Personal health budgets

The King’s Fund: Person-centred, integrated care
6th December 2012
Mike Haslam
Personal health budgets key facts:

• Personal health budgets are new for the NHS and are currently being piloted across England. Government is committed to rolling them out, informed by the pilot programme and independent evaluation.

• Personal health budgets aim to deliver better health and wellbeing outcomes through choice and control. They are about using existing money in different ways.

• Personal health budgets centre around a plan which sets out health outcomes, budget available and how that will be used.

• Personal health budgets can help to facilitate integration across services. The policy, and the legislation, mirrors social care wherever possible.

• The independent evaluation was published on 30th November.
The PHB pathway is very similar to a number of others:

- Personal budgets in social care,
- SEND pathfinders / Right to Control trailblazers
- LTC care planning
- Year of Care

But there are a few differences e.g.
• when/if people know how much money is in their budget
• how budgets set
• no means testing
Government is committed to national roll-out

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>Pilot evaluation (November 2012)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>National roll-out from 2013-14 (an objective for the NHSCB)</td>
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<td>2014-15</td>
<td>A wider right to ask for a personal health budget, for those who would benefit</td>
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Right to ask for a personal health budget in NHS Continuing Healthcare and for children with SEND (from April 2014)
The results of the evaluation were broadly positive

• Personal health budgets are cost-effective
• Personal health budgets improve or maintain outcomes, especially quality of life
• Personal health budgets reduce costs or are cost-neutral
• Personal health budgets work best where the person has a high level of need
• Personal health budgets work best where the person has more choice and control; they are less effective where there are a lot of restrictions in place
• There are some clear lessons for implementation
Integrating personal budgets

14 pilot sites worked with DH to explore how best to integrate personal budgets across health and social care. Early findings included:

• it is possible, but it takes time;

• it does not need fully integrated organisations, processes, teams or budgets;

• it does take good working relationships, enthusiasm and trust on both sides;

• barriers are often local rather than national guidance or regulation;

• it needs to focus on what is important to individuals not systems; and

• You need involve individuals as you develop the processes.
Integration of personal budgets myth busting

People cite a lot of reasons why integration won’t work:

- financial & legal
- cultural
- workforce
- Information & data

The workstream spent time unpicking some of the most common of these – a “mythbusting” document will be available as part of the PHB toolkit.

More work is planned…….
Conclusion: personal health budgets

- A lot of enthusiasm for personal health budgets and integration of personal budgets
- Still a long way to go – this will take time, and there are many risks and challenges to overcome
- But great potential to:
  - Use existing money more efficiently
  - Join up services around the individual
  - Help people manage their health and their lives better
  - Reduce hospital admissions

For more information, visit our Learning Network website [www.dh.gov.uk/personalhealthbudgets](http://www.dh.gov.uk/personalhealthbudgets) or email the team at [personalhealthbudgets@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:personalhealthbudgets@dh.gsi.gov.uk)
Personal Health Budgets
Stories of success!

“Stories” are quickly becoming one of the most powerful ways of communicating the potential benefits of using personal health budgets.

There is an understanding that they will not be right for everyone.
Opportunities for Professionals

- personal health budgets do not replace the need for trusted, professional advice.
- personal health budgets can offer clinicians the opportunity to work with people in new ways to meet their health and well-being outcomes.
- people highly value the contribution professionals can make.
- demand for services that flexibly meet the needs of people.
- creating new evidence.
- valuing people and communities as assets.
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www.dh.gov.uk/personalhealthbudgets