

## **EX6. IMPLEMENTATION OF SELF DIRECTED SUPPORT IN SOCIAL CARE**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Social Work Services on the local and national implementation of self directed support in social care and requesting that the Executive determines whether to pay service users gross or net when they are in receipt of direct payments.

The Social Care Self Directed Support (Scotland) Act 2013 came into force on 1 April 2014. The purpose of the Act is to put people who require care and support at the centre of decision making about how they receive their care. Four options to meet care requirements are available:-

- (1) Direct Payment - money is paid to the service user to allow them to arrange their own support;
- (2) Directing the Available Support – the user decides how the budget will be used but the Council or other agencies can make the necessary payments;
- (3) The Local Authority arranges support on behalf of the service user; and
- (4) Any combination of the above.

For those individuals who choose option 1 – direct payments, the Council can decide whether to pay gross or net for the services. The report set out the implications of both options and recommended that the Council adopt the latter.

An implementation team was established in October 2013 to embed the provision of self directed support across the service. The report summarised the work of the team to date.

### **Decision**

#### **The Executive:-**

- (1) noted the progress made locally and nationally in moving towards self directed care and support services; and**
- (2) approved the net payment of care costs where a direct payment (option 1) is chosen by a service user to provide for their care.**