

WINTERBOURNE VIEW – WHAT IS HAPPENING?

We are writing to you about Winterbourne View Hospital. This is a hospital for people with learning disabilities in Bristol.



On 31 May, a TV programme showed members of staff hitting, shouting at and hurting people with learning disabilities at the hospital.



This is called abuse. Abuse is wrong and no one should be abused.

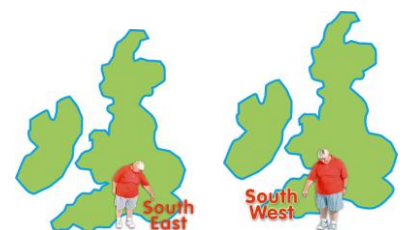
Winterbourne View Hospital closed on 24th June 2011.

The police and Safeguarding Adults Board are finding out what happened and why the staff abused people.



This is called an investigation.

The people with learning disabilities at Winterbourne View were from the south and south west of England.



The company that owns the hospital is called Castlebeck Limited. It owns other hospitals in England for people with learning disabilities.



The people who were living at Winterbourne View Hospital have now moved.



They are having a lot of support to make sure they are safe and well. Some of these people are also helping with the investigation.



It is very important to check that people with learning disabilities are safe when they are having treatment in hospitals like Winterbourne View.

It is also important that every area knows how many people with learning disabilities are being looked after in hospitals like Winterbourne View.



Often, these people are being looked after in hospitals a long way from their family home – these are called ‘out of area placements’.

There are people with learning disabilities from the north east who are being treated in hospitals like Winterbourne View.



NHS North East has asked the Primary Care Trusts in the north east to make sure they know about everyone from the region who is in a hospital like Winterbourne View.



When the Primary Care Trusts have checked, we have asked them to send NHS North East what they have found out.



We will write a report about this that we can send to you. If you would like a copy of the report please ask us or your Learning Disability Partnership Board to send it to you.



All of the other hospitals that are owned by Castlebeck have now been inspected by the Care Quality Commission.



The Care Quality Commission makes sure there are good health services and good social care services in England. They check up on services run by the NHS, local councils, private companies and voluntary organisations.

The Care Quality Commission is now going to inspect lots of other hospitals like Winterbourne View across England.



The government has also said there is going to be a national review that will look at how people with learning disabilities are being looked after in places like Winterbourne View.



If you or someone you care for are being abused or may have been abused in the past please ring the Care Quality Commission on



this number:

03000 616161

The person who answers the phone will ask you your name, where you live and your telephone number. They will make sure that you get some help.

