

# CHANGE

## Project Portfolio

Developing projects that influence social change



# About

We are a leading human rights organisation led by disabled people. We work in the UK and across the world for the rights of people with learning disabilities.

Our aim is a society where people with learning disabilities are treated equally. We employ people with learning disabilities as part of our salaried staff team to lead on our work.



## What makes our projects so unique?

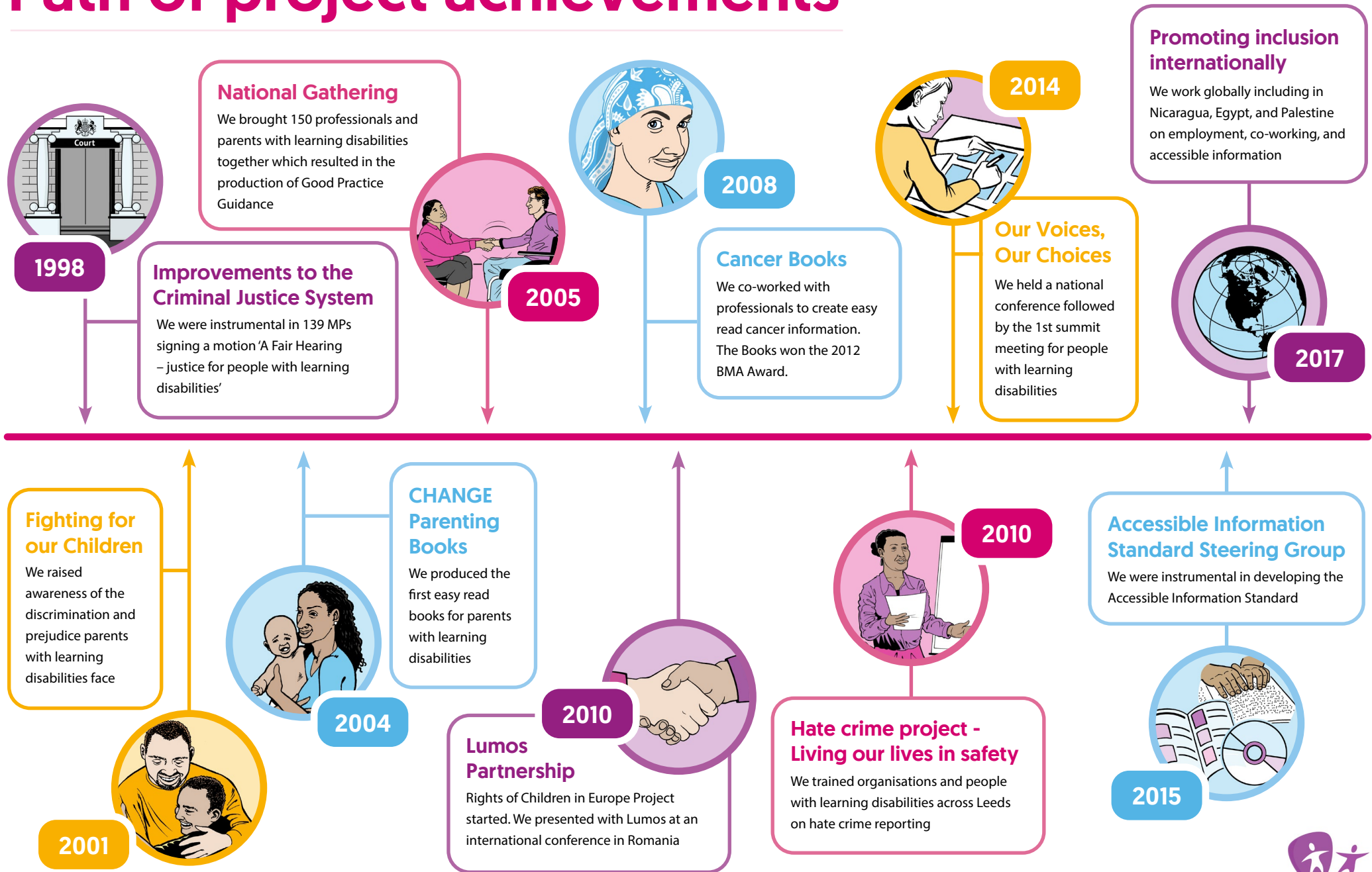
We are a team of people with and without learning disabilities, working together on a daily basis which means that everything we do stays in touch with the reality of the experiences of people with learning disabilities.

This knowledge feeds into an accessible working environment where our work is driven by a deeper understanding of the issues affecting people with learning disabilities.

We use a co-working model of employment where a person with a learning disability works alongside a non learning disabled person on equal pay.

We work on a local, national and international level, giving us unique expertise. We learn and are open to new ideas from around the globe, which allows us to effectively influence legislative development in innovative ways using a global perspective.

# Path of project achievements





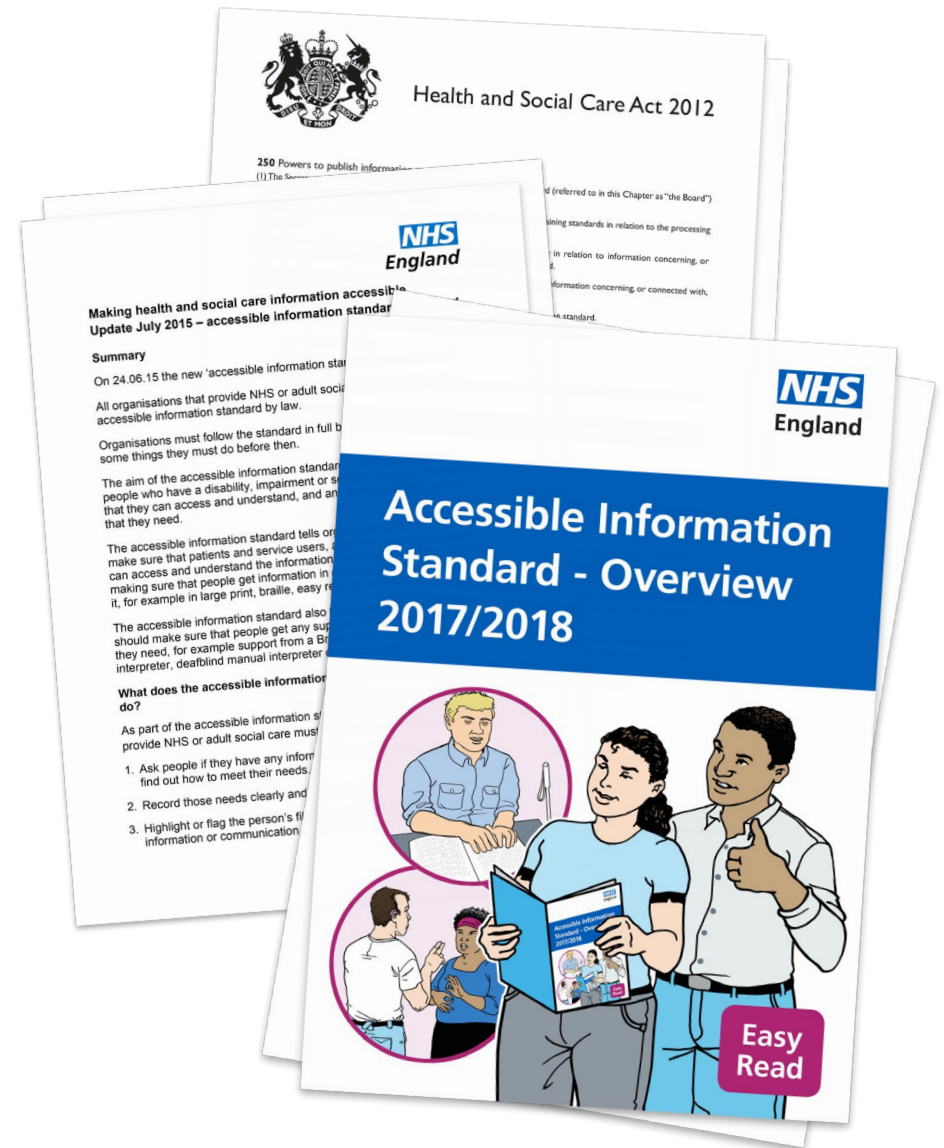
# National Work

## NHS England Accessible Information Standard

We were a key member of the steering group that worked on the development and implementation of the standard.

### How we made a difference?

Since July 2016 all organisations that provide NHS or adult social care services most follow the Accessible Information Standard, which stated that public facing information must be made available in accessible formats suited to the needs of patients and service users, carers and parents.





# Our Voices, Our Choices Conference

We organised a national conference in 2014, where 100 people with learning disabilities came together to discuss the discrimination they face.

## How we made a difference?

Employment was identified as the most important issue. We took a proposal to the first ever Summit Meeting for people with learning disabilities organised by the Care Minister, in September 2014.

The main recommendation was to employ people with learning disabilities in co-developing and co-delivering their own services. As a result, the two teams in NHS England that work around issues connected to people with learning disabilities now employ people with learning disabilities. We have supported them to do this through training, joint projects and production of accessible resources.



Places are limited. Book as soon as you can so you do not miss out!



Please send your completed Booking Form back to:

 **By Post:** CHANGE, Unit 11, Shine, Harehills Road, Leeds, LS8 5HS

 **By email:** [info@changepeople.org](mailto:info@changepeople.org)

 If you have any questions about the event or the booking form please call Shaun on: **0113 388 0011**

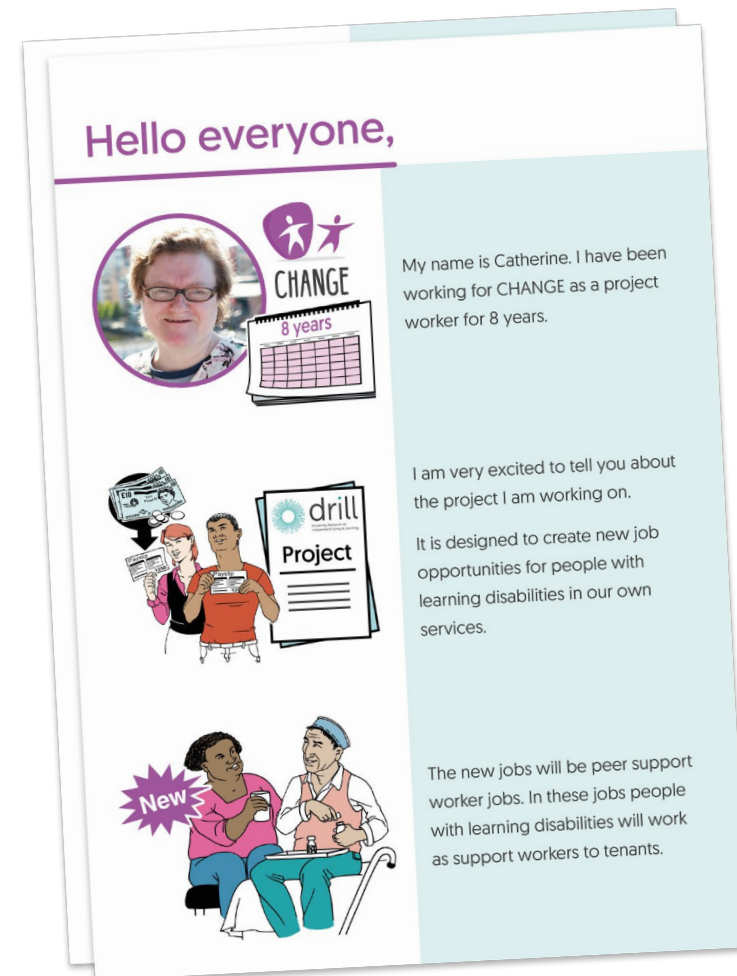
 

# Learning by Doing Together

We are working with Keyring, Joseph Rowntree and The Brandon Trust on employing people with learning disabilities in peer-to-peer support positions.

## How we made a difference?

Leeds University is conducting research based on this process to analyse implementation of such employment practices and their outcomes.



# Out Spoken

This project involves autistic people and people with a learning disability who are also LGBTQI+, to improve access to services and inclusion in the community. LGBTQI+ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex.

## How we made a difference?

This project offers opportunities for support and socialising together through peer support activities increasing people's confidence and helping to strengthen their voices. Professionals, LGBTQI+ people and the wider community will also understand more about the barriers. This will all help to reduce the discrimination faced by LGBTQI+ autistic people and those who have a learning disability.

We are leading this LGBTQI+ Inclusion project together with the Advonet Group and Yorkshire MESMAC.

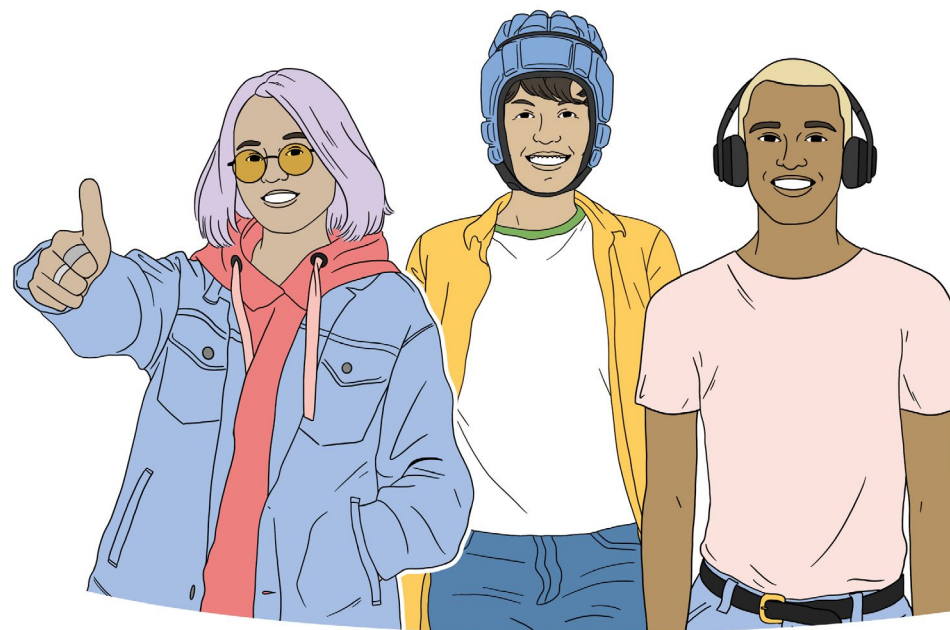


**The Advonet Group**

Providing Independent Advocacy



An LGBTQI+ inclusion project with people who are autistic and/or have a learning disability.





# International Work

## Lumos Partnership

We worked with LUMOS across Eastern Europe on deinstitutionalisation.

### How we made a difference?

We employed a person with learning disabilities to work with people in the institutions, supporting them to become empowered and have a stronger voice in the setting up of community based services.

Our project worker mentored a person with learning disabilities that LUMOS also recruited to develop self advocacy services in Bulgaria.

We have introduced easy read across Eastern Europe and trained policy makers and social workers around rights and inclusive ways of working.





# Expanding Inclusion Internationally

We have delivered training in many countries including Nicaragua, Egypt and Palestine on producing accessible information, co-working, employment, working inclusively, and communicating more effectively with people with learning disabilities.

## How we made a difference?

Our work is part of international campaigns to empower people with learning disabilities and promote a change in the way policies are designed and the way services are delivered.



# Erasmus Project

We are working on a European project funded by Erasmus. We are partners with five European organisations from Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Spain and Latvia. We are training and supporting each organisation to develop and replicate the CHANGE co-training model.

## How we made a difference?

As the lead trainer of this project, we are training co-working groups from the partner countries on tools they can use to support decision making, such as the Theatre of the Oppressed and easy read. We are running training workshops in Zilina in Slovakia, and Prague in the Czech Republic.

The project aims to introduce supported decision-making in each organisation's country, and support better understanding of Article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities.





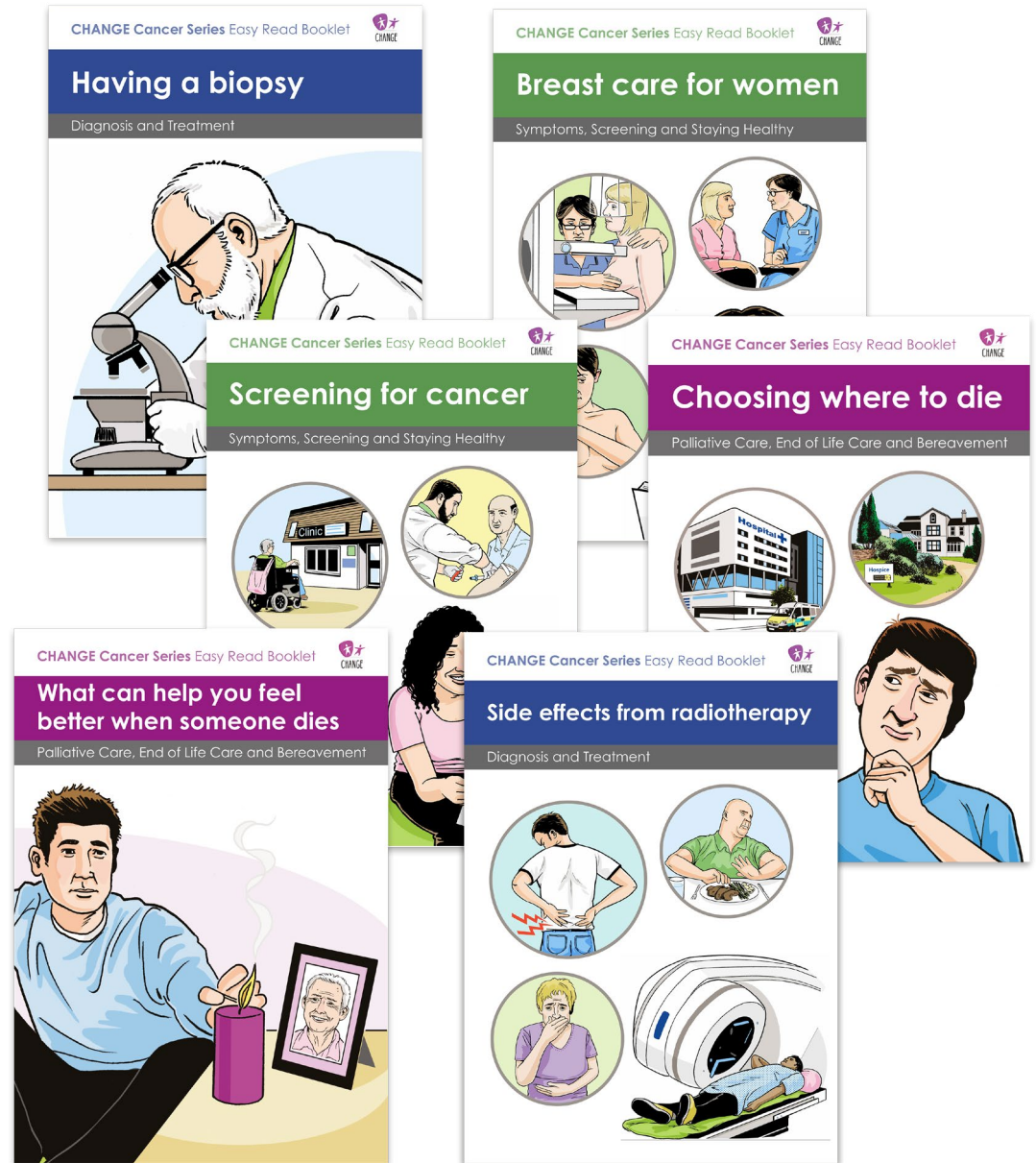
# Research

## Cancer services

A project worker with learning disabilities co-worked with an independent researcher. They investigated the experiences of people with learning disabilities who use cancer and end of life care services.

### How we made a difference?

The findings of this piece of research follow on from our accessible cancer books and booklets which won the BMA award in 2012 and were nominated in 2016. The results were delivered to NHS England to inform the shaping of their cancer services.



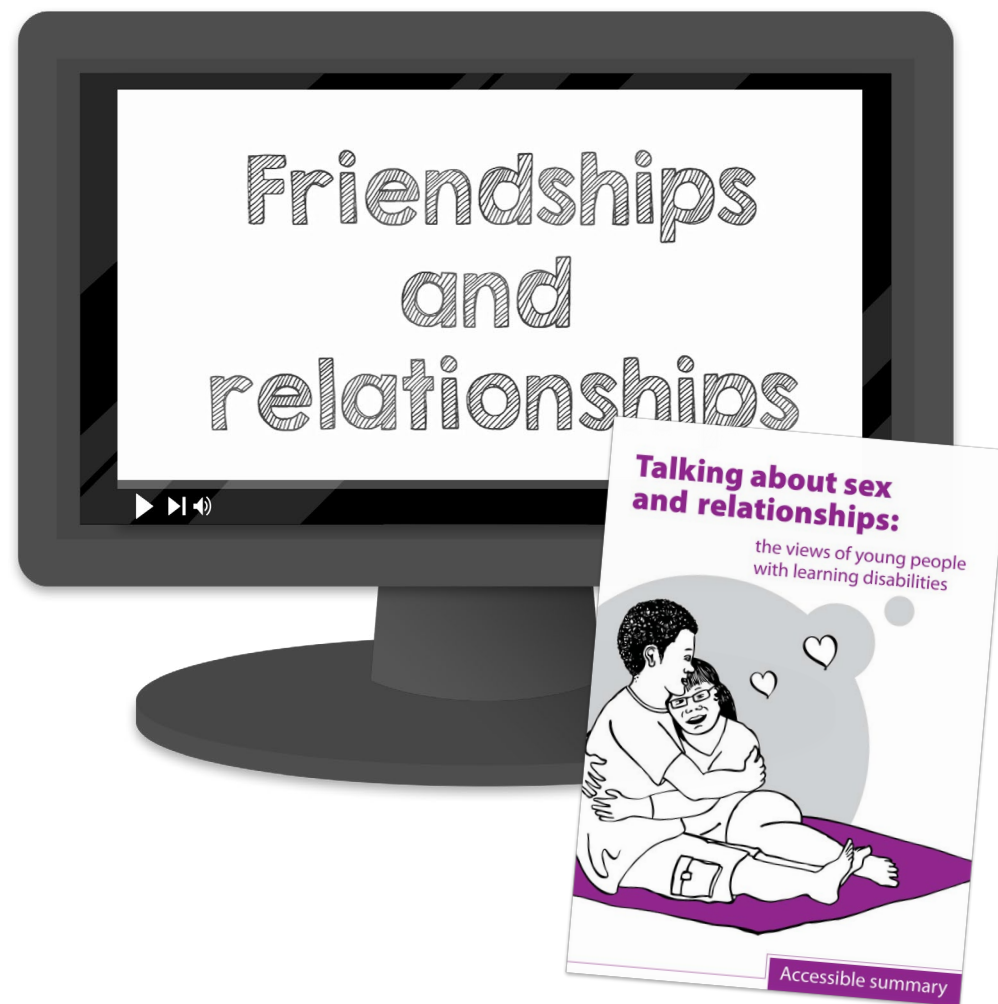
# Sexual Health and Relationships Education

We worked with the University of Leeds and a group of young people with learning disabilities to research and develop a series of five easy read booklets on sexual health and relationships, covering topics including sexual abuse and masturbation.

## How we made a difference?

The booklets were turned into animations for Bradford Public Health as there were no video resources for young people with learning disabilities to aid discussion in education settings.

The booklets have also been used as part of the Sexual Education for Adults with Learning Disabilities project, in which partners from five European countries worked collaboratively towards defining and improving their delivery of sex education to adults with learning disabilities.







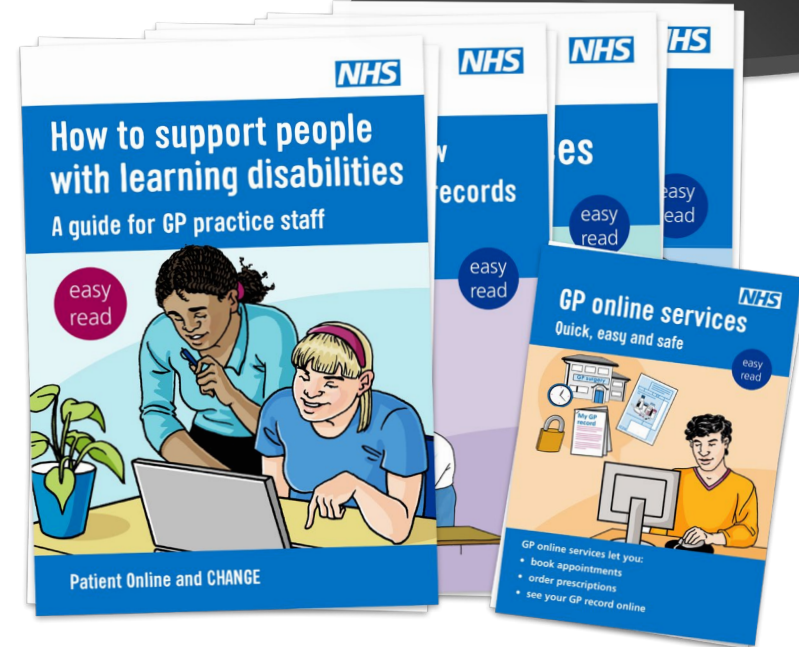
# Toolkits

## Patient Online Services

We created an easy read information pack for patients, professionals, and carers to use NHS Patient Online Services.

### How we made a difference?

The guides focus on a person centred approach, empowering people with learning disabilities to use GP online services in order to view their medical history, book appointments and order repeat prescriptions. These easy read guides also support health care staff who are using the Accessible Information Standard to make sure patients communication needs are met.

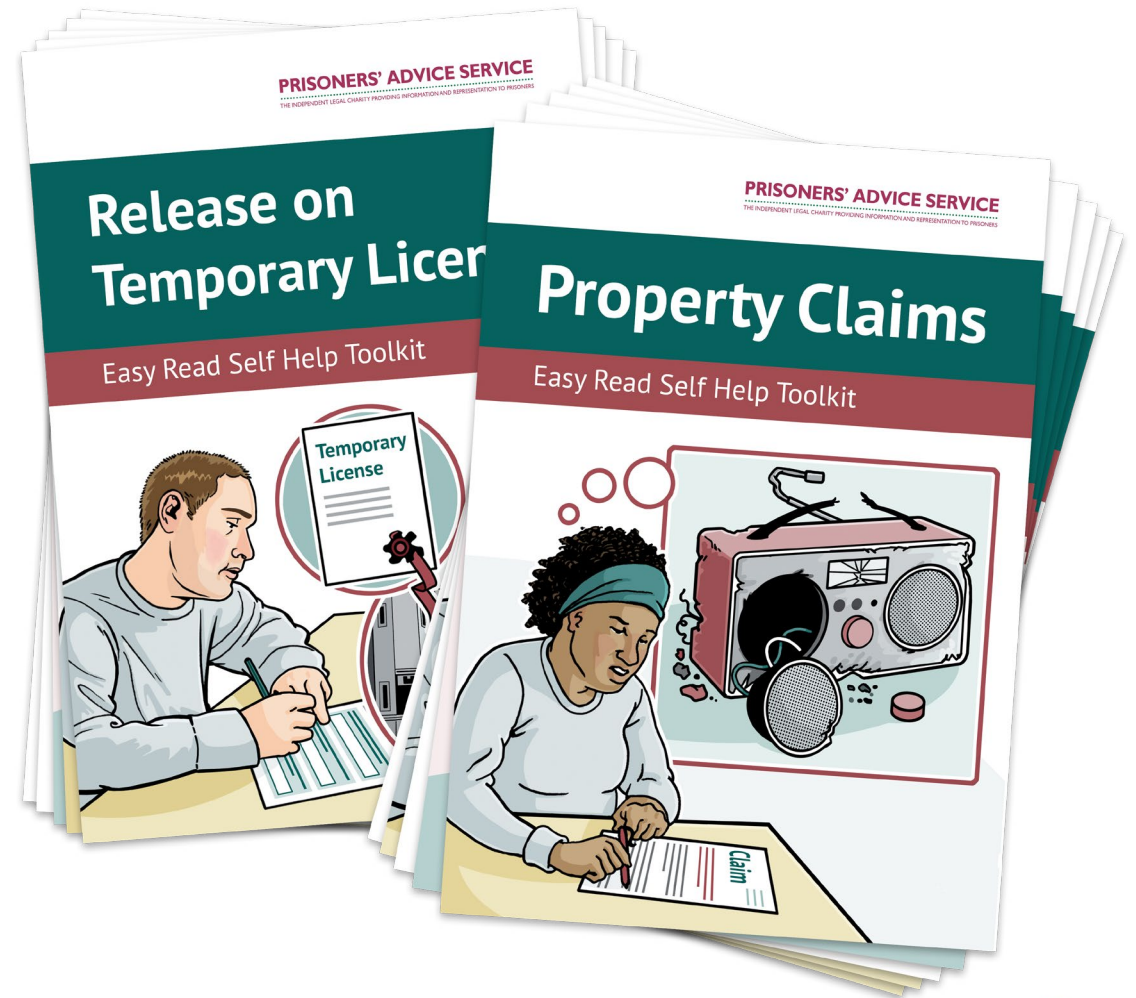


# Prisoners' Advice Service

We worked with the Prisoners' Advice Service to produce a set of 10 toolkits to support prisoners with learning disabilities and those who struggle with literacy to understand the policies and procedures within the prison system.

## How we made a difference?

The Prison Reform Trust estimates that 20-30% of offenders have significant learning difficulties or learning disabilities that interfere with their ability to cope within the criminal justice system. These toolkits cover a wide range of topics and explain some of the legal processes to provide service users with a better understanding and knowledge of Prison Law and Prisoners' rights.





# Collaborative work

## Don't Shut Me Out

We worked with two organisations across the areas of housing, homelessness, and mental health.

### How we made a difference?

We worked to bring the housing issues faced by people with learning disabilities into the spotlight and supported people with learning disabilities to learn how to campaign about the housing issues that affect them.

We explored ways to better include people with learning disabilities in mental health services. This could be through producing accessible information, and sitting on forums internally and externally to raise awareness.





# Keeping Safe Online

We created a general guide to keeping safe online with people with learning disabilities from the Care Management Group.

## How we made a difference?

Online abuse and discrimination including bullying, grooming, trolling, mate crime, sexting, and blackmail are issues affecting people with learning disabilities when they use the internet and social media. The guide offers an overview of how to stay safe online by setting up your devices correctly and recognising warning signs. The guide was presented at the Learning Disability England Conference.





# Our Partners



# Get in touch

If you are interested in working together or want to know more about any of our services, just drop us a line!

## Easy Read - Video & Animation - Project Partners



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Unity Business Centre  
26 Roundhay Road  
Leeds LS7 1AB



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