

Supporting People:
helping our residents live **independently**



Lambeth Supporting People Service
Supporting People with Disabilities



People with Disabilities



The Lambeth Supporting People (SP) Service aims to help people enjoy a good quality of life by commissioning housing related support across the borough. Our plans for the type of support we want to provide are described in the Lambeth Supporting People Strategy 2005-2010. The summary below is taken from the strategy and is about services for people with physical, sensory or learning disabilities. Information about the whole programme is contained in the Executive Summary and detailed information is contained in the full strategy available on the Lambeth Website or from the Supporting People Service. Contact details are on the back cover.

Types of Services

Supporting People services for people with physical and sensory disabilities provide a mix of accommodation and floating support. Three providers deliver accommodation services in Lambeth and a new pilot service, with 20 units of floating support, was commissioned in 2004/05, with the involvement of users and carers. None of these services are jointly commissioned.

Lambeth SP programme funds 31 services providing 168 units for people with learning disabilities (PWLD), with a mix of accommodation and floating support.

The accommodation units include a mix of registered care homes, supported housing/shared houses with license agreements and new models of housing with tenancies.

Joint commissioning

Supporting People jointly commissions ten services with Adult Learning Disabilities (ALD), Lambeth Social Services. In 2004/05, SP contributed £637,733.50 funding and ALD £548,839.04 to commission the schemes. Three of the schemes have been identified for remodelling by ALD and SP. Additionally there is a jointly funded Community Support service. This provides housing support and care services to people in their own homes, with the housing support services equivalent to an SP floating support service (with SP-eligible tasks).

People who use the services

Client record information shows that 57% of service users with physical disability are White British and 29% Black African. The majority of users are local residents in Lambeth (86%), compared to an average of 98% for London boroughs.

The majority of PWLD service users are of White background (54%), with approximately one-quarter (27%) of Black/Black British background.

Chart 1 demonstrates the current position of services for people with disabilities

SP services 2004/05	Physical & Sensory Disabilities	Learning Disabilities
Total spend	£241,911	£1,223,763
Percentage of total SP spend	1%	5.4%
Number of people supported	48	168
Percentage of total SP clients	0.9%	3.2%
Percentage of people local to Lambeth	86%	82%
Commissioning partners	-	Adult Learning Disabilities (£589,096)
Consultation forums	Physical & Sensory Disability Partnership Board	Adult Learning Disabilities Partnership Board Adult Learning Disabilities Housing Subgroup

Needs of this group

Physical and sensory disability is best defined as any person who experiences a substantial physical disability or who experiences various forms of sight and/or hearing loss. The main causes of disability are accident; genetic disorder; birth defect; and disease.¹ People with a physical or sensory disability are likely to require specially adapted accommodation, and some will need housing-related support to maintain that accommodation.

There is limited information about housing-related support needs of people with a physical or sensory disability in Lambeth. Lambeth Social Services is developing a database of people identified as having a physical and/or sensory disability.² This will provide a more accurate and specific information on the number of people within this client group and their needs. SP will access and develop information to inform the planning and commissioning of services.

Gaps in Services

Services for people with physical and sensory disabilities will be reviewed between October and December 2005 and SP has identified the provision of services for this group a priority for future investment.

Nationally it is estimated that 60% of PWLD live in the parental home.³ ALD is in the process of collecting more accurate information on emerging need via a Panel Authorisation Form (recording housing and support need) and a "my home" form. This will provide more detailed needs information in 2005/06 to inform commissioning from 2008/09. The current evidence shows increasing levels of need within the borough.

Consultation and research

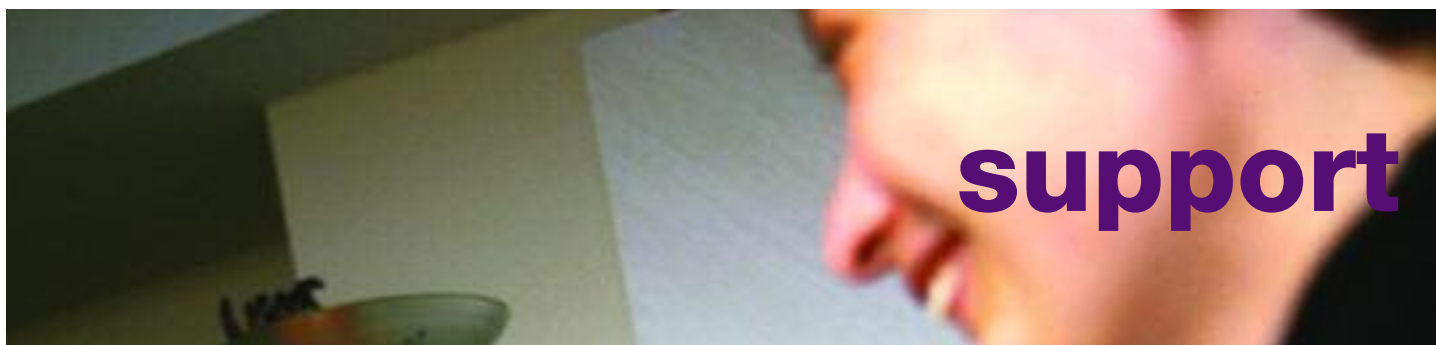
SP worked with the Lambeth Crime and Disorder Audit to facilitate a focus group of adults with physical and sensory disabilities. The group expressed a high level of concern, anxiety and fear in relation to gangs of youths and drug-related crime. Designing accommodation and security were also key concerns. The focus group felt that the provision of more adaptations to people's homes, uptake of the Lambeth Careline, and additional support key workers would underpin improvements to their quality of life.

A conference for PWLD was held on 14th October 2004 to gather feedback from service users living in shared and self-contained supported housing about the relative advantages and disadvantages of both arrangements. A planning group with service users, People First and Secta Starfish organised the event and 60 people attended. The findings demonstrated that, although people were often very positive about their current circumstances, the vast majority had not really chosen where they lived; neither had they chosen their own staff. People with a learning disability become very knowledgeable and opinionated about things they understand from personal experience and which are relevant to their lives. People liked their flats, their estates and their areas but they had problems about the condition of some of the properties. In discussion about what is not so good, repairs, housing offices and waiting times for work to be done were causes of concern.

Our vision for 2010

Services for people with physical and sensory disabilities have been identified as a priority area for development. In the next five years services will be planned and developed to meet people's needs.

For PWLD Lambeth SP will continue to work closely with Adult Learning Disabilities to plan and commission services. In the next five years we will aim to increase the choice of services, with a focus on independent living and different levels of housing support. We will develop links between the Support Needs Assessment and Placement team, Social Services Placement Panel and SP services to improve access and referral to local housing-support services. The lack of affordable and appropriate housing in Lambeth is limiting people's options to move on to independent living. We will work with our partners to develop models of housing support services for people with learning disabilities.



2. Lambeth PCT, Draft Joint Strategy for Services for People with Physical Disability and/or Sensory Impairment 2004-09, 2004.

3. RSM Robson Rhodes, Independent Review of the SP programme, 2004.

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The following sections of the Lambeth Supporting People Strategy are available: Executive Summary, Young People & Homeless Families, Domestic Violence, Vulnerable Adults, Mental Health, Older People, People with Disabilities and Socially Excluded Groups.

If you would like more information or have any comments or suggestions about the Lambeth Supporting People Strategy or any Supporting People Service, please contact:

Lambeth Supporting People Service,
Olive Morris House, 18 Brixton Hill,
London SW2 1RD.

Tel: 020 7926 7520

Fax: 020 7926 7526

Email: supportingpeople@lambeth.gov.uk

www.lambeth.gov.uk/supportingpeople
www.spkweb.org.uk

If you would like this information in large print, braille, audio tape or another language please call 020 7926 7520.

Spanish

Si desea esta información en otro idioma, rogamos nos llame al **020 7926 7520**

Portuguese

Se desejar esta informação noutro idioma é favor telefonar para **020 7926 7520**

French

Si vous souhaitez ces informations dans une autre langue veuillez nous contacter au **020 7926 7520**

Bengali

এই তথ্য অন্য কোনো ভাষায় আপনার প্রয়োজন হলে অনুগ্রহ করে ফোন করুন **020 7926 7520**

Twi

Se wope saa nkaeboy yi wo kasa foforo mu a fre **020 7926 7520**

Yoruba

Tí ẹ ba fẹ ìmoràn yìí, ní èdè Òmiràn, ẹjò, ẹ kàn wà l'ágogo **020 7926 7520**



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