Key takeaways

- Improvement processes and service transformation continuously evolve. The collaborative provides a platform to facilitate this, for local services and the wider community.
- The transformation of learning disability day opportunities cannot be achieved without the inclusion of wider social work partners and third sector organisations.
- The use of short, medium and long term plans can help teams achieve desired outcomes.
- Having a person with lived experience on the project team is crucial.
- The collaborative has provided a forum to celebrate success which is key for continued engagement.

Value and impact of the collaborative

- Improved team engagement and improved cross-sectional working
- Re-enforced the importance of user engagement and enabled this process
- Provision of a reflective space to enable evolving improvement

Advice for others undertaking a design-led approach

"I don't think you're designing one thing - there maybe has to be an acceptance that you always have a foot in the messy bit of the process - what you need to do is create the capacity for continuous conversation and change"

"Ensure everyone knows their roles, committing to meeting whether it be fortnightly or weekly - easy to think ‘I won't go along’, but the team need to have that time together and build those relationships. You can feel isolated and like you're getting nowhere but that’s normal, that’s natural - celebrate the little successes to keep you going."

"Include third party people in the team, prioritise the time, if you want to make the change you need to commit to starting the process. We do have limited resources but changing one person's life is a phenomenal thing to do."

"On a personal level, I've been involved in day services for a great many years, and it's given me the motivation and push for the first time in years."
Learning Disability Day Support
National Learning Event March 2022

Inequalities for people with a learning disability had been a core issue for the Collaborative in Phase 2. We heard from the Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory who presented on their research into the impact of health inequalities and Covid-19 on people with a learning disability.

The impact of Covid-19 on people with a learning disability:

- Twice as likely to become infected
- Case fatality of 28.5% compared to 22.3% in the general population
- Risk of severe or fatal infection higher among non-elderly groups
- Covid-19 didn’t have a great impact on excess deaths due to existing inequalities

People with learning disabilities experience significant health inequalities:

Pattern differs for general population

- People with a learning disability:
  - die 20 years earlier, with greater inequality for women.
  - are 43 times more likely to report poor health with greater inequality in younger groups.

New Models of Learning Disability Day Support Collaborative Phase 3 - The audience’s voice:

During the event, the audience were asked what they would like to see from the Collaborative next year in terms of wider engagement with the system.

- “It would be helpful to have a toolkit that takes all the learning form this work. It’s not a one size fits all but key processes and tools could be selected that best fit.”
- “Sharing success stories and learning”
- “Providing accessible information and resources”

Host & Presenters

- Diana Hekerem – Head of Transformational Re-design, ihub
- Angela Henderson – Director of Policy & Impact, Scottish Learning Disability Observatory
- Stephanie McGregor – Team manager, Falkirk HSCP LD Team
- Dominic Jarret – LD Development Manager, North Ayrshire HSCP
- Shona Thomson – Community Support Manager, Perth & Kinross HSCP
- Lorraine Bolton – Team Manager, Pathways, West Lothian HSCP

You can find out more about our current progress at the ihub website.