

To the Chair and Members of the

HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

TO UPDATE ON PERSONALISATION/DIRECT PAYMENTS – CONSIDERATIONS OF ACTIONS TO PROMOTE GREATER PERSONALISATION AND DIRECT PAYMENTS.

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Cllr Glyn Jones	All	No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. A Key outcome of the 2015/16 Adults Health and Wellbeing Transformation programme is ensuring that when people need care and support it is personalised flexible and appropriate.
2. The development of direct payments is a response to this outcome and forms a key part of the helping persons to live at home; ensuring that where people can manage their own care and support there is easy access to efficient and flexible support and processes to help them to achieve this.

EXEMPT REPORT

3. This is not an exempt report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

4. That the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel note this report and the actions being taken to continue to develop personalisation and direct payments to service users, their carers and families. This will be achieved by maximising the use of available resources to support and maintain independence and self-determination wherever possible.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

5. The increase in the use of direct payments means that more people will have choice and control of their care and support and receive a more personalised service that best meets their needs to remain independent.
6. The benefits of direct payments are that they offer an alternative to traditional services that encompasses personalisation, choice, flexibility and ownership for people. E.g. they can employ their own staff and have consistent carers without relying on agency staff.

BACKGROUND

7.

- There are currently 2104 people in receipt of helped to live at home services but only 422 use a direct payment to manage their own care.
- Direct payments are now made under sections 31 to 33 of the Care Act (2014) – with the Care and Support (Direct Payments) Regulations 2014 (SI 2014/2871).
- The direct payment figure for citizens receiving their service via a direct payment in Yorkshire and Humber is 25.3% and for Doncaster itself is approximately 20% leaving Doncaster lower than other local authorities.
- The directorate targeted this area for additional support and training to increase the uptake of direct payments to improve the performance indicator in the ASCOF returns.
- It also offers more choice and control to the citizens of Doncaster. There is some evidence to suggest that if people have personalised services, therefore reducing dependency on care agencies that it can reduce the number of people entering long term residential care.
- The increase in direct payment is anticipated to have an impact on the admissions to long term residential care for people in Doncaster, which is also above the national average.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8. Option 1: Continue with the current traditional models of providing care and support which will mean a reduced and less flexible and modernised offer and not respond well to the duties set out in the care Act.

Option 2: Continue developing direct payments as a help to live at home option.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

9. Option 2 is recommended as it provides greater choice and control, to an individual enabling them to design and shape the services they need. This option also responds to the legislative duties set out in the Care Act and is a key element in Doncaster Councils modernisation of Adult Social Care.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY PRIORITIES

10.

	Priority	Implications
	People live safe, healthy, active and independent lives. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mayoral Priority:</i> Safeguarding our Communities• <i>Mayoral Priority:</i> Bringing down the cost of living	Improve capacity in local communities to maintain people in their home. Complies with the Care Act. Should reduce admission in to long term care.

	Council services are modern and value for money.	Enhances quality of life. Offers employment opportunities for local people.
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RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

11. Failure to increase the take up of direct payments will result in an over reliance on traditional services that will not comply with the Care Act and may result in more people being admitted into long term residential care placements.
12. The risk to an individual having greater choice and control over how they live their lives is also increased, if the take up of direct payments does not increase in line with regional and national averages.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

13. There is a general duty on a local authority under the Care Act 2014 to promote the individual's well-being.
14. "Well-being", in relation to an individual, includes control by the individual over their day-to-day life (including over care and support, or support, provided to the individual and the way in which it is provided);
15. In exercising its functions under the Care Act a local authority must in addition to other matters have regard to the importance of beginning with the assumption that the individual is best-placed to judge their well-being, to consider the individual's views, wishes, feelings and beliefs, and ensure the individual participates as fully as possible in decisions relating to them.
16. Where a personal budget for an adult specifies an amount which the local authority must pay towards the cost of meeting the needs to which the personal budget relates, and the adult requests the local authority to meet some or all of those needs by making payments to the adult or a person nominated by the adult. Subject to various conditions the local authority must make the payments to which the request relates to the adult or nominated person.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

17. There are no specific implications relating to this report, these have been addressed through other reports.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

18. None

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

19. None

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

20. In undertaking the assessment of an individuals eligible unmet needs and in the promotion of direct payments as a product to meet those needs, the Council ensures that individuals are not disadvantaged and the equality of opportunity to access appropriate services is a priority. This includes those people with protected characteristics.

CONSULTATION

21. In establishing the systems and processes associated with direct payments and the relevant services that support individuals, consultation with stakeholders and individuals have taken place.
22. This report has significant implications in terms of the following:

Procurement	X	Crime & Disorder	
Human Resources		Human Rights & Equalities	X
Buildings, Land and Occupiers		Environment & Sustainability	
ICT		Capital Programme	

BACKGROUND PAPERS

23. Personalisation/direct payments presentation to be provided at the meeting.

REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS

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