

A charter for people who present behavioural challenges

Dr Roger Banks

Consultant in the Psychiatry of Learning Disability

North Wales NHS Trust

Royal College of Psychiatrists


[Origins:

‘Challenging behaviour – a unified approach’

Clinical and service guidelines for supporting people with learning disabilities who are at risk of receiving abusive or restrictive practices

Royal College of Psychiatrists with British Psychological Society and Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists

College Report CR144
June 2007

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- Report established a set of good practice standards against which local services and stakeholders can audit and evaluate their current service provision and to assist in service planning and development.

BUT


- The service user perspective needed greater emphasis
- Suggested the development of a charter outlining what standards of service provision people should expect.

[Origins:

‘Services for people with learning disabilities and challenging behaviour or mental health needs’

(Mansell Report)

UK Department of Health Oct 2007


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- Recommends a charter (appendix 2 in report) to be adopted by commissioners of services

[2008 – joint working]



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- **‘Steering’ group:**
 - **CBF, RCPsych, BPS, Family carers, Valuing People Support Team (DoH)**
 - **National meeting of ‘interested parties’**
 - **November 2008**

[Themes / areas of concern]

- Human Rights & risk to individuals
- Campaigning
- Mapping of current provision and examples of good practice
- Development of a “routemap”
 - what should happen
 - source of information / advice for families and professionals
- Establishment of **National Strategy Group for Challenging Behaviour**

[National Strategy Group:]

- Good practice
- Clinical advocacy
- Highlighting areas of concern
(workforce and competencies issues)

[National Strategy Group:]

- Charter for service users and for carers
- Aimed at:
 - Service providers
 - Service commissioners
 - Professional organisations
 - Inspection and monitoring groups
 - Voluntary / charitable groups
 - Etc.

[National Strategy Group:]

- ‘Sign-up’ and support of charter is hoped to encourage:
 - Greater equality of provision of services and support
 - Higher standards of care
 - Development of effective and person centred supports near to home
 - Support for families / carers
 - A reduction in inequalities of opportunity and of physical and psychological well-being

[CHARTER: Rights and values]

- People will be supported to exercise their human rights (which are the same as everyone else's) to be healthy, full and valued members of their community with respect for their culture, ethnic origin, religion, age, gender and disability.
- All children who are at risk of presenting behavioural challenges have the right to have their needs identified at an early stage, leading to co-ordinated early intervention and support.
- All families have the right to be supported to maintain the physical and emotional wellbeing of the family unit.

[CHARTER: Rights and values]

- All individuals have the right to receive person centred support and services that are developed on the basis of a detailed understanding of their support needs including their communication needs. This will be individually-tailored, flexible, responsive to changes in individual circumstances and delivered in the most appropriate local situation.
- People have the right to the highest attainable standard of health and appropriate support to enable this.
- People have the same rights as everyone else to a family and social life, relationships, housing, education, employment and leisure.

[CHARTER: Rights and values]

- People have the right to supports and services that create capable environments for individuals which are developed on the principles of positive behavioural support and other evidence based approach and which draw from additional specialist input as needed. This will respond to all the needs of the individual.
- People have the right not to be hurt or damaged or humiliated in any way by interventions. Support and services must strive to achieve this.
- People have the right to receive support and care based on good and up to date evidence.

[CHARTER: Actions]

- Educational, social and health services will construct long term collaborative plans to meet the needs of children and adults with learning disabilities, their families and carers.
- Local Authorities and the NHS will develop and co-ordinate plans to:
 - Reduce the exposure of young children at risk of learning disabilities to environmental conditions that may lead to behavioural challenges.
 - Promote the resilience of young children at risk of learning disabilities who face such environmental conditions.
 - Provide early intervention, support and services that will meet the individual needs of young children who are showing early signs of developing behavioural challenges.

[CHARTER: Actions]

- Active listening to the needs of the family will lead to the provision of appropriate and timely support, information and training.
- People will be supported to have a good quality of life by individuals with the right values, attitudes, training and experience.

[CHARTER: Actions]

- The NHS and services will proactively plan to ensure that people receive the same range, quality and standard of healthcare as everyone else, making reasonable adjustments when required. People will have an individualised health action plan and be supported to have access to annual health checks to ensure all health needs are met.
- People and their family carers will receive support and services that are timely, safe, of good quality, co-ordinated and seamless. They will be proactively involved in the planning, commissioning and monitoring of support and services including both specialist and general services.

[CHARTER: Actions]

- A person-centred approach that enables and manages the taking of risk will be used to ensure that people have access to family and social life, relationships, housing, education, employment and leisure.
- Local authorities and the NHS will know how many children and adults live in their area and how many they have placed out of area. On the basis of information from person-centred plans all agencies will plan and deliver local support and services.

[CHARTER: Actions]

- Services will seek to reduce the use of physical intervention, seclusion, chemical and mechanical restraint with the clear aim of eliminating them for each individual.
- All services and agencies will strive to improve continually, using up to date evidence to provide the best support, care and treatment to deliver positive outcomes for individuals.



- For further information :
 - rbanks@rcpsych.ac.uk
 - info@thecbf.org.uk

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