









The main work we have done in  
2023 and 2024

Royal Mencap Society  
Annual Review  
April 2023 to March 2024

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# About this report



We are Mencap.



We want to really change things for people with a learning disability.

We are working to make the UK the best place in the world for people with a learning disability to live.



This report is called our Annual Review.

It tells you the main things that we have worked on in the last year.



We have an exciting plan about all the work we are doing. It is called our Big Plan.



We are working with people with a learning disability, their families and many other people on our plan.



## The main work we have done on our Big Plan

There are 5 areas of work we will talk about.



### Area of work 1.

Making sure that our support is right for people and makes their lives better



### Some of our main work

We gave support to many people with a learning disability in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.



Our support helps people to do important things like:

- Live at home and look after themselves.
- Get a job.
- Meet friends and do new things.



There are big problems with support all across the country.

For example, there are not enough support workers and they do not get paid enough.



We wrote a report about what the government should do to make things better.

The report is called Why We Care.

For example, we want the government to make sure that support workers are paid enough money.

Good places to live

We helped to get some new places for people with a learning disability to live.

This is where people with a learning disability live in their own place in the community.

They get support to live there if they need it.



## Good support for children and families



We are helping many children with a learning disability to get good support when they are very young.

This can help them to do well when they are older.



For example, we are supporting children to play and learn together.

We are also helping families to meet and support each other.



Supporting more people to get work

We have supported many people with a learning disability to get work or learn important skills for work.



For example, we have started some new support to help people with a learning disability to find work.

This includes supporting young people at school to get ready for work in the future.

Area of work 2.

Helping to change things  
in the country for people with  
a learning disability

Some of our main work

Making sure that people with a learning  
disability can help to choose who runs  
our country

This year there will be an election to  
choose who runs the country.

We are helping to make sure that people  
with a learning disability can vote and  
have their say.

Helping more people to leave  
mental health hospitals

Many people with a learning disability  
in England are forced to live in  
mental health hospitals.

This is wrong.





People should be living in the community near their families and friends instead. We are asking the government to change the law about mental health.

This will stop more people with a learning disability from living in mental health hospitals when they do not need to.



Better health and mental health care

We want to make sure that everyone with a learning disability gets good and safe healthcare that is right for them.



Some big work is happening to look into what the government did about Covid-19.

Covid-19 is a big illness that many people in the world have been getting. We are helping with the work about Covid-19.

This will help everyone to know how badly people with a learning disability were treated during Covid-19.





For example, many people with a learning disability were left without the healthcare or support they need.



We had a big meeting about making sure that people with a learning disability get the healthcare they need.



Many people came to the meeting.

Like the big boss of the NHS in England.

The NHS in England promised to do more to check that people with a learning disability are getting the right care.

Jobs for people with a learning disability



We made a new plan to help more people with a learning disability to work.

We asked people with a learning disability what problems they were having with work before we made the plan.

## Support with food and heating costs

Many things in the country now cost more money. Like food and heating.

This has been very hard for many people with a learning disability.

For example, many people cannot afford to pay for their heating and electricity.

We are asking the government to start some new help.

This means that people with a learning disability and their families would pay less for their heating and electricity.

Helping everyone to know about people with a learning disability

We have supported more people with a learning disability to be in the media.

The media is things like TV, radio and news stories.

For example, some people with a learning disability are working with a TV station in Wales.





Area of work 3.

Giving people good information and advice

Some of our main work

We have some phone lines that people can call to get information and advice from us.

Many people ask us about housing when they get in touch.

So we helped to make some information about housing that everyone can understand.



We helped many people to get advice about how to manage their heating and electricity bills.



We have also made our website easier for everyone to use.

For example, there is more easy read information on our website.



Area of work 4.

Finding out better information

Some of our main work

We worked with people with a learning disability on our projects to find out more information.

For example, we started a project to keep young people safe when they go on the internet.

We also found out what problems young people with a learning disability have when they go on the internet.

We are using this information to make some videos.

The videos have people with a learning disability in them.

We are giving these videos to some schools to help young people to be safe.





Area of work 5.

Supporting people in local areas to come together to change things

Some of our main work



We have some projects to help make local areas better for people with a learning disability to live in.

Our projects help people with a learning disability and other people to get together to change things.



For example, people helped to make some sports easier for people with a learning disability to take part in.



The projects have also supported people with a learning disability to do new things.

Like learning new skills, doing art and making new friends.



## Making Mencap a better place to work

We are making Mencap an even better place for all groups of people to work.



For example, we started a new way to help our managers to be the best they can be.



We won an award for our work to make Mencap fairer for everyone.

The award was also for our work to make sure that people with a learning disability help to make big decisions.



We are doing what we can to pay our staff a fair wage.



We listen to our staff to find out what they like about Mencap and what they want to change.