

The Greater Manchester Learning Disability Plan 2026

1. Ownership and Accountability	Ownership for each priority, ensuring progress is being made to reduce the inequalities experienced by people with a Learning Disability in Greater Manchester. Active local Learning Disability Partnership boards across GM.
2. Advocacy	Supporting people and their families to have more confidence and skills to speak up for themselves. Support awareness-raising about different the types of advocacy and their benefits.
3. Commissioning	Embedding strengths based, outcome focused, person-centred planning approaches. Explore new commissioning arrangements and share good practice.
4. Good Health	Reducing health inequalities by improving access to health services, screening and reasonable adjustments; implementing learning from LeDeR, linking with Public Health. Improved access and support from Mental health services.
5. Belonging	Ensuring people have choice and control to do the things they want to. Supporting people to make friends and have relationships. Support and training for people on Bereavement.
6. Homes for people	Ensuring people have a choice about where they live and which kind of housing they live in and are supported to live as independently as possible.
7. Employment	Enabling more people to obtain paid employment and supporting people to consider their employment options when preparing for adulthood.
8. Workforce	A skilled workforce and quality providers that know how to support people and demonstrate humanity and values.
9. Children and young people	Ensuring children, young people and their families get the help and support they need. Stages of Life - Better support, planning and choice for people preparing for adulthood.
10. Justice system	Ensuring offenders are being represented, treated fairly and supported not to reoffend; ensuring victims have a voice.
11. Transport	In GM we need better transport options for people. Transport options make a huge difference to people's lives and what they can do.
12. Prevention	Support for people earlier can often prevent escalation. Ensure there is support available for people without Adult Social Care eligible needs. Support to complete everyday tasks e.g. paying bills.

The Greater Manchester Learning Disability Plan - Journey

In 2018, a group of people with Learning Disabilities, families, and people that work in health and social care, came together to talk about what we need to do to make sure people with Learning Disabilities have a good life.

They agreed on **10 priority areas** of work:

1. Strategic Leadership
2. Advocacy
3. Bespoke commissioning
4. Good Health
5. Belonging
6. Homes for people
7. Employment
8. Workforce
9. Early Support for children and young people
10. Justice system

In 2021/ 22, working with the Greater Manchester Confirm and Challenge group and people that work in health and social care, the 2018 plan was reviewed. The outcome of the review was that the 10 priorities should remain the same.

Locality leads were asked to work with local advocacy groups and people with lived experience to identify the **3 priorities** from the 10 areas to focus on from 1st April 2022 for 12 months.

Each locality was asked to create a plan detailing:

- 3 priorities chosen, why and process used
- Metrics to be used for measuring performance and targets set
- Key deliverables for each priority
- How they will evidence progress made
- Impact assessment - What has changed for individuals as a consequence? What was the issue to be addressed? How will the actions address the issue?

In 2025, supported by the GM Confirm and Challenge group, 3 locality cluster meetings were held. We discussed resetting the GM Learning Disability plan in 2026, below is a summary of the feedback received.

What do we need to keep?

- Advocacy – support with everyday life
- Commissioning – money, funding, resources, top tips, AI, legal obligations, share good practice
- Good Health – annual health check follow up, health action plan should include mental health and public health
- Belonging – running through all, choice and control, friendships and relationships, flexibility, stay up late, social activities
- Homes - improved choice and include landlords in strategic conversations
- Employment - job opportunities, training, education, volunteering, setting up a business
- Workforce – Support staff, support for providers
- Children and Young people
- Criminal Justice – signposting

What do we need to change?

- Ownership and Accountability (instead of leadership) – who is responsible and who can support making a difference?
- Transport - is a huge priority and is still causing lots of issues
- Prevention – people without ASC eligible needs
- Stages of life
 - Preparing for adulthood
 - Bereavement - support and training

We need to ensure that:

- Locality partnership boards, more involvement with people throughout everything
- Localities set goals that are measurable and outcomes focused
- Simple documents with clear easy read pictures
- More is achieved – we need to see more positive impacts on people's lives.

The Greater Manchester Learning Disability Plan - Next Steps

- Request feedback on the 2026 plan
 - Locality groups e.g. People First Group
 - GM Confirm and Challenge
 - Disabled Peoples panel
 - Locality Learning Disability Partnership Boards
 - Carer and family groups
 - People that work in health and social care

Localities

Working in partnership with people with lived and living experience, their families and carers, locality groups and Learning Disability Partnership Boards.

- Select the priorities chosen to focus on for 2026/27
- Set targets and performance measures
- Decide the key deliverables and impact measures - Outcomes
- Quarterly progress reporting;
 - GM Adult Social Care team
 - Locality groups e.g. People First Group
 - Locality Learning Disability Partnership boards
- Annual reporting to:
 - GM ADASS
 - GM Learning Disability and Autism Strategic Group

