

# Planning Together Meeting

## Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

### 2. You Said We Did

Please see slides on the [Planning together website](#).

### 3. CLDS Updates

- An important message was shared about the difficult things happening in the country. There has been an increase in hate crime, discrimination and abuse - including a rise in Islamophobia and Antisemitism
- Any abuse to staff and people drawing on services is taken seriously. If people are feeling worried or unsafe please reach out to someone you trust – support staff, families, friends.
- In Camden, we have an important agreement called the Memorandum of Understanding. This says what we do to support staff members who are experiencing abuse of any kind. We are looking at it again to make sure people are aware and we are doing everything we can.
- If anyone has questions please speak to [catherine.schreiber@camden.gov.uk](mailto:catherine.schreiber@camden.gov.uk) or any staff member at Planning Together.
- Please take care of each other and let us know if there is anything else we need to do as a service to support you and our community. Report things to the police if people are abusive

### 4. Community Support

Please see slides on the [Planning together website](#). Meeting members discussed the following:

- CLDS or CYPDS will speak one to one to people who draw on community support to explain the changes. Everyone is having a review, starting with people in the South and then North. New support plans will include changes.
- It is important support staff know and understand about all the changes and opportunities so people are better linked in. We can think about how we share information on the offer e.g. maybe a market place.
- During the tender service providers put in their bid what they are going to do, including the training and information support staff get.
- A team including CLDS, CYPDS, people with learning disabilities, carers and commissioning met providers and asked questions. They scored providers. Centre 404 and LDN were highest. They included activities and how they would reduce social isolation.
- There will be an activities co-ordinator at Centre 404. Sometimes providers put in ideas that may take a bit of time to get going so they will keep reviewing.
- Centre 404 used to have pub group on a Friday - can this come back?
- LDN and Centre 404 are aware about the club offer at the Greenwood day service which is one option. They are also linked in with Charlie Ratchford Court.
- For people in the process of transferring from child to adult services they should be able to access the service when the Social Worker does the Care Act Assessment, but they understand people want to know earlier. There are Short

Breaks care and support plans when young people are under the age of 18. These are reviewed. They can think about working with young people and their families much earlier about what's available.

- Allocated hours for social activities and home care tasks were explained. Support with home care tasks (e.g. cooking and laundry) is very different to community support and social activities – people can get both. They need to look at activities in a review. If someone is not getting the hours they need please talk to CLDS on **020 79 74 44 44**

**ACTION:** LDN and Centre 404 to come back and share what they have changed to Learning Disability Community Support at a future Planning Together

**ACTION:** Community Support can have a stall at transitions events

## 5. Terms of Reference

Please see slides on the [Planning together website](#). Meeting members agreed with the new proposed Terms of Reference. The follow points were discussed:

- There are new roles for small group chairs when there are table discussions. It can be very hard for some people to get their voice heard as no one is in charge. People discussed how this could work e.g. prompt cards, easy read, less jargon.
- It would be good to get some new people to come. Some people need a call and reminder. Support providers can remind people.

**ACTION:** Agenda setting group to think about the next Planning Together to make sure every table has a small group chair.

## 6. Money Matters

A presentation was shared by the Citizens Advice Financial Wellbeing Team. Please see slides on the [Planning together website](#). Meeting members raised the following:

- Awards and Contributions – if you are on full benefits contributions to care are significant and reduces your benefit. There have been no changes to Awards and Contributions in years but prices and costs of living have gone up.
- They can come back to this topic as there is so much to think about e.g. benefits, budgeting, free stuff, charging on care and support.
- Katie Plant - Health and Wellbeing Librarian shared a list of tips that can be found on the [Planning together website](#).

**ACTION:** Agenda setting group to discuss Awards and Contributions to come back to a future Planning Together

## 7. Synergy

Please see slides on the [Planning together website](#). Synergy asked people to discuss the following:

1. Why is it important that people with learning disabilities are involved in their benefits?

2. How can we support people with learning disabilities to understand their benefits better?

Themes from feedback can be found on the [Planning together website](#).

## 8. Small groups

Groups members discussed what are the different things that are important for carers and people with learning disabilities when thinking about money matters. Group members shared discussion points below, and themes from feedback can be found on the [Planning together website](#).

- What can the council do? Sometimes people won't reach out for help even though the council knows they are in trouble from not paying rent or bills
- Carers are worried about what will happen when they get ill and die. People with learning disabilities have relied on parents and carers – can they think about how to let go a little bit and other people can start to help with budgeting
- Can there be a much more simple, flexible process. Forms are hard and complex
- Easy read forms and letter are important for people to understand letters
- Make sure everyone is getting all the benefits they are entitled to
- Can there be drop ins with welfare teams
- How to check bank statements for fraud, safeguarding from financial abuse and scams

**ACTION:** Commissioning to speak to teams in the council about support when they know people are not paying rent or bills

## 9. Topic for the next meeting

The following ideas were suggested for future meetings. These will be discussed in the agenda setting group:

- Big Plan – this may need a whole meeting and people read information in advance.
- Anti-social behaviour
- We Like to Move it Move it feedback
- Arts and culture team - Accessing events and activities run by Camden council
- Awards and contributions – this needs transparent with clear examples of how things are worked out for different people. Letters can be distressing
- LDN and Centre 404 – update on what is the same and what is different in the new LD Community Support service
- Scams – come back to staying safe
- Communication / how to people speak to people
- Connect to work

## 10. Any Other Business

None