

Best Value Service Review: Promotion of Independence of Young Disabled Adults

The extent to which young disabled adults are known to several agencies

Introduction

As part of the current Best Value Review, the project team was interested in investigating the extent to which young disabled adults were known to more than one agency. It was felt that some indication of this would be given by comparing the case lists of:

Connexions
Education
Social Services – Child Care
Social Services - Adult Care

Method

The agencies agreed to provide the following data for young disabled adults aged 16 to 19 years old (inclusive):

Connexions: Young adults aged 16-19 (including those in compulsory education), with Learning Difficulties and Disability (LDD) or Mental Health difficulties, who had been contacted by Connexions in the last 12 months.

Education: Pupils aged 16-19 (as at 15 January 2004) with a Special Educational Need (SEN Categories: School Action, School Action Plus, School Action Plus Statutory Assessment and Statemented)

Social Services – Adults: Service users aged 16-19 on 31st March 2004 who had been an open case to any Adult Commissioning team at any time during the twelve months ended 31st March 2004.

Social Services – Child Care: Service users aged 16-19 that were open to a child care team at any time during the twelve months from 1st October 2003 to 30th September 2004, where the 'service user category' was coded as disability, or where the referral reason was the young persons' disability.

Records from the four sources were then matched on surname and date of birth.

Results

A summary of the results is shown in Table 1. A total of 2821 records were collected, consisting of 2237 individual young adults. 37 young adults appeared in the lists from all four agencies.

The Table shows the extent to which the records from each source matched with those of the other three. So, taking the first line of the Table as an example: 233 of the Connexions records matched with those from Education, representing 19% of the Connexions list. Looking further down the Table, we see that those 288 matches represented 30% of the Education list.

Comments on the data matching

The matching of data will have been affected by:

- Different spelling of surnames
- The wrong dates of birth
- Use of alternative name
- The data we used covering different timescales

It is not possible to say how significant these factors were.

Contributors

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Stewart Berry
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DATA MATCHING RESULTS

Number of records	
Connexions	1243
Education	772
SSDAdults	646
SSDChildren	130

**TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL YOUNG ADULTS
= 2237**

NUMBER KNOWN TO ALL FOUR AGENCIES: 37

Service	Matched with:	Number of matches	% of records for this service
Connexions	Education	233	19%
	SSDAdults	159	13%
	SSDChildren	64	5%
Education	Connexions	233	30%
	SSDAdults	153	20%
	SSDChildren	61	8%
SSDAdults	Connexions	159	25%
	Education	153	24%
	SSDChildren	88	14%
SSDChildren	Connexions	64	49%
	Education	61	47%
	SSDAdults	88	68%