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“The client has the choice and control over how their money is spent”

Personalisation on the Island

Welcome to the first newsletter about transforming social care on the Island.

In November 2007, the Government published the agreement “Putting People First” in which it laid out its vision for transforming social care in England by 2011. The paper has the full support of a range of Cabinet Ministers and heads of various health and social care organisations who have all signed up to make sure the vision becomes reality.

The aim of the transforming social care agenda is to empower people to have more choice and control over how they live their lives which means they have greater independence and helps them to feel less isolated.

Under the new agenda, social care will look very different. Currently, the social worker or care manager arranges the necessary care ser-

vices for an individual. However, under the new way of working the individual will be given money (a Personal Budget) instead of services to meet their needs and outcomes.

On the Island, the transformation of social care is a strategic priority for the IW Council and we are working with a range of people, including service users and carers, organisations, staff groups and providers to create a shared vision and to look at how this will be delivered on the Island. Our focus is on what the Island wants and needs.

We are at the start of the transformation process: we don't know all the answers but will work with local partner organisations to set up ways that work best for local people.

Claire Foreman, Head of Sustainable Communities

Listening to what people want and need

It is important that the vision for transforming social care on the Island reflects what people want and need.

To make sure this happens, we need to listen to and work with people from across the Island who have different experiences, backgrounds, wants and needs.

This is more than just consultation, it is about working in partnership with people to bring

about the changes that are needed.

So that we can do this, we will be working with user led organisations. This will allow people to be involved in a variety of ways that suits their lifestyle and needs.

We will tell you more about this in future newsletters. So keep your eyes open for how to be involved.

Self Directed Support

What is Self Directed Support?

Self Directed Support is when you have as much choice and control as possible over how your support is designed and delivered.

To give you that choice and control, the Council will give you money so that you can buy your own services. This money is called a Personal Budget.

How do I get a Personal Budget?

Here are the steps that you will need to follow to get a Personal Budget.

Eligibility

In order to receive a Personal Budget, you will first need to meet the Council's eligibility criteria (under Fair Access to Care Services [FACS] guidance). Currently, the initial eligibility assessment is carried out by a care manager. Once you have been assessed as meeting eligibility, you then follow a shared assessment process.

Shared Assessment

After checking that you are eligible for services and making the decision that you want to take a personalised approach to your care, you complete the Shared Assessment.

The Shared Assessment takes the form of a questionnaire which identifies your needs and outcomes. There are a series of questions that look at all aspects of your life. For each question, there is a list of possible answers in statement form.

The questionnaire is completed by you (with support if necessary), your unpaid carer (if you have one) and your care manager. A

decision between you is then reached as to which answer properly reflects your needs. Each of the answers on the questionnaire is weighted with each score being worth a set amount of money. Once the form has been completed, the points are added together to give a total score – this is called the Indicative Allocation.

Support Plan

Once the Indicative Allocation has been agreed by Community Services, you then need to prepare a support plan. The support plan can be done in a way that suits your needs (eg, table, pictorial, DVD, etc), and the plan needs to be costed. The support plan is then signed off by the care manager.

Payment of money

The first step is for you to be financially assessed to find out what financial contribution, if any, you need to make. Once this has happened, you and the Council sign a financial agreement form. The money is then paid to you, usually every month, into a specified bank account.

For the purposes of the pilot, you need to send in a copy of your monthly bank statement so that the Council can evaluate how the pilot is progressing.

Choice

As part of your support plan, you can decide how best to utilise the funding you have allocated to achieve your identified outcomes and life goals. This could be with the help of a family member, social worker or independent broker. You will have the choice and control over how your money is spent.

Self Directed Support: Personal Budgets Pilot

So that the Government's Personalisation Agenda can be moved forward, the Council has a Personal Budget Pilot which started on 1 November 2008. The pilot will, to start with, run for six months.

In the future we want more people to use Personal Budgets. To make sure things run smoothly when this happens, the learning from this six-month pilot will be collected and used to make the process work right.

If you want to be involved in the pilot, please contact your care manager who will tell you more about it.

What words mean

Broker	A broker is independent. They have the role of helping someone to plan and organise any support needed and do <i>not</i> have the role of rationing resources and do <i>not</i> have the role of providing services.
Brokerage	Is the assistance that people need to work out what their choices will be and the support required to make it happen.
Personal Budget (PB)	A notional amount of social funding from the Local Authority. This budget is the amount of money someone has for a range of services or support in relation to their <i>social care needs</i> .
Costed	Where the cost of services or goods are included in a plan or report.
Individual Budget (IB)	This is the overall budget someone has for a range of services or support, not just from social care. IBs combine resources from the different funding streams to which an assessed individual is entitled to. Currently: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local authority adult social care• Integrated community equipment services• Disabled Facilities Grant• Supporting People for housing-related support• Access to Work• Independent Living Fund
Shared Assessment	This used to be called the Self Assessment. This is an assessment that is led by the service user or the most appropriate person acting on their behalf, support by a Care Manager.

NEXT ISSUE:

- Resource Allocation System (RAS)
- MORE ... What words mean

Personal Budgets: what people say

"My Personal Budget has given me the flexibility and freedom to do what I want where I want instead of being told what I have to do and where I have to go."

"By having a Personal Budget I have been able to interview and choose my one to one support workers. I have also been able to do a lot more activities. These are great experiences—I love water sports, riding on the beach, cycling and cookery. Mum made phone calls to arrange my extra activities. She said they were quick and easy to arrange when people knew I had a Personal Budget."



This is me enjoying sailing

For further information: www.networks.csip.org.uk/personalisation/

Feedback

We want to ensure that we share information about the transformation agenda with you in a way that suits you. To help us do this, we would like you to complete this page and return it to the address below.

Thank you.

Transforming Social Care Project Team

	Yes	No	Comments
1) Was the wording easy to understand?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
2) Was the layout easy to follow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
3) What information would you like us to put in future editions of this newsletter?			<input type="text"/>
4) Where should we put copies of the newsletter so that as many people as possible see it?			<input type="text"/>
5) Other comments:			<input type="text"/>

Please return your completed feedback form to:

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