

Name of project: Finding out why people with learning disabilities in Derbyshire don't attend their AHC

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What was the aim?

1. To co-design a survey which asked the right questions to find out why people in Derbyshire with LD do not attend their annual health checks.

2. To gather data via the survey and then prioritise actions with people with LD and their carers.

How was it done?

We have completed stage 1 – a survey was designed alongside our health facilitator assistants who are experts by experience, as well as alongside a group of advocates who have LD.

The survey is now out for data collection. Reasonable adjustments made: easy read survey, F2F visits with clinicians from community teams.

Once survey closes: thematic analysis and will ask people with LD and their carers to rate/prioritise actions/themes requiring input/change – present within pareto chart.

What were the outcomes?

Stage 1: feedback given and better-quality questions formulated. Reasonable adjustments considered meaningfully.

What did you learn?

The importance of engagement at the earliest of stages – asking people with LD and their carers to support the design of the survey was so beneficial. It gave a much better quality of questions asked in the right way, and allowed us to consider reasonable adjustments that we needed to make to facilitate the project.

What's next ?

Data and findings will be written up and feedback to ICB & commissioners, local GP collaborative board and NHS England.

Anything else to add 😊

The importance of acknowledging engagement can only take us so far in terms of genuinely influencing change and outcomes. Full coproduction can be difficult to achieve and facilitate but engagement slightly further down the coproduction ladder is still really valid and positive!