



The State Hospitals Board for Scotland

Learning Disability Services

Local report easy-read summary – February 2006



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About this booklet

This booklet is written for people with learning disabilities, their supporters and family carers.

It tells you how well the State Hospitals Board for Scotland is meeting the health needs of children and adults with learning disabilities.

What is NHS Quality Improvement Scotland?

NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (NHS QIS) was set up in January 2003. It is our job to help improve the health services that people in Scotland get.

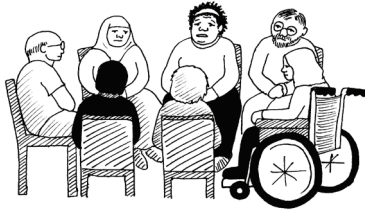


How do we find out what the NHS Board is doing?

NHS QIS has produced quality checks, which show if a health service is doing its job properly.

The quality checks were used by staff in the State Hospitals Board for Scotland to find out how well the service is working. This is called a self-assessment.

Checklist		
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Then a team from NHS QIS visited the State Hospitals Board and looked at this self-assessment. The NHS QIS team met with staff, people with learning disabilities and carers to find more about the service.

This booklet was written after the NHS QIS visit. It tells you how well the State Hospital is doing and what it needs to do to improve.

Some information on the State Hospital

The State Hospitals Board for Scotland is situated in Lanarkshire, midway between Glasgow and Edinburgh.

The State Hospital provides inpatient care for patients from Scotland and Northern Ireland in conditions of special security.



How is the State Hospital doing?

Involving children and adults and their family carers



Good things

Advocacy services can be accessed in private on the ward by using a telephone hotline button.

Staff are trained on the role of advocacy.

There is a patient with learning disabilities on the Patient Partnership Group.

There is a high standard of GP service and patients are usually seen within 24 hours.



Things which need to be improved

More leaflets and other documents need to be easy to read.

Family carers need to be more involved in care and treatment plans.

More advocacy support is needed for family carers to talk about their concerns.

More information explaining the purpose of the Patient Partnership Group is required.

Meeting special healthcare needs



Good things

The Health Promotion team provide information on healthy eating plans, and stopping smoking.

A lot of work is done to help people with learning disabilities with offending behaviour. There are treatment programmes to help people with anger management and to stop fire raising. There are also groups to help people to relax.



Things which need to be improved

At the time of the review visit, there were not a lot of services for people with a learning disability and dementia.

The women in Alexandra Ward sometimes do not get regular specialist services.

Making sure people who have to stay in hospital have a good quality of life



Good things

Cromarty Ward is nice and homely. All patients have their own room with a private bathroom.

There is a good choice of leisure and physical activities. This includes playing different sports, as well as cinema nights, bingo, and watching football on the television.



Things which need to be improved

The Alexandra Ward for women could be more homely.

Some people have different needs and this is not always recognised.

Planning services and working together



Good things

The health needs of the patients are regularly checked. These checks are used to improve health services.

The State Hospital makes sure that vulnerable patients are safe. This includes police checks on people who are wanting to work in the State Hospital.



Things which need to be improved

The State Hospital needs a plan stating how it is to progress and what money is needed.



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