Question 1

Do the things in the easy read consultation report reflect your views and opinions about services for people with learning disabilities?

(Please tick your answer)

Yes                           No

You can put any comments about this question here.

We agreed with most of the report.
There are not so many chances for people to get out. We go to clubs for people with learning disabilities or stay at home and watch TV or play games on the computer

Only 3 people have paid jobs and these were for 2 hours a week. Other people volunteered.
Question 2

What do you think has worked well over the last 10 years for people with learning disabilities and family carers?

This could be changes in your local community or all over Scotland.

Please write your answer here.

The college building is better.
There is better wheelchair access.
The canteen is organized to make it safer for us.
They asked what we thought.

People have learned to use public transport. They can use their bus pass and get around easier. It doesn’t cost so much for taxis now.
Question 3
What do you think still needs to be done by the Government to make the lives of people with learning disabilities and family carers better?

Please write your answer here.

People need more support to be able to get out and about. There are not any community centres where we live. You don’t meet many new people.
Question 4 - (this question is for organisations only)

- What have you done in your organisation to improve services for people with learning disabilities in your local area?
- What have you done in your organisation to improve access to services for people with learning disabilities in your local area?

Please write your answer here.

Before the college cuts we could go out in groups. We could visit places of interest to us and join in local activities. There are too many people in the classes now so we don’t get out any more.
Question 5
What have you done to make things better in your local area for people with learning disabilities and family carers?

Please write your answer here.

We invite groups in to talk to the students.
Question 6
What do you think needs to be done to help people with learning disabilities get access to good healthcare?

Please write your answer here.

Most people live at home with their parents and would go to the doctor when they need to. A parent would go with them. Those who lived in their own flat would still ask a parent to go with them.

No-one had used NHS 24.

Some people would like to go to the gym but would need support to go.
One person had a befriender who they saw for 2 hours a week. He could go to the sports centre with him.
Question 7

What do you think needs to be done to improve access to better education and learning for people with learning disabilities?

Please write your answer here.

A lot of lecturers have left the college and have not been replaced. The staff that are here are brilliant and awesome! No-one got all of the classes they asked for this year. Most people just have half or one day. A couple of years ago people could come to college three days a week. Younger people can still get 3 days at college. There is not so much choice now. A lot of the practical classes have stopped like painting and decorating, gardening, woodwork and cookery. People who have their own flat would like to learn to look after it themselves. Support workers don’t have time to do these kind of things with them. The classes are much bigger so we can’t go out any more.

The people who did not get a place for their chosen days at college mainly stay at home. They can’t get out without support. Some visit family or friends.

A lot of people would like to go to a drama class. They felt that they had gained confidence from drama and it helped them in other parts of their lives.
Question 8
What do you think needs to be done to help people with learning disabilities live more independent lives?

Please put your answers here.

People need support to get out and about and make friends. Most rely on parents to take them to clubs in the evenings.

Some people had heard of activities like Line Dancing classes or Dates and Mates but have no way of getting there without support. Those who have some support can attend events and clubs but it is not always flexible enough to let them stay to the end.

A few people would like to go on holiday without their parents.

One person had her own flat with support in the evenings and at weekends. She was able to choose what she wanted to do and where she wanted to go. She said - ‘I love my life, I’ve had my own house for a year now’
Question 9
What do you think needs to be done to help people with learning disabilities get jobs?

Please write your answer here

Three people have had a job. All of them got support to get the job from a Supported Employment Project that is not there any more.

Many of the students had had various work experiences but this has not led to a paid job.

People knew that they should go to the Job Centre but would need support to use the computers etc. Most knew that there is a person at the Job Centre who helps people with disabilities but no-one had been to see her. She comes to give a talk at the beginning of the course for people who have just left school.

Everyone agreed that they would need specialist help to find a job.

Some people had gained experience in day centres a long time ago. They made things like paving slabs and wrought iron gates which they sold to the public. This was a good way of making money. Maybe they could start a business of their own.
Question 10

What do you think are the things we need to do in the future to make the lives of people with learning disabilities better?

Please write the most important things first.

Please write your answers here.

Bring back more college places. More courses and more staff.

Give people the chance to choose what they do during the day and in the evenings.

Have more supported employment projects.