

Personal Budgets and Direct Payments

An Overview of Implementing Personal Budgets and
Direct Payments In Leicester

Adult Social Care Scrutiny Commission

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Definitions

A **personal budget** is an amount of money allocated to an individual in order for their eligible social care needs to be met. This money can be:

- Given as a cash payment (**Direct Payment**)
- Managed by the Council on the individual's behalf
- Managed by a provider in a service fund

Managing a Direct Payment

- Self management
- Family / friend management
- Via Contracted Direct Payment Support Service (DPSS)
 - Full support (management of support plan arrangement and finances)
 - Financial support service (advice, pay, invoicing, receipts, audit)

NB: Currently out to tender for framework contracts for DPSS, to provide wider choice of provider. Close 14th October 2013.

Definitions - Personalisation

- Using approaches and systems which enable people in contact with ASC are able to exercise control and choice in how they receive care and support
- Personal budgets are a mechanism to enabling personalised approaches
- Personal budgets are just one part of the bigger transformation approach to personalising ASC

History to Direct Payments

- Disability movements over 30 years have pushed for a shift in power / control
- Community Care (Direct Payments) Act 2006 – power to provide direct payments
- Health and Social Care Act 2001 – duty to offer direct payments
- Strong local history of being active in promoting direct payments for disabled people

Personal Budget Development

- Central Government wished to extend benefits of direct payments without need to ‘hold the money’
- In Control “Individual Budgets” pilot 2006 – 2008
- 13 authorities tested models for individual budgets (early personal budgets)
- Leicester was a pilot site – 69 adults

What was tested

- Self assessment process / less repetition
- Transparent resource allocation
- Budgetary control
- Bringing together income streams
- Individual approach to support planning
- Flexible use of funding
- Safeguarding

National learning

- Adults vs older people choices differed
- Need for systems change
- Cultural shifts needed
- Bringing non ASC budgets in scope failed
- Safeguarding was a perceived but not evidenced concern
- Workforce implications

Leicester learning

- Individual outcomes were positive
- Significant work needed to mainstream approach
- Need for a single approach for all client groups
- Financial equity and transparency important
- Market development imperative
- Cultural change not to be underestimated

Personal Budget Implementation

- Putting People First 2007
- 1 of 4 pillars of change to achieve personalisation
- National targets for personal budgets by March 2012 – 70%
- Personal budget entitlement enshrined in draft Care and Support Bill July 2012 (in progress)

Leicester position

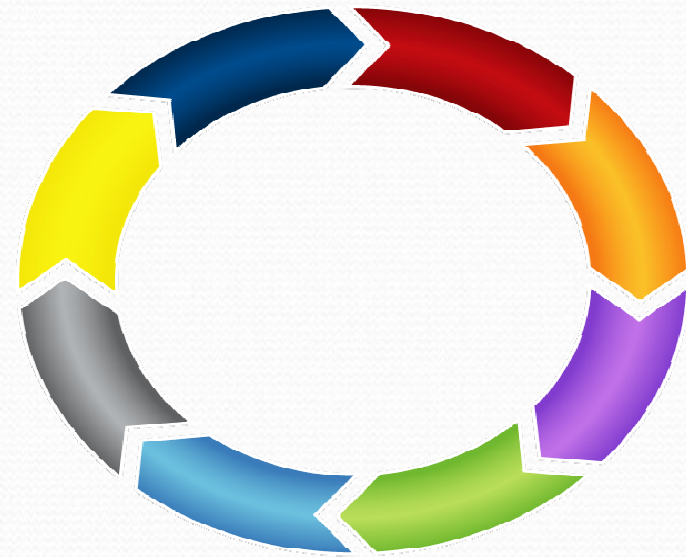
- Leicester mainstreamed personal budgets in April 2011 for new clients
- Project to transition existing clients during 2012 – 13
- Currently **% in receipt of a personal budget
- Of these **% take their budget as a direct payment
- Remaining clients to be picked up during 2013 / 14 reviews

Service user summary: April – Sept 2013

Age Band	Full Activity	Total no. of Community Based Service Users in the period	No. (%) receiving PB and/or DP	No. (%) taking all or part DP
18-64	Physical Disability	701	660 (94%)	367 (52%)
18-64 Total	Mental Health	347	301 (88%)	158 (46%)
	Learning Disability	692	604 (87%)	264 (38%)
	Substance Misuse	23	13 (57%)	2 (7%)
	Vulnerable People	29	29 (100%)	14 (48%)
		1792	1607 (90%)	805 (45%)
65+	Physical Disability	1942	1786 (92%)	318 (16%)
65+ Total	Mental Health	688	608 (88%)	128 (19%)
	Learning Disability	70	47 (67%)	12 (17%)
	Substance Misuse	3	2 (67%)	0 (0%)
	Vulnerable People	22	20 (91%)	2 (9%)
	2725	2463 (90%)	460 (17%)	
Totals		4517	4070 (90%)	1265 (28%)

How does it work?

- Supported Assessment Questionnaire (statutory assessment)
- Resource Allocation System
- Indicative personal budget
- Support Planning
- Brokerage (finding services)
- Confirmed personal budget
- Finalised support plan
- Review



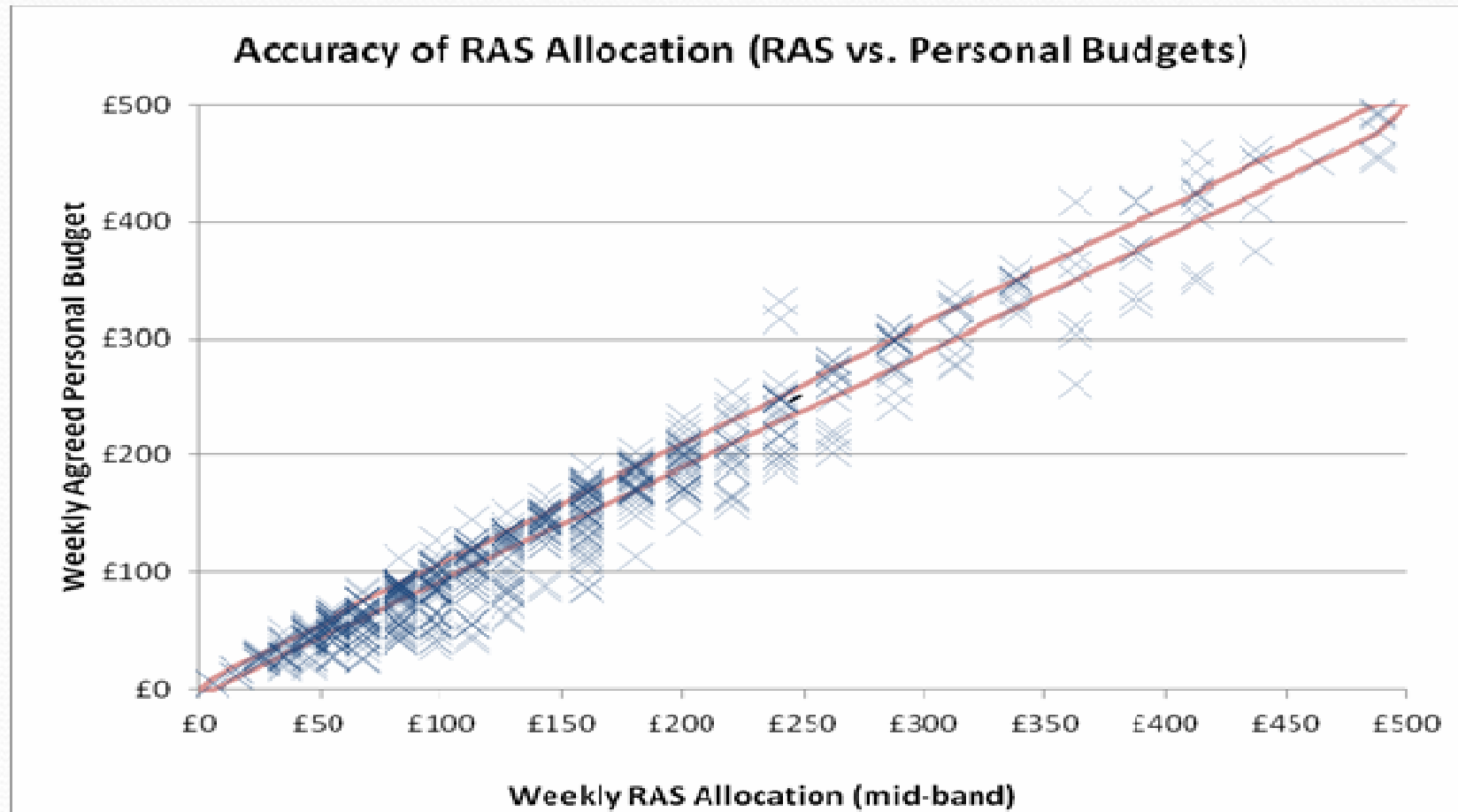
Supported Assessment

- Identifies needs
- Identifies strengths
- Identifies risks
- Explores what risks are otherwise supported (e.g. carer input)
- Confirms needs and which are eligible for support
- Developed in consultation with users and carers

Resource Allocation System

- Imports risks and needs from Supported Assessment Questionnaire
- Uses weighted calculation to generate a financial banding (e.g. £175 – £200)
- This is the indicative personal budget
- Developed in consultation with users and carers. Regularly reviewed to ensure it is producing realistic allocations

RAS accuracy





Support Planning and Brokerage

- Looking at risks and outcomes from the assessment
- Translating this into services and support
- Deciding how to arrange the services and support
- Deciding what help is needed to manage the support plan
- Putting this in place (brokerage)
- June 2013 – Independent Support Planning and Brokerage Service



Issues to Consider

- Safeguarding – systems enable vulnerable people to be supported.
- Risk management – tiered approach based on level of risk
- Public perception – complex to describe; commonly misunderstood
- Processes – some have been cumbersome for all
- Market development – critical supporting activity

Issues to Consider (2)

- Procurement – challenging balance between supporting market stability and individual choice; also ensuring a process that encourages small providers
- Financial transparency– need for a fair pricing schedule for equitable support planning
- Service shifts – driving changes affecting in-house provision in particular

QUESTIONS

