between policy and practice, ensuring the ASL Act, GIRFEC, Curriculum for Excellence and Equality Act are appropriately applied and implemented and that the reality matches the rhetoric

Future Priorities – Independent Living

Q.8 What still needs to be done to ensure that people with learning disabilities are able to live independently?

Appropriate assessment of the needs of each individual, and responding to these with the suitable provision in order that they can live as independently as possible.

Future Priorities – Employment

Q.9 What still needs to be done to ensure that people with learning disabilities have access to better employment opportunities?

As the consultation process has confirmed, employment opportunities for the learning disabled are extremely limited.

Local authorities need to explore better use of resources and identify potential employers, improve training for employers, extend supported employment provision and ensure that the Government's post 16 plan actually applies to ALL and does not exclude those with additional support needs.

Furthermore look at the current provision for further education for those with additional support needs, and address limitations in order to provide individuals with further skills and knowledge to access employment.

Future Priorities

**Q.10 What other future priorities do we need to focus on?
(Please list these in order of importance with the most important first)**

Early intervention.

Early diagnosis.

Proper assessment of need - centred around the child ,young person or individual.

Appropriate planning - preparing for transitions - well in advance.

Addressing further education and employment difficulties for those with additional support needs.