

# Public Sector Equality Duty

## Case Study

### Learning Disability and Autism team

The team support service users with learning disabilities and autism. The service:

- Provides prompt and robust social care act assessments
- Provides care and support plans to meet identified social care needs
- Works towards a Strengths Based Model of service delivery
- Promotes independence and resilience
- Responds to Safeguarding Adult referrals
- Works in collaboration with both secondary and primary health care services

#### Example

The team supported a young person with a mild learning disability where there were concerns about a potential forced marriage and the issue of consent and capacity. The primary concern was about protecting the person from potential exploitation.

The question was whether the person should be prevented from marrying, having relationships and having sexual relationships. The team considered that by deeming someone to lack capacity around sexual relationships, you are effectively saying that they cannot ever have an intimate relationship.

In this case the team concluded that the young person had the potential to learn and they worked to give them the best opportunity they could. The team worked intensively with the young person and their family.

In depth capacity assessments were completed and funding was agreed for an intensive specialised psychologist, who was a specialist in the field of sex education and relationships, to work with the individual for several months. This meant that a further capacity assessment could then be completed.

The young person has attended all the sessions and is making good progress.

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