



# Carmarthenshire Disability Coalition for Action **NEWS LETTER**

## January 2022

1. Trustees - as rare as hen's teeth.
2. Benefits Uprating 2022/23.
3. Have your say on Welsh Government's draft learning disability action plan.
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### Trustees - as rare as hens teeth!

All charitable organisations registered with the Charity Commission are legally required to have trustees.

Trustees have overall control of a charity and are responsible for making sure it's doing what it was set up to do. They may be known by other titles, such as:

- directors
- board members
- governors
- committee members

Whatever they are called, trustees are the people who lead the charity and decide how it is run. Being a trustee means making decisions that will impact people's lives. Depending on what the charity does, you will be making a difference to your local community or to society as a whole.

These days finding people who are prepared to become Trustees are as rare as hen's teeth which put many small charities at risk of dissolution. CDCfA is no exception as each year we struggle to engage trustees.

### Benefits Uprating 2022/23

DWP benefits that are linked to inflation rise by 3.1% in April 2021, as do the Basic and New State Pension following a one-year suspension of the 'triple lock'. Inflation-linked tax credit elements and benefits administered by HMRC are also expected to rise by 3.1%.

#### Pension rates in 2022/23

The Basic and New State Pensions will also be updated in line with CPI inflation in 2022/23, following a one-year suspension of the '**triple lock**'. This was a Government commitment to increase pensions by whatever was highest: earnings, prices or 2.5%.

Because of high earnings growth from mid-2020 onwards, there would be an increase in state pensions spending of around £4 to £5

billion in 2022/23, if an earnings uprate was applied, as opposed to the higher of 2.5% or expected price inflation.

#### The [Social Security \(Uprating of Benefits\) Bill 2021-22](#)

suspended the earnings element of the triple lock for the 2022/23 financial year and state pensions will be increased by CPI inflation of 3.1%. The full rates for 2022/23 will be:  
£185.15 per week for the New State Pension (for those reaching State Pension age on or after 6 April 2016) – up from £179.60 in 2021/22.

£141.85 per week for the Basic State Pension (the core amount in the old State Pension system) – up from £137.60 in 2021/22.

The Pension Credit standard minimum guarantee (delivered by the Guarantee Credit) will also increase by 3.1% in line with CPI inflation.

## Have your say on Welsh Government's draft learning disability action plan

Welsh Government is developing a learning disability action plan that sets out the policy priorities for the next 5 years. They want your views on this action plan to make sure it focuses on the issues that are important to the people of Wales, including people who access learning disability services and those who provide this essential support.

Welsh Government worked with the Learning Disability Ministerial Advisory Group (LDMAG), which Learning Disability Wales is a member of, to develop the draft action plan.

You can [download or read the Learning Disability Strategic Action Plan 2021-2026 plan here \(PDF\)](#).

The action plan builds on the work of the [Learning Disability Improving Lives](#) programme that ended in March 2021. It identifies and prioritises the key areas, actions and outcomes that will be the focus over the years ahead, including outstanding actions from the Improving Lives programme. It also addresses key issues identified by the LDMAG in their Policy Priorities report submitted to the Welsh Government in May 2021 and priority actions focussing on helping services and people with learning disabilities as we come out of the pandemic restrictions.

Given the ongoing public health situation and continued pressures on services, there is a focus on Covid recovery, particularly in the early years of the plan. The plan will therefore be formally reviewed after 2 years during spring 2024.

The key areas covered within the plan are:

- Overarching/Cross-cutting including cross-government activity that may not sit in one specific area
- Covid recovery
- Health includes reducing health inequalities and avoidable deaths
- Social services and social care
- Facilitating independent living and access to services through increased access to advocacy and self-advocacy skills, engagement and collaboration
- Education including children and young people's services
- Employment and skills
- Housing includes appropriate housing, close to home, and access to joined-up service
- Transport.

The plan provides a high level, strategic overview of areas of priority activity over the coming years. It will be supported by a more detailed implementation plan that sets out the specific actions within each area that will help deliver the main themes in the action plan. Welsh Government plans to publish both documents by the end of March 2022.



We will be responding to Welsh Government's draft action plan by 28 February.

We want to hear your views and comments by 21 February to include in our feedback.

Some of the questions that we want you to think about include:

- Are the areas identified in the plan the ones you think Welsh Government should be focussing on?
- Is Welsh Government doing enough in these overarching areas to meet the needs of people with a learning disability?
- Do you think these proposals will be achievable in the years ahead or will they put too much pressure on services during the ongoing health crisis?
- Are there other areas that should be included as a priority?

How you can give your views

Email: Please email us your comments by 21 February to

[cath.lewis@ldw.org.uk](mailto:cath.lewis@ldw.org.uk)

Phone or online video chat: If you prefer you can contact us to arrange a phone or online interview to discuss your feedback. To arrange an interview please either phone 029 20681160 or email [cath.lewis@ldw.org.uk](mailto:cath.lewis@ldw.org.uk) as soon as possible.

## Do you have an invisible disability?

Leonard Cheshire wants to help raise awareness of attitudes toward people with invisible disabilities in healthcare services. If you have an invisible disability then have your say. Take their [survey on attitudes toward invisible disabilities](#). It should take 5 minutes or less to complete.

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