Hello <<First Name>>,

This is the third issue of the Social Services Knowledge Scotland Spotlight on Self-Directed Support.

We've included some updates on how the Scottish Personal Assistant Employers Network (SPAEN) and the Glasgow Simon Community are gearing up to implement SDS.

We've also asked you to complete a short survey to find out about your views of the Spotlight e-newsletters you receive from us.

Read on to find what else we have for you...

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- Thinking about implementation: SDS at Glasgow Simon Community
- Thinking about implementation: Learn more about SDS on Social Services Knowledge Scotland (SSKS)
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- Celebrating National Libraries Day at the Health Management Library
Tell us what you think of our Spotlight e-newsletters
Do you have any new services, resources or upcoming events you would like promoted in our Spotlight e-newsletters?

Thinking about implementation:
SDS and the Scottish Personal Assistants Employers Network

Partnership Working in Argyle and Bute

After an open tender, SPAEN were awarded the contract to work as a Communications Partner with Argyll & Bute Council to help deliver the message of self-directed support across the whole local authority area. The project is scheduled to last 16 months and will see the two partners working closely together on raising awareness of the Act; what it entails for supported persons' and how Argyll & Bute Council will give effect to the options.

'We're looking forward to testing and utilising a whole range of different, creative and hopefully engaging strategies to get the message out there. That will mean co-hosting local events with our Council partners but also looking at making best use of other media channels, including social media and other internet based technologies, to ensure people get the right information at the right time and in the right format. It's the only way to empower people', Colin Millar project lead for SPAEN advises.

'By the end of the project, we hope to have interacted with several hundred people and reached many hundreds and potentially many thousands more with messages and information that will allow them to decide how best to meet their own care needs or the support and assistance needs of someone close to them but also to have worked with our partners in the Council so they too feel the SDS Act presents them with opportunities to offer support in many different ways to meet personal outcomes.'

SDS for Carers

SPAEN are now entering year 2 of 3 year funding from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation aimed at increasing awareness and confidence of self-directed support amongst carers. Year 1 of the project was very successful with over 70 delegates attending awareness raising training all over Scotland. Evaluations on the sessions were equally positive, with 100% of delegates advising a positive shift in their knowledge of self-directed support after the events.
'The feedback we've received has been exceptional', says Violet Keenan, Head of Training & Development. 'Most people attending the sessions had little or no knowledge of the **SDS Act** and many more felt it didn't apply to them or the people they were caring for, so they hadn't sought further information or advice. They were effectively "self-vetting" and deciding not to waste people's time because they didn't think SDS was for them. Because all the groups we've run are for carers, there's been a lot of peer-to-peer learning as well as facilitated learning and awareness raising and the responses indicate people are leaving the events much better informed about the supports that are available to them and their loved ones.

We've also found that carers are much more likely to interface with NHS bodies rather than social work or local authorities, so we're seeking to establish partnership working with NHS staff so they can signpost to these events or external support groups and facilitate people getting the right information much quicker in the caring journey.'

**SPAEN** will be continuing awareness raising events throughout Scotland in 2014. If you would like further information on the project, please contact violetk@spaen.co.uk or telephone 0845 601 1156.

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**Thinking about implementation:**

**SDS and the Glasgow Simon Community**

**Do you currently support individuals with experience of Homelessness?**

If so, then the [Glasgow Simon Community](#) would be interested in hearing your views on Self Directed Support in Homelessness.

- What would be the best way to promote SDS?
- What choices are currently available for individuals?
- What barriers could there be to participation and uptake?
- What information and support would you need in order to adopt an SDS approach?
- How do we manage vulnerability and risk within an SDS approach?
- What role could SDS play in preventing and alleviating homelessness?
- Are we ready for SDS in homelessness?

The [Glasgow Simon Community](#) have secured funding to carry out research into **Self Directed Support in Homelessness** and would like to hear your views. If you are
interested in getting involved please contact:
Ashley Young on 07881 107 052, ashley.young@glasgowsimon.com or
Glenda Meechan on 07881 107 053, glenda.meechan@glasgowsimon.com

Thinking about implementation:
Learn more about SDS on Social Services Knowledge Scotland

Explore the Self-Directed Support portal on SSKS to learn more about the bill, implementation and what this means for services.

About Self-Directed Support

Take a look at this page to find quality assured resources which will explain SDS in full - whether you want to read a real life case study or scrutinise an aspect of the Bill, you'll be able to find it here.

Implementing Self-Directed Support

Explore resources highlighting a range of different topics related to the actual implementation of self-directed support. To find out more just click on the area you are interested in - you'll find an explanation of the topic and how it relates to SDS as well as a selection of quality assured resources which will allow you to explore the ideas in more detail.

And more…

Browse the rest of the site, including pages for personal assistants, support workers, frontline professionals, managers corporate leaders and strategic leaders.

Read full-text journal articles about Personalisation
SSKS Library

Here are a few journal articles you can read in full from SSKS. You can search for more by using the bibliographic databases in the SSKS Library. Try Social Services Abstracts to get started. After clicking Social Services Abstracts, select NHS Scotland from the drop-down menu and enter your Athens username and password.

Personalisation

Implementing personalisation for people who have mental health problems: a comparative caser study of four local authorities in England

Abstract: Background - Enhancing choice and control for people using services is a mental health and social-care service priority in England. Personalisation is a new policy and practice for delivery of social-care services where eligible adults are allocated a personal budget to spend to meet their agreed support needs.

Aims - To describe approaches to introducing personal budgets to people with severe and enduring mental health needs, and to identify facilitators or barriers encountered.

Method - Within four English local authority (LA) areas, purposively selected to provide maximum variation, semi-structured interviews were undertaken with 58 participants from LAs, NHS trusts and third-sector organisations. An Interpretive Framework analysis considered within- and across-site insights.

Results - Issues arising from the implementation of personalisation for people with mental health needs are presented under two general themes: “responsibility and power” and “vision and leadership”. Key challenges identified were complexities of working across NHS and LAs, the importance of effective leadership and engagement with service user representatives.

Conclusions - Implementing personal budgets in mental health requires effective engagement of health and social-care systems. Change processes need strong leadership, clear vision and personal commitment, with ownership by all key stakeholders, including front-line practitioners.

Money, finance and the personalisation agenda for people with learning disabilities in the UK: some emerging issues

Abstract: Accessible Summary In the UK, more people with learning disabilities have the chance to have more choice and control over their lives., One big issue for many people with learning disabilities is that they should have control over their own money., There can be quite a lot of problems for people with learning disabilities around managing money. Staff do not always know how best to help. Banks and building societies are not always helpful or accessible., Giving people more choice or control over their money does not always mean that things will be better for people with
learning disabilities., People with learning difficulties need better kinds of support to have choice and control over their money., Summary In the UK, policy on adult social care places an emphasis on maximising choice and control for service users, including people with learning disabilities. The shift from the provision of organised services for groups of people to offering individual and personal budgets and pots of money for people to buy their own services has major implications for the way in which people with learning disabilities are offered the opportunity to be much more 'hands-on' with managing their own financial affairs. Some of the financial implications of personalisation are arguably quite complex, and it is not clear how well people with learning disabilities are being supported with this. This paper highlights some key and emerging issues on the topic of money and personalisation and draws on interviews with a range of staff in learning disability services and highlights their views, hopes and concerns about the best ways to support people with money matters. The response of mainstream financial institutions to the needs of people with learning disabilities and the political and economic context in which the personalisation agenda is developing are also discussed.

**Personalisation, individualism and the politics of disablement**

**Abstract:** This paper assesses the social policy narrative personalisation, and particularly the implications of the narrative for disability politics. The advantages and disadvantages of positioning specific funding mechanisms within the narrative are explored. It is argued that personalisation is insufficiently aligned with collective aspects of empowerment. More particularly, it disproportionately emphasises improvements in individual autonomy through personalised support, and lacks reference to structural oppression or the need for collective forms of action that bring about structural change. It is further argued that personalisation lack a multi-faceted analysis of disability and disempowerment, and as a result also lacks any vision of a positive alternative society. In assessing personalisation, the positive and negative dimensions of disabled people’s freedom are considered. As a response to the apparent shortcomings of personalisation, the integrated living approach and Centres for Independent Living are considered important elements in an alternative narrative to personalisation.

**Remember!**
You will need to register for a FREE Athens account from SSKS in order to access subscription material. All health and social care workers are eligible to register. Go to the **Login/register page** on SSKS, scroll down, select the staff group that best describes you and click **Register**.

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**Celebrating National Libraries Day at the Health Management Library**
In celebration of National Libraries Day on Saturday 8th February, the Health Management Library have created the flyer below to tell you a few facts about HML that you may not know.

You can register to join Health Management Online and borrow books, source journal articles not available online and request literature searches on management topics. Find out more here.

Tell us what you think of our Spotlight e-newsletters...

By completing this short questionnaire. Hearing what you think can really help us improve future e-newsletters.

Do you have any new services, resources or upcoming events you would like promoted in our Spotlight e-newsletters?

Contact us any time with the details and we will promote through our mailing list:

knowledge@nes.scot.nhs.uk
0141 352 2904
A Strategy and Action Plan for Embedding Knowledge in Practice in Scotland’s Social Services

This describes how a collaboration between Scottish Government, the NHS Education for Scotland, the Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services, the Improvement Service for Local Government, the Scottish Social Services Council and the Association of Directors of Social Work will improve outcomes through putting new knowledge into practice.

Social Services Knowledge Scotland (SSKS) http://www.ssk.org.uk/

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Read the SSKS blog http://blogs.iris.org.uk/ssks/

Contact Social Services Knowledge Scotland (SSKS)!