

What next for Individual Budgets?

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Social Policy Research Unit

Personal Social Services Research Unit

Social Care Workforce Research Unit

The IB pilots - unfinished business ...



- Extended transition/ transformation
 - Resources tied up, double funding
 - Inhibited changes in staff culture
- Limited follow-up – different ‘steady state’ outcomes?
- Impact of uncertainty and change:
 - Risk aversion?
 - Reliance on conventional deployment mechanisms
- Developing RAS
- Shaping the market
- Impact on carers?

Integrating funding streams

- Supporting People – most success
- Integrated Community Equipment Services – partly successful
- Access to Work – different eligibility criteria
- Disabled Facilities Grant – capital funding
- Independent Living Fund – most disappointment

Excluding NHS resources from IBs



- Contexts – extensive partnerships with PCTs and providers
- ‘Missed opportunity’
- NHS continuing care – the risks to personalised support
- IBs and mental health
 - Integrated budgets and services
 - Implementation challenges
 - Blurred boundaries – ‘health’ vs ‘social’ services
 - ‘Cost-shunting’

Can IBs remain cost-neutral?

- Allocating resources – underlying principles
- Integrating funding streams
 - ILF review
- Increased demand for IBs
 - Mental health services
- Managing the ‘winners and losers’
- From bulk purchase to individual buyers

Issues for policy

- Resource allocation – underlying principles
- Funding streams – personal budgets (social care only) or individual budgets?
- FACS and charging policies
- The legitimate ‘boundaries’ of adult social care

Practice issues

- Managing change
- Managing risk
- Shaping the market
- New ways of deploying IBs