Reviewer's report

**Title:** Piloting a manualised weight management programme (Shape Up-LD) for overweight and obese persons with mild-moderate learning disabilities: Study protocol

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 21 January 2013

**Reviewer:** Jo Rycroft-Malone

**Reviewer's report:**

I have 3 points of feedback for the authors:

This is a clearly written protocol that reports of plans for the testing the feasibility of a weight management for people with learning disabilities.

I have three comments, which the authors might consider in a revised protocol:

- It would be helpful to insert in the exclusion criteria section - how you intend to evaluate severe learning disability - presumably it will be a score on the Ability and Development Scale.

- I would assume there is some underlying theory to the intervention that is being piloted - given it aims to change behaviour using behavioural techniques. Being explicit about the theoretical basis of the intervention would strengthen the potential for prediction and explanation.

- There is minimal detail about how the qualitative analysis will be undertaken. A little more information about the thematic analysis is required.