



September 2022

The Coronavirus and People with Learning Disabilities Study

Sharing Findings from Waves 1-3

Waves 1-3 of the Coronavirus and People with Learning Disabilities Study took place between September 2020 and December 2021. From the launch of the study through to the end of the third wave, the research team and the organisations we have worked with have been sharing information and findings from the study. This short report provides a summary of the activities that have taken place, the ways findings have been shared, and some examples of who information has been shared with.

50 Presentations, Talks, and Meetings to Share Project Findings

Members of the research team have shared findings from the project as presentations, talks, and at meetings on 50 occasions to date. Presentations have been a mix of online and in person, and have been both public meetings and directly to relevant organisations. These include: Local Government Association, Learning Disabilities Professional Senate, Trinity College Dublin Health and Education International Research Conference, NW Self Advocacy conference (Pathways Associates), Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS), Welsh Government, Scottish Government, Bereavement Commission UK, NHS England, Department of Health and Social Care, Cabinet Office, Care Quality Commission (CQC), Canadian Health and Wellbeing in Developmental Disabilities Digital Conference, UK Learning Disability Consultant Nurse Network University of Kent, King's College London.

49 Reports and Policy Briefings

There have been 49 reports and briefings to date that have detailed project findings. Reports have been produced in different formats to reach different audiences. Reports have included full technical reports detailing findings from each wave of the study, focussed summaries, easy-read summaries, video reports, blogposts, as well as policy briefings and reports produced in collaboration with project partners specifically focussing on findings from each of the four UK nations. Most of the reports are available on the [project website](#).

10 Items of news coverage

The research has been a focus of news coverage across the UK on 10 occasions. This has included reports on Channel 4 News and UTV News, The Irish News and The Byline Times as well as radio interviews on Ulster Radio and Q radio.

6 Academic Journal Articles

So far, we have published 6 articles in academic journals. The articles have focused on: access to and use of health and social care services during the pandemic, willingness of people with learning disabilities to take Covid-19 vaccinations, online social connections during the pandemic, positive and negative experiences during the pandemic, and digital participation of people with PMLD. Copies of journal articles are available from the research team (email: S.Caton@mmu.ac.uk).

What next?

As a research team, we don't know yet what effect the sharing of findings has had, but we have been encouraged by the interest taken in the research by people from a wide range of organisations. The work from Waves 1-3 was judged useful by the Department of Health and Social Care who advocated for continued funding to support Wave 4 of the project which is now underway.

