



Public Health  
England

# 'Human Rights Issues' faced by People with Learning Disabilities and Care Home Residents - *18th May 2021*

## Welcome and Introduction

Kristin Bash, Public Health Consultant in Health and Wellbeing  
(Yorkshire and Humber)

## Housekeeping

- Recording throughout to widen access to shared learning
- Please stay on mute and keep cameras off
- Questions into chat but if you can't use the chat please raise your hand to ask a question
- Evaluation and link to presentations to follow event



REC



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18<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Alison Iliff - Health and Wellbeing Programme Lead for Older Adults, Yorkshire  
and the Humber Health and Wellbeing Team

Corrina Bebbington - Locum doctor, on placement with Yorkshire and the  
Humber Health and Wellbeing Team



## Who are our two groups?

### People with Learning Disabilities

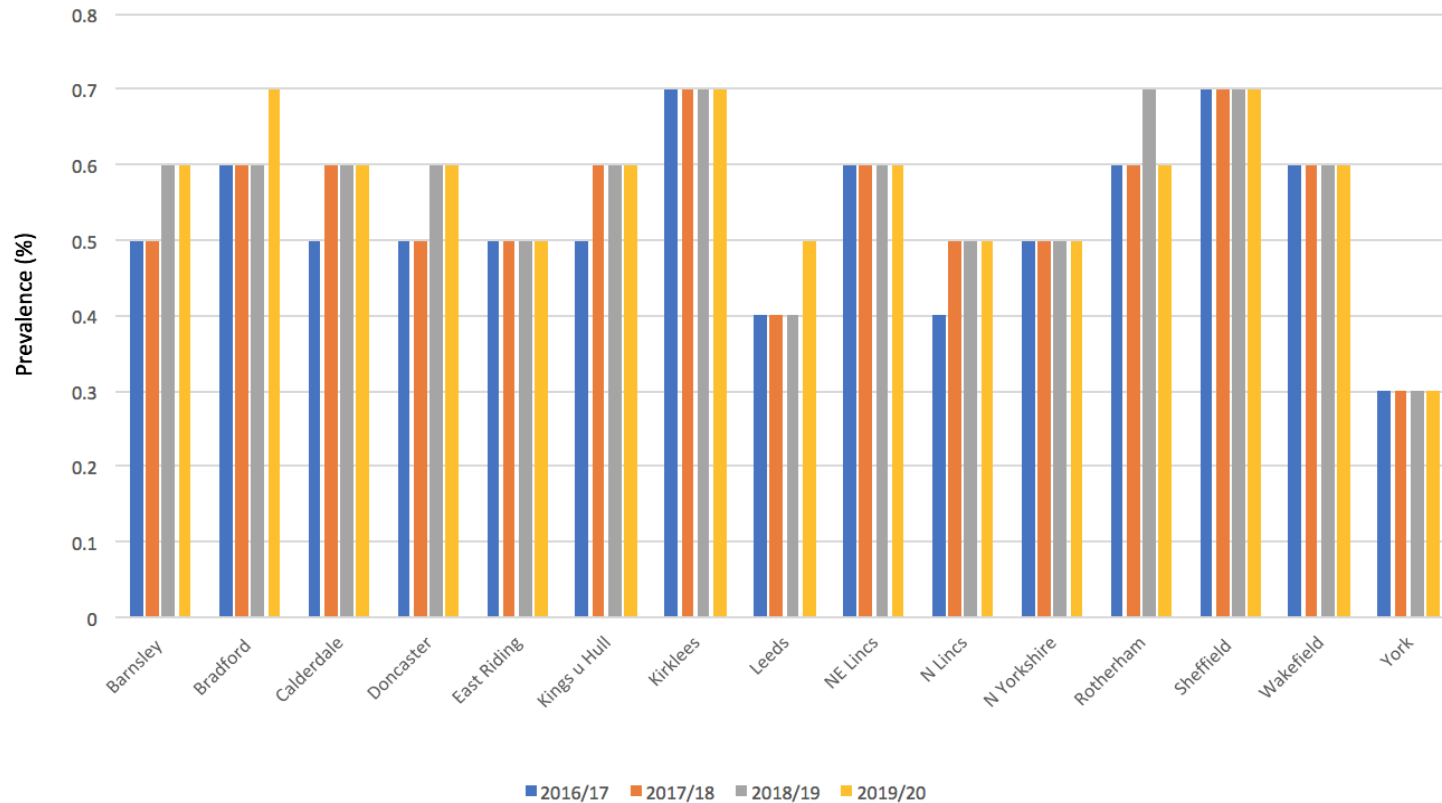
- A group of heterogeneous conditions, that can be classified using different criteria.
- Severity and related health needs are on a spectrum from mild to profound and multiple.
- Estimated 1.2 million people in England living with learning disabilities.
- The 'hidden majority' of adults living with learning disabilities are not known to services (estimated 75%).
- Under-powering of estimates and under-reporting for this group a particular problem.

### Care Home residents

- Around 418,000 people in the UK live in care homes: 4% of the over 65 population, rising to 15% of those aged 85 or older
- This equates to around 41,800 people in Y&H
- 40% of the total care home population receive specialist dementia care
- More than 23,000 adults with a learning disability were living in registered care homes in 2014/15
- A projected 33% increase in the number of over 65s in Y&H by 2040 is likely to increase demand for care home places.



# Learning Disability QOF Prevalence Across Yorkshire and the Humber



Source: PHE Fingertips: Learning Disability Profiles



# Impact of Covid-19 on PwLDs and Care Home Residents

## Direct Impacts

- For both groups, inequalities in mortality have widened compared with the general population:
  - For PwLDs they are more likely to contract Covid-19, have a more severe case and are 6.3 x more likely to die (age/sex adjusted):
    - This is by a greater margin for men, (1.4-1.6 x cf. females) younger age groups (30 x more likely aged 18-34) and Asian and Black ethnic groups (~4.4 & 4.5 x compared with previous 2 years respectively).
    - And for those with certain co-morbidities = Down's Syndrome (10.39 adjusted HR).
  - Rate of diagnosis of covid-19 increases with age with highest rates in those over 80, but only small numbers in critical care being from this age group
  - The biggest disparity in Covid-19 outcome is age, with those aged 80 or older being seventy times more likely to die than those under 40.



## Indirect Covid-19 Impacts

- Direct impacts are related to the virus itself, however, it is thought that the indirect impacts from the response to the pandemic will be:
  - Larger, affect more people, last longer and affect the most vulnerable in society disproportionately.
- There have been health inequalities related to these indirect impacts:
  - Broader healthcare impacts:
    - Restrictions on visiting; delays in routine and emergency care admissions and the adverse impact on end of life care.
  - Impacts on the wider health determinants:
    - Closure of day care services; delays to existing health and social care plans; social isolation; changes to the availability and skillset of paid carers and an increase in clinical responsibilities for family carers.
  - Key issues around legislative and human rights issues:
    - Equity in access and lack of reasonable adjustments, the Mental Capacity Act, DNACPR, death certification/coroner referrals.
    - Inequalities around these issues have triggered a national response across our systems in many cases.



## Why are we considering these two groups together today?

- Both communities face inequities in health compared with the general population.
- These unjust differences are, in the main, not new. They have persisted over time and have been exacerbated further due to Covid-19.
- Commonalities in inequality between these two communities particularly relate to legislative and human rights issues.





## Agenda for Today's Webinar

- We will cover:
  - An overview around key 'human rights issues' for these population groups.
  - Legislative and more broadly speaking 'human rights issues' and related health inequalities for both people with learning disabilities and care home residents.
- Speakers and topics:
  - Maria Foster (Health Inequalities Senior Manager for the Learning Disability and Autism Programme, NHS E&I) - learning and good practice in reducing inequity around legislation.
  - Ian Wolfenden (Speakup Tutor, Speakup Self Advocacy Ltd) & Jodie Bradley (Self-Advocate, Speakup Self Advocacy Ltd) – Stopping the over-medication of people.
  - Daisy Cooney (Health and Care Policy Manager, Age UK) – The impact on the rights of older care home residents.
  - 'Stories from Lockdown' – Video
  - Suzanne Nicholls (Learning Disability Primary Care Liaison Nurse, City Health Care Partnership CIC) – Training for care home staff