



Scottish

Learning Disabilities

Observatory

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EASY READ

**Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory
Newsletter Volume 2, November 2015**

Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory



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Newsletter Volume 2 November 2015

Connecting evidence, policy and practice



Message from Professor Sally-Ann Cooper, the Director.

I hope you like our second newsletter



The Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory has arranged a conference for lots of people to hear about the work we are doing



We want to hear what people think about the work we do and if there is anything else we should be doing to improve the health of people with learning disabilities



The Good Life Group will also be performing at the conference

We will talk about some very helpful information we found about people with learning disabilities in Scotland. This information is from Scotland's Census, 2011



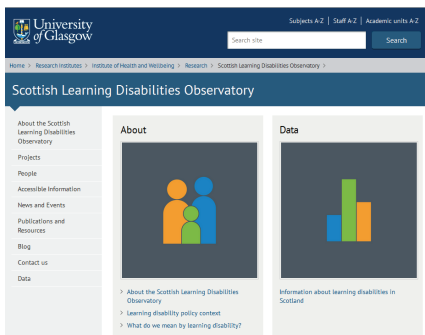
There will be speakers from Scotland, England and Wales at the conference



I hope you enjoy the conference and this newsletter



The conference will be held on 1 December 2015



If you can't make the conference, check out our website for more information at www.sldo.ac.uk

The Importance of accessible information

Michael McEwan, Freelance Journalist and Presenter



We asked Michael McEwan to tell us what he thought about the Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory

Why do we need a Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory?



Information about the health of people with learning disabilities is really important

It is important that professionals who support people with learning disabilities, have access to good quality information

Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory

I am pleased that the Scottish Government is funding the Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory



I would ask that information produced by the new Learning Disabilities Observatory is made accessible to people with learning disabilities



Access to better information about health is important to people with learning disabilities



We want to be included in decisions about our health and care

We need better information

But what do we mean by better information?



For me this is about two things

1. It is about the right information
2. It is about accessible information



I want to know that information my doctor or nurse uses in their practice is based on good quality evidence



Easy Read information has helped me and a lot of people with a learning disability

The keys to life

The Keys to Life learning disability strategy tells us why it important to focus on health



It also says people with learning disabilities need to have a say in how these new policies are formed



Better information in accessible formats is an important step towards this



I look forward to hearing what new work the Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory do and I wish them luck

Scottish Census Project



Ewelina and Laura are looking at the health of people with learning disabilities and people with autism



People with learning disabilities and people with autism have poorer health than other people



We will use information from the Scottish Census to find out why

The Scottish Census looks at lots of information from where people live to how they feel about their health

The Scottish Census tells us that in Scotland:



- There are 26,349 people with learning disabilities
 - There are 31,712 people with autism
-



- There are more males than females with learning disabilities and with autism

The Scottish Census also tells us that in Scotland most people with learning disabilities and people with autism



- Are white
-



- Were born in the UK
-



- Live in a home where English was spoken
-



Communicate

The other two most common languages spoken by people with learning disabilities and autism were:

- British Sign Language
 - Scots
-

The Scottish Census also tells us that compared to all people:



- Fewer people with learning disabilities and with autism were in paid employment
-



- Fewer people with learning disabilities and with autism rated their health as very good or good



The Census results will help us understand more about the health and lives of people with learning disabilities and people with autism in Scotland



We will write reports about what we have found



If you want to find out more about this work, you can email us:

Ewelina:

ewelina.rydzewska@glasgow.ac.uk

Laura:

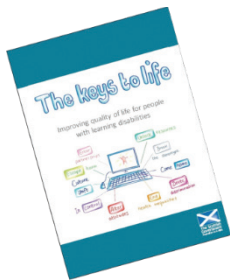
Laura.Hughes-Mccormack@glasgow.ac.uk



If you have any other questions about the Census, you can also contact the National Records of Scotland Customer Services at customer@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk

The keys to life: The plan for 2015 to 2017

Scottish Government



When 'The keys to life' was launched in 2013 the Minister for Public Health said that it was important to make sure that people with learning disabilities have better health



The government has written a new plan

This plan tells us what needs to happen next



The new plan says that the human rights of people with learning disabilities are very important

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities tells organisations how to make sure that disabled people have their human rights met



The Scottish Government have said that there are 4 important things that need to happen in the next 2 years



These are:

People with learning disabilities should be able to live as healthy a life as possible



People with learning disabilities should not be treated badly

They should be treated with respect



People with learning disabilities should be able to do the things they want to do

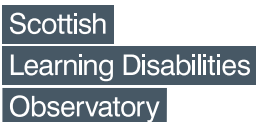
Good support, accessible information and transport can help



People with learning disabilities should be able to take part in the things that go on in society



Making these things happen should include all of the different parts of the Scottish Government



The Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory will work with lots of organisations to help make these changes



The Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory will help to make sure information about people with learning disabilities is collected



The Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory will make sure that people with learning disabilities have a voice

Get Involved



Name
Address
Phone Number

If you want to get information about the Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory you can sign up here



We will send you a copy of our newsletter

Tick this box if you would like an Easy-Read version of the newsletter.

Name	
Address	
Email Address	
Telephone Number	

We will store your information safely and make sure that we follow the rules of the Data Protection Act 1998. Please get in touch with us at any time if you want us to stop sending you information about the Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory



Please add my name to your database.

.....
Signature



Your views are important to us.

Please use this page to tell us what you think the priorities of the Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory should be.

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Get Involved

Please return any comments and contact details in a stamped addressed envelope to:


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