

# Self Directed Support



## Self-directed Support in Fife

**Third Sector Health and Social Care Forum  
September 2014**

# Self Directed Support



## **Vision: Self-Directed in Fife**

- The quality of life of people who require care and support is improved through increased choice and control over the services they receive

*“putting people at the heart”*

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## Background

- Over the last 20 years or more it has been recognised that people want to stay in their own homes and communities for as long as possible

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- The introduction of Community Care in the early 90's was the first step towards shifting the balance of care and offering choice to people who require support
- Direct payments were introduced as an option in 1996 and became a duty in 2003

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- Self-Directed Support is the next step towards people taking control of their own lives regardless of disability, age or health needs

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## The Values and Principles

### Values

Respect

Fairness

Independence

Freedom

Safety

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## **Principles**

Collaboration

Dignity

Informed Choice

Innovation

Involvement

Participation

Reciprocity

Risk Enablement

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## New Duties for Workers:

- Have regard to the general principles set out in the Act during assessment and in the provision of support
- Duty to offer 4 choices to persons assessed as eligible for funded support as to how that support is delivered
- Explain the nature and effect of each option
- Provide information, assistance and support to express views (how to manage support and where to get help)



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## New Duties for Organisations:

- Local Authorities must take steps to promote the availability of the options for self-directed support (Section 19 (1))
- Local Authorities must in so far as is reasonably practicable, promote a variety of providers of support and a variety of support (Section 19 (2))

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CHOICE

CONTROL

INDEPENDENCE

## SDS – What this Means

- For People
  - Having a say, being heard and being in control
  - Having more flexibility and choice
  - Benefitting from support that fits the person not the service

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## SDS – What this Means

- For Frontline Practitioners
  - An opportunity to work in partnership
  - An opportunity that shares responsibility
  - More opportunities to be creative
  - To work within the values and principles well embedded in social work and in other public services

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## SDS – What this Means

- For Organisations
  - A need to revisit current processes and design
  - An opportunity for new internal and external partnerships
  - Consideration of where other duties compliment and guide the implementation

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## SDS in Fife

- Strategy
- Training
- Communication
- Test Sites
- Community Asset Mapping
- Resource Allocation System
- Systems
- Monitoring and Evaluation

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## Our Process and Procedures

- Working document
- Strength based approach
- Outcomes focussed

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## The Pathway

- Eligibility/Referral
- Self Directed Support Information
- Assessment
- Identify, discuss, agree outcomes
- SDS Options
- Agree Support Plan
- Support starts
- Regular Review

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## How do we make this work?

- Partnership
- Collaborative Working
- Where do you fit in the Pathway



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## What are the challenges?

- Cultural change
- Discussing the Options
- How can we make information available?
- Option 2
- Budget
- More for less?
- Flexible services

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## More Information?

SDS Team – Fife Council Social Work Service:

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