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Session 6 Section 3

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Year	Key milestones critical of mainstream healthcare
2001	Valuing People White Paper <p>Government recognises that healthcare needs of people with learning disabilities had often been unmet and pledges to 'ensure that people with learning disabilities have the same right of access to mainstream health services as the rest of the population.'</p>
2004	Treat me right! <p>Mencap report highlights inequalities in healthcare for people with learning disabilities.</p>
2006	Equal treatment: Closing the gap¹ <p>Disability Rights Commission highlights unacceptable levels of healthcare received by people with learning disabilities, leading in some instances to early death.</p>
2007	Death by Indifference <p>Mencap report on six people's premature deaths, linked to systemic NHS failings.</p>
2008	The Michael Report² <p>Independent inquiry set up by Government in response to Death by Indifference. States that people with learning disabilities have 'significantly worse health than others' and is critical of NHS treatment of people with learning disabilities. It recommends a Public Health Observatory focused on the health of people with learning disabilities; alongside a Confidential Inquiry investigating their premature deaths.</p>
2009	Valuing People Now <p>Government White Paper expresses continuing concerns about the health of people with learning disabilities, stating that their 'access to the NHS is often poor'.</p>
2010	Improving Health and Lives Learning Disabilities Observatory <p>Set up to monitor both the health and healthcare of people with learning disabilities.</p>
2012	Death by Indifference: 74 deaths and counting: A progress report 5 years on. <p>Mencap report on continuing NHS failings, resulting particularly in premature deaths.</p>
2013	Report of the Confidential Inquiry into premature deaths of people with learning disabilities (CIPOLD)³ <p>A three year investigation exposes widespread critical failings of NHS healthcare provision towards people with learning difficulties.</p>
2015	Mazars Report⁴ <p>Documents a failure to investigate 'unexpected deaths' of people with learning disabilities in a large NHS Trust.</p>

¹ Disability Rights Commission (2006). Equal treatment: Closing the Gap. A formal investigation into the physical health inequalities experienced by people with learning disabilities and/or mental health problems.

² Michael, J. (2008) op. cit.

³ Heslop, P., Blair, P., Fleming, P., Hoghton, M., Marriott, A., Russ, L. (2013) *Confidential Inquiry into the premature deaths of people with learning disabilities*. Improving Health and Lives: Confidential Enquiry; University of Bristol; Department of Health. <http://www.bris.ac.uk/cipold/>

⁴ Mazars (2015) Independent Review of deaths of people with learning disabilities or mental health problems in contact with Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust April 2011-March 2014 available on <https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2015/12/mazars-rep.pdf>