

# **BENEFITS OF INDIVIDUALISED BUDGETS**

**Nic Rowland-Crosby, Nadia Ahmed & Victoria Donnelly, Paradigm**

## **FLIP CHART NOTES FROM WORKSHOP**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sheet**

#### **What they offer?**

- Similar to direct payments
- Council can look after money
- Brokerage service
- Choice – day – evenings – weekends
- Flexible on what they spend it on

#### **Barriers**

- Accessible information – lack of
- Selling it to parents
- Checking that people don't just 'blow the £' too soon

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Sheet**

#### **Barriers**

- Proving 'improvement' can be a barrier – and can be off-putting
- Not everyone has a person centre plan – not realistic to expect everyone to have one
- Some may not want them – Trade Union's could be a barrier
- PCP Support Circle great in theory but not easy without friends and family – this may be the same support are for individualised budget
- Lack of information
- Quite scary
- Difficult to access community leaders (comment: if it is possible, need to find right person to talk to for your particular issue)
- Will carers tailor the plan so that it suits them and not the person themselves

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sheet**

#### **How can we remove the barriers?**

- Put things on TV / radio and let people know about it
- Link into places of worship – this is what happens in Herts
- It is important to find the right people to talk to

## **Changes needed**

- Accessible information
- Making sure people know about it
- Pilot schemes success – if it goes wrong then people won't give it opportunity to succeed
- Need infrastructure to make it work, e.g. brokers

## **4<sup>th</sup> Sheet**

### **Barriers**

- Cost of providers
- Being an employer
- Right support team
- LD recruiting from local communities
- Moving out of existing contracts
- [www.in-control.org.uk](http://www.in-control.org.uk)

## **5<sup>th</sup> Sheet**

### **Questions**

- What about older people?
- Are assessments done in such a way that people from BME communities are disadvantaged
- Where is the £ from? Comment that it is recycling the £
- With Individualised Budgets can you pay someone in your own family? This has been a problem with Direct Payments – Would make a big difference as these are the people that are trusted.