2016-2017 Projects supported by Health Education England working across Kent Surrey Sussex

Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust is the part of the health service in Kent that helps people with a learning disability.

We did some projects in 2016 and 2017 to try and make things better for people with a learning disability.

To do the projects we used some money from a group called Health Education England Kent Surrey and Sussex.

If you have any questions about our projects we’d be happy to talk to you – you can email kcht.clinicalsUPPORTTEAM@nhs.net
One of these projects was:

**The Anticipatory Care Calendar**

It’s a form and some training for care staff. It gets care staff to check people’s health really well and know what to do if someone seems unwell.

We wanted to find out if we can use it in Kent.
The Anticipatory Care Calendar

What is the calendar?

It is for support workers to help people with health. It helps support workers to check health every day. It helps support workers know what to do if someone isn’t healthy. It means if you get ill, someone notices quickly and helps quickly.

Why is the calendar a good idea?

It is important because people with a learning disability have more problems with their health than most other people. Many people with a learning disability die earlier. Sometimes this is because they don’t get the right help at the right time.

What was the project?

Sue Marsden is a learning disability nurse in Kent. Sue found out about the calendar - she thinks it is a great way to help people.

Her project was to get lots of people in Kent to start using the calendar.

She showed lots of support workers the calendar and tried to help them use it.

She told lots of other people in the health service and in Kent social service about the calendar too.
What happened?

People wanted to use the calendar but it was hard. You have to use a computer to learn about the calendar but it didn’t always work well.

The computer work wasn’t ready when it was needed.

Some people decided not to use the calendar at all.

Some people in some places in Kent are using the calendar now.

These care providers have said they are interested in using the calendar:
What happened next?

Sue has told Learning Disability teams and other people in the health service more about the calendar.
Lots more people know about the calendar now, which is great.
She has also talked to the computer company to try to make it easier to use.

What have we learned?

Sue learned that it helps if everything is ready to go before you start a project.
She learned that it helps to be enthusiastic if you want people to try something new.
She learned that it helps when computers are easier to use.

What might happen next?

Sue hopes lots of people will use the calendar in the future.
She hopes it will help people stay healthy and not go to hospital unless they need to.
She hopes it will mean that people get the right help at the right time.