

# Report

Report to:	<b>Social Work Resources Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>25 April 2018</b>
Report by:	<b>Director, Health and Social Care</b>

Subject:	<b>Self-Directed Support</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ advise of the progress of Self-Directed Support

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the content of the report be noted.

## 3. Background: SDS Purpose

3.1. Self-Directed Support (SDS) aims to improve the lives of people with Social Care needs by empowering them to be equal partners in decisions about their care and support. Four fundamental principles of SDS are built into legislation – participation and dignity, involvement, informed choice and collaboration. This means Social Care should be provided in a way that gives people choice and control over their own lives and which respects and promotes their human rights. It requires significant changes to the way Social Care has been provided in the past. Crucially, authorities should work in partnership with people and communities to design and deliver the services that affect them.

## 4. Scottish Government Strategy

- 4.1. The ten-year SDS strategy was introduced jointly by the Scottish Government and COSLA in 2010. It is one of a number of national policies designed to empower people and communities to become more involved in designing and delivering services that affect them. The Social Care (Self-Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013, the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2014 and the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 were all introduced following the report by the Christie Commission in 2011. They were designed to encourage significant changes to how services were previously provided, and require public bodies to give people more say in decisions about local services and more involvement in designing and delivering them.
- 4.2. Councils already had a legal duty to assess people's Social Care needs. If they assess someone as needing support and eligible to receive services, they provide, arrange or pay for services to meet these needs. They can require a contribution to the costs if the person has sufficient income. Councils do not have to offer the SDS options to people who do not meet local eligibility criteria. But in those circumstances, councils should inform individuals about where else they can find help, for example, voluntary groups and charities, or the local community.

## **5. South Lanarkshire Context and Progress**

- 5.1. This is now the seventh year of the ten-year SDS strategy. It is recognised that implementing the strategy is not just about authorities changing their Social Work processes and procedures, the way they plan and manage their budgets, and how they work with external providers and communities to ensure a balance of flexible, good-quality services. A report was submitted to Social Work Resources Committee in November 2017 which detailed the key findings and recommendations arising from the Audit Scotland report 'Self Directed Support – 2017 Progress Report'. This included a checklist for councillors and Integrated Joint Board (IJB) members.
- 5.2. The expressed view of Audit Scotland is that there is no evidence that authorities have yet made the transformation required to fully implement the SDS strategy. This is synonymous with the position within South Lanarkshire. Self-Directed Support supports choice and control for individuals in how their support plan is delivered to meet the assessed need and risk. It gave Councils responsibility for offering people four options for how their social care is managed:
  - Option 1: the individual or carer chooses and arranges the support and manages the budget as a direct payment.
  - Option 2: The individual chooses the support and the authority or other organisation arranges the chosen support.
  - Option 3: The authority chooses and arranges the support.
  - Option 4: a mixture of Options 1, 2 and 3.
- 5.3. Whilst progress has been made within South Lanarkshire, it has been slower than our ambitions for the implementation of SDS. Nationally, progress on implementing SDS is reported on through the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) Indicators.
- 5.4. The LGBF Indicator that covers this subject is SW 2: Self Directed Support (Direct Payments and Managed Personalised Budgets) spend on adults 18+ as a % of total social work spend on adults 18+.
- 5.5. The draft LGBF indicators for 2016/2017 show a continuing improvement for South Lanarkshire at 2.5% but it is still behind the Scottish average of 5.9%. Appendix 1 provides the full summary positions.
- 5.6. The South Lanarkshire return confirmed the actual expenditure for SDS 1 (Direct Payments) and SDS 2 (Managed Personalised Budgets). The spend equated to £4.3m against a total adult gross expenditure of £170m which is 2.5% of the overall budget.
- 5.7. What is missing at a national level from this analysis is any recognition of those individuals who elected to take option 3. This expenditure is contained within the heading "Services Purchased or Directly Provided by Councils".
- 5.8. It may be argued that not including the data on option 3 within this measure significantly underestimates the progress of SDS in many authorities. Option 3 is a legitimate choice offered and is also the default in law where supported persons do not wish to express a preference. As with South Lanarkshire, authorities evidencing significant numbers of option 3 are often portrayed as not fully embracing SDS when this is not the case.

- 5.9. The other relevant factor is how authorities have chosen to interpret option 2 (Individual Service Funds/Managed Budgets). The national data evidences two authorities that could be considered as outliers in terms of the percentage of spend. Whilst the reasons for this are markedly different, taking these two figures out of the equation would drop the national average to around 3.8%. Whilst this is still higher than the South Lanarkshire position, the gap is significantly reduced.
- 5.10. There is also a requirement to submit further information as an indicator of how SDS is progressing and the following data has been submitted to the Scottish Government as part of the annual Social Care Return. Comparable data for 2015/2016 is detailed below also. This includes children and families data that is not part of the LGBF indicator.

<b>Data Extract</b>	<b>2015 - 2016</b>	<b>2016 - 2017</b>
Number of SDS1 clients (regardless of what other options chosen)	287	314
<b>Value of payments (Option 1)</b>	<b>£3.2m</b>	<b>£4.1m</b>
Number of SDS2 clients (regardless of what other options chosen)	4	54
Number of SDS3 clients (regardless of what other options chosen)	563	7,213

- 5.11. The Council fully acknowledges the significant transformational change that the SDS legislation seeks to embed and, as a consequence, major changes have been adopted in terms of our assessments and methodology around allocating funds to support eligible needs. We have undertaken a review of progress in implementing SDS. We continue to review progress in implementing SDS and identify improvement actions where required.

## **6. South Lanarkshire Self-Evaluation**

- 6.1 Social Work Resources undertook a self evaluation to its approach to SDS using Empower improvement methodology supplemented by a staff survey over October/November 2017. The findings pointed to slow progress in a number of areas including system developments for assessment and support planning and financial screens. It was also evident from a practice perspective that some staff did not feel confident or have the tacit knowledge in implementing SDS. Feedback from service users and carers has also highlighted that, for some, the SDS process has been slow and for many, there is a lack of understanding on how the SDS process works.
- 6.2. This was followed up by focus groups for staff, service users and carers over March 2018 within each locality to ensure engagement with all key stakeholders.
- 6.3. Internal Audit within the Council have completed an audit of SDS, the findings of which have still to be reported on. The findings of the audit and emergent improvement plan will be reflected in the future SDS Strategy for the Council.
- 6.4. The engagement with staff and service users has been invaluable and will help shape the strategy moving forward focusing on:
- ◆ continued engagement sessions with staff service users and carers
  - ◆ refresher training for all staff involved in assessment and care management, implementing SDS
  - ◆ further refinements to key processes in partnership with IT in respect of assessment, support planning, review modules

- ◆ further development of assessment for carers to take account of impending implementation of the new Carers Act
- ◆ agreeing future funding methodology in terms of children and adults supported through SDS
- ◆ reviewing council public information in relation to SDS and methods of more effective communication with service users and families.

## **7. Way Forward**

- 7.1. The Audit Scotland check list for elected members and IJB members (link provided below) has been updated to reflect the improvements put in place to reflect the findings of the SDS self evaluation and verbal feedback from internal audit.



Self-Directed  
Support 2 Supplement

- 7.2. In recognition of the challenges and aspirations to implement the SDS strategy a temporary project management team has been put in place to support the implementations of SDS. This consists of experienced managers and practitioners across services including Social Work, Finance and IT.
- 7.3. There is an SDS Implementation Board in place and the membership and terms of reference for the Board have been revised. The project lead will report to the SDS Implementation Board on progress against the SDS Implementation Plan.
- 7.4. The Care Inspectorate has announced that SDS will be subject to inspection across Health and Social Care Partnerships over 2018/2019 and, whilst no date for inspection for South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership has been announced, preparation for inspection will be an important task for the team.
- 7.5. Governance arrangements for the SDS Implementation Plan and preparation for future inspection of SDS will be reported through the SDS Implementation Board, Social Work Governance Group and progress reports to Social Work Resources Committee.

## **8. Employee Implications**

- 8.1. Three staff have been seconded onto the Project Management Team on a full time basis. Two from Social Work Resources and a Finance Officer from Finance and Corporate Resources.
- 8.2. In addition to this, lead officers have been identified within Social Work Resources and IT Services to provide support to the project team.

## **9. Financial Implications**

- 9.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## **10. Other Implications**

- 10.1. There are no risk implications associated with this report.
- 10.2. There are no sustainable development issues associated with this report.
- 10.3. There are no other issues associated with this report.

## **11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 11.1. There is no requirement to carry out an impact assessment in terms and proposals contained within this report.

11.2. There is no requirement for consultations of proposals contained within this report.

**Val de Souza**  
**Director, Health and Social Care**

6 March 2018

**Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Improve later life
- ◆ Protect vulnerable children, young people and adults
- ◆ Deliver better health and social care outcomes for all

**Previous References**

- ◆ none

**List of Background Papers**

- ◆ none

**Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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## Appendix 1

Local Authority	SW2 2016-17	SDS Spend on over 18s 2016-17	Gross SW Spend on over 18s 2016-17
Aberdeen City	3.66	4797	130908
Aberdeenshire	7.84	10962	139743
Angus	3.65	1878	51480
Argyll & Bute	3.81	2386	62649
Clackmannanshire	0.17	49	29104
Dumfries & Galloway	6.22	5674	91213
Dundee City	0.93	994	106513
East Ayrshire	4.01	2706	67556
East Dunbartonshire	5.94	3400	57235
East Lothian	4.24	2419	57049
East Renfrewshire	6.33	3028	47871
Edinburgh City	6.24	18136	290530
Eilean Siar	2.53	688	27213
Falkirk	3.66	3590	98128
Fife	2.92	6391	218512
Glasgow City	18.18	71385	392617
Highland	6.65	6482	97437
Inverclyde	4.69	2282	48608
Midlothian	0.99	1789	180843
Moray	3.54	2391	67551
North Ayrshire	2.29	2077	90653
North Lanarkshire	1.98	3653	184538
Orkney Islands	4.94	977	19779
Perth & Kinross	5.13	3757	73243
Renfrewshire	3.68	3495	94999
Scottish Borders	19.25	14087	73162
Shetland Islands	3.43	977	28485
South Ayrshire	2.51	1928	76917
South Lanarkshire	2.50	4242	169547
Stirling	4.26	1930	45269
West Dunbartonshire	2.31	1459	63111
West Lothian	1.86	1518	81735
Scotland	5.87	191527	3264198