The way we work: consent, sex and relationships
Specialist learning disability health team

Information for service users, families, carers and supporters

The Law

- The law says that everyone has the right to private life and family.

- Everyone has the right to have sex and sexual relationships.

- The law protects people who cannot consent to sexual activities or sexual relationships.
Services have a duty to assess a person’s ability to consent to engaging in sexual activities and sexual relationships.

Services should help people make their own decisions about engaging in sexual activities and sexual relationships.

**What does a person need to know to consent to sex?**

- know about private parts of the body
- be able to identify sexual acts
- know how to have sex
- know where they can have sex
- know where they cannot have sex
- know about sexually transmitted infections
know that sex between a man and a woman can result in the woman becoming pregnant.

What does a person need to know to consent to contraceptive treatments?

- what contraceptive treatments are for
- about different types of contraceptive treatment
- how to use contraceptive treatments
- good things about using contraceptive treatments
- bad things about using contraceptive treatments.
How can we help?

We will work with you to find out how much you know about sexual relationships.

We will talk about different types of relationships.

We will talk about understanding the risks from strangers and people you know.

We will talk about choices people need to make in relationships. This will help you to make decisions about sexual relationships in the future.

You can choose if you want to have the assessment. You can say yes or no.

Do you have any questions?
If you are unhappy about our services…

Please tell a member of staff.

**Freephone** 0800 052 0219 or

**Email** tewv.pals@nhs.net.

**Feedback**

We’d like to know if you thought this information was

- good or bad
- if anything was missing you wanted to know
- if there was anything you didn’t understand.

You can tell us by email. tewv.communications@nhs.net

Or you can telephone the communications team on:

01325 552223

Pictures are from CHANGE Picture Banks [www.changepeople.org](http://www.changepeople.org)