

**Title/Subject:** Self Directed Support Implementation – Progress Update  
**Meeting:** Integration Joint Board  
**Date:** 3 February 2017  
**Submitted By:** Head of Social Work Adult Services  
**Action:** For Decision

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update Integration Joint Board members on the progress of the implementation of Self Directed Support (SDS) in Falkirk.

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Integration Joint Board is asked to:

- 2.1. note the progress made to date
- 2.2. request a further progress report on SDS implementation to the IJB meeting in October 2017.

## **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1. The Social Care (Self-Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 (2013 Act) was enacted in April 2014. The Act places a duty on Council's to offer people who are eligible for social care a range of choices over how they receive their social care and support. The Act is part of a 10 year strategy for the implementation of SDS across Scotland spanning 2010 - 2020.
- 3.2. Self-directed Support is a major culture shift in the way health and social care services are delivered. The shift sees a move towards a more person centred and outcomes focused assessment of needs and delivery of services. This includes informing the supported person of the available individual budget with which they can arrange their support. Arranged support must meet the agreed outcomes in a safe, legal and appropriate manner.
- 3.3. The key change is that professionals must work in partnership with the supported person and where appropriate their family, to identify and agree their need, what difference they want services to make in their lives, and what sort of services and support will help them to achieve it. This includes encouraging the flexible use of the person's existing strengths and social assets in conjunction with their individual budget to achieve their outcomes.

#### **4. SELF DIRECTED SUPPORT – OPTIONS**

- 4.1. The 2013 SDS Act placed new duties on Councils. Subsequent to outcomes focused assessment of need and if eligible, supported people are allocated an individual budget. In deciding how the budget is used to meet their agreed outcomes, supported people must be offered the following options:

##### **Option 1 – Direct Payment**

This option is mainly used by people who wish to directly employ their own carers – a personal assistant. There are a number of significant employment responsibilities for individual with this option. This option can also be used to spend an allocated budget on more creative choices to meeting agreed outcomes and may not necessarily involve the recruitment of a personal assistant.

##### **Option 2 – Manage own support and budget to meet agreed outcomes**

Under this option the individual can arrange and manage their own support using the allocated budget provided by the Council. The financial payments to the support provider are managed by the Council.

##### **Option 3 – Council arranged support**

The Council arranges support to meet the agreed outcomes using the allocated budget.

##### **Option 4 - any combination of the first 3 options to meet agreed outcomes using the allocated budget.**

- 4.2. Regardless of the option chosen, the Council must work within the principles of the 2013 Act and support people to have choice, involvement and control in decision making about their care and support. This requires the service to ensure that people have all relevant information to support decision making regarding their choice of SDS option but that the choice belongs to the supported person. Examples of how these options have been used Falkirk are described in Appendix 1.
- 4.3. The majority of people to date have chosen Option 3 as the bulk of the organisation and administration of the support remains with Social Work Adult Services. For people selecting other options, help is provided from the SDS Support Service which is distinct from Social Work Adult Services.

#### **5. SDS ACTION PLAN AND WORKSTREAMS**

- 5.1. With Scottish Government implementation funding a Self-Directed Support (SDS) Project Development Manager (PDM) and SDS development team has been in place since October 2013. A SDS Steering Group was also established with Third Sector representation to oversee implementation of the SDS Action Plan. This includes oversight of the SDS Risk Register.

5.2. The SDS Action Plan contains various themed work streams with each group having detailed and clear objectives and appointed lead/s. The work streams are:

1. Assessment and Support Planning/Risk Management and Enablement
2. Pilots
3. Communication
4. Governance
5. National and Local Context
6. Workforce Development
7. In-house Provision
8. Contracts and Commissioning
9. Systems/Performance and Information
10. Finance.

5.3. On 1 December 2016 the Scottish Government published a new SDS National Implementation Plan for the next phase of the Strategy from 2016 -18. This identifies 4 Strategic Objectives:

- Supported people have more choice and control
- Workers are confident and valued
- Commissioning Is more flexible and responsive
- Systems are more widely understood, flexible and less complex.

5.4. Work has taken place to structure the SDS Action Plan around these 4 Strategic Objectives and align to the 10 workstreams.

## **6. IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING**

6.1. SDS Implementation funding is being monitored with support from Falkirk Council finance team. The level of funding for 2017-18 has not yet been confirmed but the National Implementation Plan states that there will be continued funding. Several key posts are aligned to this funding and it is essential they are retained to progress further implementation.

6.2. Implementation funding for the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 has not yet been confirmed. It is hoped that there will be an allocation for 2017-18 to enable Councils to prepare for implementation.

6.3. Both funding streams should be known by early 2017

## **7. PERFORMANCE REPORTING – SDS PROGRESS STATISTICS**

7.1. Information and performance on the implementation of the 2013 Act is monitored by the Scottish Government, The Improvement Service (IS) and Audit Scotland. IS performance indicators include a performance indicator specifically relating to Self-Directed Support: Spend on adults 18+ as a % of total spend on adults 18+ years of social work budget. Performance against

this indicator is reported in the Performance report as a separate agenda item 8.

- 7.2. With the development of the Performance report to include local indicators, other SDS reporting requirements, such as the Social Care Survey will be incorporated.

## **8. CONCLUSION**

- 8.1. The service is evidencing progress with the implementation of the 2013 Act and is continuing to increase the numbers of people who have chosen an SDS option as part of their assessment and support planning.
- 8.2. The next phase of work is critical with the proposed introduction of a new eligibility framework, which will include a revised Resource Allocation System. It is envisaged that implementation will progress further as the work streams align to support comprehensive system change with the transition to a more transparent outcomes focused assessment, planning and budget allocation process.
- 8.3. Significant factors in taking this forward will be the planning of the new locality structures, associated governance arrangements and the commissioning of a new Social Work Information System. The current work is endeavouring to anticipate early planning in relation to this.

### **Resource Implications**

To support Councils implementation of SDS, The Scottish Government has provided funding since the enactment of the 2013 Act and it is envisaged that this will continue for the duration of the 10 year strategy. Funding is provided at the beginning of each financial year. Notification regarding 2017/18 funding has not yet been received but it is expected that it will remain at previous year's level.

### **Impact on IJB Outcomes and Priorities**

The approaches detailed within this report and integral to the SDS Project Implementation Plan are underpinned by the principles of the Self Directed Support (Scotland) Act 2013. They reflect the FHSCP Strategic Plan vision and outcomes.

### **Legal & Risk Implications**

Risk will arise if the Council cannot evidence it is meeting the associated statutory duties of the Self Directed Support (Scotland) Act 2013. The SDS Project Implementation Action Plan provides reassurance of compliance and progress.

### **Consultation**

Not applicable to this report.

### **Equalities Assessment**

Not applicable to this report.

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**List of Background Papers:** N/A