

# Community Care Services: Eligibility Criteria Consultation

## **Points raised at a meeting held with members of the Service User Parliament for People with Learning Disabilities on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2007**

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“Parents and carers and teachers could help while people were at school but then what?”

“My care home would have to help me if I didn’t have a social worker but what if they were too busy to help?”

“People would have to fall back on their parents and carers!”

“Would you have to pay for non-Council services?”

“It’s not fair – nobody asks for a disabled child!”

“People need information about other services – the Council needs to help people with this.”

“This is going back to Victorian times when there wasn’t help for people.”

“Parents will start building institutions again for their disabled children.”

“It feels secure now. When the changes come people will feel insecure.”

“I’ve got my family at the moment but what happens when they get older?”

“You need someone you can turn to.”

“People would need information about you before they could help you. You wouldn’t want to tell a stranger about yourself.”

“I’d want to kill myself if I didn’t have help to turn to!”

“People wouldn’t know any different if they hadn’t had the help to start with.

“What would people do if there wasn’t a social worker there to help. If it was just me and my dad I couldn’t make my own decisions because he would let me.”

“Parents will get together and organise homes for their disabled children - it’ll be like going back to the dark ages!”

“If I didn’t have my social worker where would I go – Home Farm Trust (HFT)? My mum? College? My carers can’t help me with important decisions.”

“I might get to see my social worker more if they were less busy looking after everyone!”

“Without a social worker I wouldn’t have been referred to Occupational Therapists, doctors etc”

“It’s not always good to have a social worker - there are good points and bad points. Sometimes they help you stick up for your rights.”

“You could turn to your family for help but they don’t always have the power to help or don’t know how to help.”

“I would need to know who else I could turn to for help but I do need someone.”

“If there was an organisation available to help people that would be good but they would need to be good at their jobs. People would need to know me well to be able to help me.”

“At the moment social workers collect information about people from their parents, from care homes and from people themselves.”

“Parents of severely disabled children only get a break through day centres so the Council should keep the Causeway Centre and not reduce services. HFT’s Intensive Support Unit is doing more outreach from people’s homes and Woodbury is not suitable for all needs. Parents need respite care!”

“It’s a frightening thought if there are changes. I couldn’t cope with things. I wouldn’t know where to go for help. I would feel socially isolated. Also, I get help with holidays, which is complicated.”

“People would miss out if there was no help or if they didn’t know where to go for help or they would have to fall back on their parents for help.”

“If they were isolated people might think of suicide!”

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