

2025 REFRESH VERSION
EASY READ

THE GOOD LIVES FRAMEWORK: BUILDING CHANGE TOGETHER





People with learning disabilities, families and organisations started coming together in 2020 to think about what [Good Lives](#) means to them.



This was supported by Learning Disability England, the member-led national organisation which brings together people with learning disabilities, families, organisations and paid supporters.



In 2024 there was the [Good Lives Manifesto](#) built from lots of campaigns and actions.

More than 450 people from the 680 organisation and individual members got directly involved in deciding what is most important.



Since then members have worked with Learning Disability England to update the Good Lives Framework.



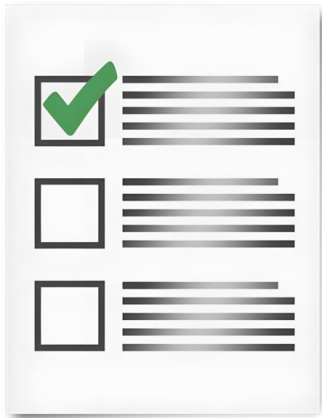
This is an Easy Read summary of that 2025 refreshed version of The Good Lives Framework: Building Change Together



What is in the Good Lives Framework

There are 7 Chapters in the framework:

1. Home
2. Communication and Staying Connected
3. The Right Support
4. To Love and Be Loved
5. Effective Voice – Self Advocacy and Advocacy
6. Employment and Contribution
7. Health for a Good Life



Every chapter includes the rights everyone has and information on the Convention on the Rights of Disabled persons

You can find out about that international agreement here in this [link](#)

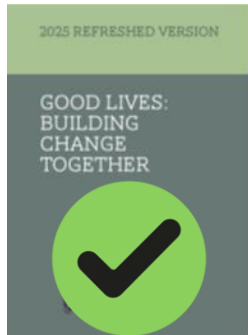


Each chapter also has examples of what good might look like – these show we are on the right track to Good Lives for everyone



What is in the Good Lives Framework

This version for 2025 includes new examples and has new information on what has happened since 2022.



You can see the good examples and more information on this web page [here](#)



Good Lives for everyone

Good Lives 2025 also includes more information about people with learning disabilities from minority ethnic communities and people with profound and multiple learning disabilities.



Good Lives is a campaign anyone can be part of – there are reports, videos and stories about Good Lives.

You might use them in your local groups or in your work.



Find out more on these web pages

<https://www.learningdisabilityengland.org.uk/what-is-good-lives/>

Chapter 1 - A Home



People with learning disabilities want to have the same access to housing options as their nondisabled peers.

Actions include:

Person centred housing planning so people can work towards what is most important to them



Changes to the rules on rents and grants so more housing can be built

Supporting national and local annual targets to build supported housing for people with learning disabilities and autistic people



Home

Some examples that show we are on the right track...



The Reach Standards (from Paradigm) are a guide to good support to live – they are there to help people and services make improvements

Reach Standard 1 – I choose who I live with.

Reach Standard 2 – I choose where I live.

Reach Standard 3 – I have my own home (with a tenancy or ownership).



Learning Disability England have made a housing guide to support independent living for everyone. It explains, different housing options and how to get and maintain your own home

Chapter 2 - Communication and staying connected



People with learning disabilities want information in ways they can understand. They want support to communicate.

They want to be online and use digital communication.

Actions include:

Make sure people have the equipment and support to use different communication styles or aids



Help people have the right equipment and support to be online and use the internet to communicate.

People with learning disabilities and their families know their rights on being able to communicate.



Accessible
Information
Standard

Communication and staying connected – some examples we are on the right track



United Response has supported the creation of Easy News, the first news magazine designed to be accessible for people with learning disabilities.

It helps people talk about news stories and keep readers informed about the world around them.

Anyone can sign up to receive an online copy of the magazine.



The Digital Lifeline Project helped 5,500 people with learning disabilities get online by giving them a mobile or tablet, data and assistive technology.

Half of the people reported afterwards they felt less lonely because of the device.

This built on the work of self-advocacy groups and support organisations through the pandemic to support digital inclusion

Chapter 3 – The Right Support



Social Care is about a life not a service. People want to be able to build relationships with supporters they trust.

Actions include:

Make quality based on what people with learning disabilities and their families say is most important



Support the Social Care Future vision for change:

'We all want to live in the place we call home, with the people and things that we love, in communities where we look out for one another, doing what matters to us.'

Fund services so Support Workers are well paid - the same as band 3 staff in the NHS



Good Support – some examples we are on the right track



Flourishing Lives shares tools, resources and evidence to help supporters and organisations focus on assisting people to build their good life.

They include examples of how this is happening as 'Drops of Brilliance'.



The Small Margins project worked with people with a learning disability, autistic people and their families from minority ethnic communities who either lived in their own home, lived in residential care, or were moving out of inpatient hospital settings.

It also included people who lived within the family home.

The project found out what matters to those people for good day to day support.

Chapter 4 – To love and be loved



People want to remove the barriers to them having relationships with friends, family and partners.

Actions include:

Join Gig Buddies or sign up to the Stay Up Late No Bedtimes guidance



Care Quality Commission needs to check if people are receiving the support they need to express their sexuality and make close relationships of all kinds when they inspect services.

Councils and NHS respect family and personal relationships in how they work.
As well as including support for relationships in services they buy



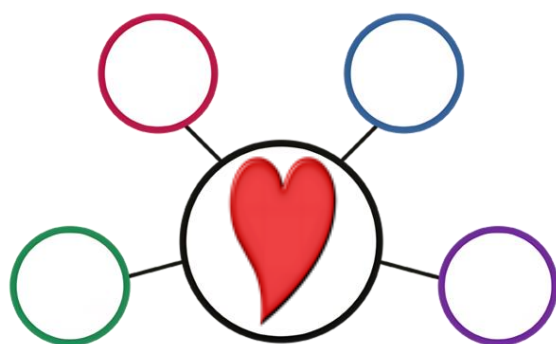
To Love and be loved – some examples we are on the right track



United Pride Friends are a User Led group for LGBTQ+ people with autism and learning difficulties.

It offers a safe space that is accessible, accepting and confidential.

They have regular social events as well as being part of campaigns



Supported Loving is a human rights-based network, hosted by Choice Support.

The network helps people understand that people with learning disabilities and/or autism should be able to enjoy the same sexual and romantic freedoms as everyone else.

They offer information and training.

Chapter 5 – Effective voice – Self Advocacy and Advocacy



People with learning disabilities want to be heard and listened to as equals. This must include everyone whatever their disability or ethnicity.

Actions include:

People with learning disabilities should always be asked to lead, be part of or speak at events or meetings about people with learning disabilities.



The Government to support self advocacy and disabled people led organisations. Everyone can campaign for this using the evidence from the Henry Smith advocacy project.

Support people from Black Asian and minoritised ethnic communities to develop self-advocacy and make sure self advocacy make space for minoritised community voices



Effective Voice – some examples we are on the right track



AccessAva is an online AI-driven service that makes expert legal support available 24 hours a day. It wants to help everyone understand their rights and get the help they need from health and social care.



In 2022, The Henry Smith Charity launched a Strategic Grant Programme to support 15 organisations providing advocacy services across the UK.

Over 3 years the programme has found evidence of what difference community based advocacy makes for autistic people and people with learning disabilities.

Chapter 6 Employment and Contribution



People with learning disabilities to get the jobs and valued roles they want supported by a system that recognises contributions.

Actions include:

Show how people with learning disabilities contribute to society. Tell people what is possible including sharing success stories



Making sure people with learning disabilities are equally included in support initiatives. Like reforming Access to Work.

Coproduce the benefits system so it is fair, and people have a enough money to live well and can volunteer or work.



Employment and Contribution.

Examples we are on the right track



Project Choice is a Specialist Post-16 programme with college and work experience as well as a supported internship programme.

It helps young adults between the ages of 16-24 with disabilities, gain work experience and improve employability and independence skills.

There are lots of examples including how HfT and DFN Project SEARCH, and other partners run several supported internships.



There are supported employment projects helping people get and keep jobs.

NDTi have resources and examples to support the growth of Employment Support for disabled people

Chapter 7 - Health for a Good Life



People want reasonably adjusted health services and help to live a healthier life so people live longer and happier.

Actions include:

Make sure health services understand people with learning disabilities and how to make adjustments.



Help make exercise or healthy eating easier for people with learning disabilities to be part of.

Quality Annual Health Checks and Health Action plans for all people with learning disabilities.



Health for a Good Life

Examples we are on the right track



Changing Our Lives and Simple Stuff Works made the 'Got your Back' information and resources on Postural Care including a Postural Care passport and resources for nurses.

They help everyone think about posture and protecting body shape for those who might need it most



Hospital Trusts can find people with learning disabilities on waiting lists for treatment and take action to make sure they get treatment.

Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust did this as part of their work to make sure people get fair treatment.

Get involved or find out more



Remember to connect and share with other Learning Disability England members to take action together.

You can share what you are doing or learn from others

Get in touch



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