Self-directed Support
General Awareness module
Learning objectives

• Provide an overview of the Act and new duties
• Explore the historical context
• Explore statutory principles and values underpinning Self-directed Support
• Consider the opportunities and benefits for people who require support
Outcomes

• You will feel reassured by the principles and values of the new legislation and how they fit with practice.

• You will have a broad sense of your role in applying a Self-directed support approach.

• You will be more familiar with how national expectations fit with your local arrangements.
Vision: Self-directed Support

• “The lives of people who require support are enriched through greater independence, control, and choice that leads to improved or sustained health and well being, and the best outcomes possible”.

• “Self-directed Support should become the mainstream mechanism to the delivery of personal support. Building on the success of direct payments, every person eligible for statutory services should be able to make a genuinely informed choice and have a clear and transparent allocation of resources allowing them to decide how best to meet their needs. The choice should be available to all but imposed on no-one.”

(Self-Directed Support- A National Strategy for Scotland 2010 Scottish Government)
Paired conversations:

• What does choice and control mean to you in your day-to-day life?
• What decision about yourself do you make on a daily basis?
• What would you do if these choices were removed or restricted?
### Legislative and policy background

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Act/Act Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Social Work (Scotland) Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>NHS and Community Care Act (implemented 1993)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Children (Scotland) Act</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>Carers (Recognition and Services) Act</td>
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<tr>
<td>'Deficit'</td>
<td>model</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The state will provide (and decide…)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Human Rights Act</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Community Care (Direct Payments) Act</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Modernising Social Work - White Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Changing Lives 21\textsuperscript{st} Century review of Social Work</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Community Care and Health (Scotland) Act</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Equality Act</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Christie Commission “ nothing about us, without us, is for us”</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Evolving policy drivers

• Independent Living Movement
• Changing Lives 2001
• Community Health and Care Act 2002
• Direct Payments 2003,
• **Self-directed Support (10 year) strategy 2010**
• NHS Quality Strategy
• Christie Report 2011.
• Equalities Act
A main theme for social workers was to move:

From managing access to services - To helping people seek solutions

A main theme for the public with whom we engage was to move:

From passive recipient - To active partners

Do “with” not “for”
In summary – so far…

• 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.

• The introduction of Community Care in the early 90’s was the first step towards shifting the balance of care and offering greater choice to people.

• Direct Payments were introduced as an option in 1996 and became a duty in 2003.

• New legislation emphasises importance of outcomes- impact –what matters most to people.
Self-directed Support is the next step…

…towards people taking greater control of their own lives regardless of disability, age, or health needs.
Legislation overview

• The Self-Directed Support Act 2013 was implemented on 1st April 2014
• The Act replaces the Community Care (Direct Payments) (Scotland) Act
• Statutory regulations and guidance have been published by Scottish Government to support implementation
• New duties apply to both assessment and where eligible, to the provision of support
• There are new powers relating to carers.
• All duties are all underpinned by statutory principles and values
Statutory Values and Principles of the Act

- Respect
- Fairness
- Independence
- Freedom
- Safety
Myth Buster!

True? False? or not sure?

Lets see how it goes....
Self-Directed Support is only for people with physical or learning disabilities
The new legislation relates to everyone eligible for support - children, young people, adults and carers
Self-directed support is just the same as direct payments
Self-directed support (SDS) is not just about direct payments. A Direct Payment is only one of 4 options available to people to direct their own support.
Having greater choice and control improves wellbeing
Individuals will get their budget by completing a self assessment
Self-assessment or ‘supported self assessment’ processes are being used in some areas to help contribute to a fuller comprehensive assessment.

(It does not replace our duty to assess and access to funded support will still be based on a professional assessment)
Self-directed Support will require a ‘Self-directed Support specialist’ to carry out an assessment?
The self-directed Support approach supports best practice and is a way of working for all who undertake assessments.
Self-directed Support is ALL about access to the ‘4 options’
The Self-directed Support approach is about how we engage with people, through assessment, to the design and delivery of support.
Self-directed Support will have a impact on existing services and providers
Once people have their budget they will be left alone to ‘get on with it’
Support plans will still require to be monitored and reviewed by the local authority to ensure agreed personal outcomes are being achieved.

There will continue to be a role for a practitioner to facilitate this. Reviews should be conducted in collaboration with the supported person.
Self-directed Support will mean increased risk for children, young people and adults?
At this stage there is no evidence to suggest increased risk from England or test sites within Scotland
If an individual budget is agreed the money can be spent on anything
No, the money must be spent on meeting the agreed outcomes identified through assessment
People can use their money to employ family members to provide care and support
TRUE
It is the practitioner’s responsibility to make sure the plan works.
The act encourages a partnership approach with assessments and support plans being “co-produced” by the person, the local authority and relevant others.

This requires a shift in the balance of power and shared responsibility.
The Self-directed Support values & principles are similar to core values in both health & social work?
Only those who work in social care need to know about Self-directed Support?
No – Everyone needs to know about Self-directed support.
   It requires a “whole system” change
   It will become the mainstream way to deliver support.
Self-directed Support can’t be used with people who have dementia/mental health difficulties?
The act is intended to be as inclusive as possible with only limited restrictions to some of the options.

The values and principles should be used with everyone we engage with.

The 4 options should provide the opportunity for everyone to access Support in a way that suits them.
SDS is about budget cuts
It’s about better outcomes for people who have support needs through increased choice and control and flexibility.
Anyone can get access to an individual budget
Eligibility criteria still exists.
Funded support will still be informed by professional assessment.
Self-directed Support is going to cost more?
• It shouldn’t!!

• Evidence shows that with greater choice and control people are being creative and innovative when designing their support and has often resulted in the support costing less.
Self-directed Support increases paper work for staff
It shouldn’t!!
New Duties: Assessment

Have regard to the general principles set out in the Act during assessment and in the provision of support.

Collaboration, Informed Choice, Involvement, Participation and Dignity
Offer 4 choices to the person assessed as eligible for funded support as to how that support is delivered

The 4 Options

Option 1 - direct payment
Option 2 - the person directs the available support
Option 3 - the local authority arranges the support
Option 4 - a mix of the above
New Duties continued….

• Explain the ‘nature and effect’ of each option

• Provide information, assistance and support – to express views (how to manage the support and where to get help)
New Power - Adult Carers

• Current legislation gives carers of a disabled child or an adult the right to an assessment of their own needs as a carer.

• The new Act provides a further power for local authorities - to consider the assessment and provide support, if it is determined this is required, to help person sustain their caring role.

• If eligible for funded support carers should be offered the 4 options.

• The values and principles of the Act apply to carers through assessment and when arranging support if agreed.
New duties for organisations

Section 19(1)
Local authorities must take steps to promote the availability of the options for self-directed support

Section 19(2)
Local authorities must in so far as is reasonably practicable, promote a variety of providers of support and a variety of support
Are there exceptions?

Local authority have discretionary powers to not offer option 1 and 4 in these circumstances:

- People in Residential Care (Option 1)
- Person whose safety is at risk (Option 1 or 4)

There is additional discretion in relation to certain forms of support and all 4 options for example foster care
What the duties, values and principles mean in practice

• Starting point is that person is expert in their own situation
• Practice and organisational approaches need to reflect this
• Commissioning arrangements need to be tailored to person - unique to individual?
• Process and decision making requires to be transparent
• Future service design must be through partnership/collaboration
• Information must be available and in accessible formats for people
• People need to be acknowledged as equal partners in assessment and support planning
• Greater choice and control for people who require support
# What this means in practice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For people</th>
<th>For practitioners</th>
<th>For local authorities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Being in control</td>
<td>• An opportunity to work in partnership</td>
<td>• A need to revisit current service design</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Being a real partner in assessment and support planning</td>
<td>• An approach that shares responsibility</td>
<td>• A need to revisit current processes (e.g. finance, procurement, commissioning)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• More flexibility and choice</td>
<td>• More opportunities to be creative</td>
<td>• Consideration of where other duties complement and guide the implementation</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Support that fits a person, not the service</td>
<td>• An opportunity to ‘do what you trained for’ work within the values and principles well embedded in social work and in other public services</td>
<td>• An opportunity for new internal and external partnerships</td>
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Key Messages-overview

• The Self -Directed Support Act 2013 changes how support is designed and delivered.
• The transformation involves significant culture change
• Provides greater transparency, choice control and flexibility
• Encourages a shift in power towards supported people
• It’s a 10 year strategy which is continually evolving as learning emerges
Activity 1

Next Steps

Building from today’s learning, consider your role; is there anything you can change in your own practice or in your sphere of influence that will support the local implementation of Self-directed Support?
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