

<b>Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership</b>	<b>Performance &amp; Audit Committee</b>
<b>Held on:</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Self-directed Support Update</b>
<b>Summary:</b>	
The purpose of this report is to update the board on improvement work undertaken with regards to Self-directed Support.	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Julie Gerrard, Self-directed Support Lead Officer</b>
<b>Recommendations:</b>	
It is recommended that the Performance & Audit Committee	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Note the Self-directed Support improvement work undertaken and completed.</li> <li>ii. Note and consider the improvement work ongoing and planned.</li> </ul>	
<b>Route to meeting:</b>	
An update on completed and ongoing improvement work with regards to Self-directed Support was requested by the committee.	
<b>Implications:</b>	
Financial	<input type="checkbox"/>
HR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/>
Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
ICT	<input type="checkbox"/>

## SELF-DIRECTED SUPPORT UPDATE REPORT

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Performance and Audit Committee of the Self-directed Support improvement work currently being undertaken within South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

#### **2.1 It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board**

- i. Note the Self-Directed Support Improvement Plan work undertaken and completed.**
- ii. Note and consider the improvement work ongoing and planned.**

### 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 made legislative provision relating to the arrangement of care and support, community care services and children's services to provide a range of choices, control, and personalisation to people for how they are provided with support.
- 3.2 In August 2022, Social Work Scotland published an update to the Self-Directed Support Framework of Standards document. It stated:
- 3.3 *'Self-directed support is the way that all social care must be delivered in Scotland. The Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 and detailed Practitioner Guidance set out the principles and policy for delivering Self-directed Support (SDS). However, since the legislation was enacted, Care Inspectorate and Audit Scotland scrutiny has found that SDS has been implemented partially and inconsistently across Scotland. Evidence shows that some local areas have embedded SDS well, while others are challenged to make the changes required for successful SDS implementation.'*
- 3.4 The standards and action statements outlined in the Framework of Standards are in place to ensure consistency of outcomes and approaches in SDS practice across Scotland experienced by supported people (children and adults) and carers, The aim of this being to build a framework of good practice in assessment for support, support planning and in provision of care and support resources.
- 3.5 In February 2023, The Care Inspectorate and Healthcare Improvement Scotland published their joint inspection of adult services in South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership. One of the priority areas for improvement focussed on Self-directed support stating;
- 3.6 *The partnership should continue their monitoring and improvement of self-directed support processes'.*

- 3.7 The National Self-directed Support Improvement plan was published in June 2023 and identified four outcome areas for improvement in the delivery of Self-directed Support. These align with the principles and values outlined by the Act and also the Self-directed Support Framework of Standards. These outcome areas are:
1. Supported person and carer's choice and control.
  2. Enhanced worker skills, practice and autonomy.
  3. Systems and culture.
  4. Leaders understand and help staff realise SDS principles and values.
- 3.8 Social Work Scotland published the SDS Practitioner's Toolkit [Self-directed Support Practitioner Toolkit](#) in March 2024.
- 3.9 The SAHSCP SDS Lead officer was part of the resource group working on the development and format of the toolkit. The toolkit provides practical information for practitioners on what good SDS support looks like and how this should be achieved.
- 3.10 The current SAHSCP SDS improvement plan attached below highlights our improvement actions, which are fully aligned with the improvement intentions from Scottish Government.

*SDS Improvement Plan included as separate document – Appendix 1 – SDS Improvement Plan*

#### **4. REPORT**

- 4.1 The SDS Improvement Plan identifies key areas in relation to SDS that are currently being progressed by the SDS Lead Officer. The updates from the previous report are:
- **Improvements to systems and processes-**  
The SDS Policy has been reviewed and updated. There is also an SDS Operating Procedure in place for Adult services.
  - **Creation of both introductory and practitioner level training-**  
There is an Introductory level SDS course live on LearnPro. To date there have been ..... completions across the partnership. This has also been placed into the NHS mast for learning across the partnership.
  - **Increased social media presence to further highlight SDS in the public domain.**  
The new SDS Webpage is live and has been promoted via social media, postcards and posters. The SDS Mailbox has shown an increase in contact and request for further information and support from the public.
  - **The creation and promotion of a new and updated SAHSCP SDS web page.**

This page is live and has generated good feedback. There is an additional Staff Zone section which collates practitioner guidance, tools, information and quick access guides. This includes the new SDS Practitioner toolkit.

- **Through above activity increasing practitioner knowledge and confidence in the support of SDS.**

An SDS Staff Questionnaire was circulated in August to September 2023. This is now being repeated. This form was designed to show a baseline for knowledge, understanding and confidence in the practical use of SDS. This further questionnaire will show development in these areas as a result of the improvement work already undertaken.

- **Creation of an SDS toolkit for practitioners to further aid their practice.**

See above for SDS Practitioner Toolkit. This is now published and shared widely.

4.2 It is proposed that the Performance and Audit Committee note the improvement plan, the progress made and future direction and objectives to be achieved. Current and ongoing work to meet the targets set in the improvement plan include;

- Micro Enterprise work to include; Quality assurance framework, safe guarding checks and balances, contracting and rates of pay. Micro Enterprise improvement plan in place.
- Option 2 quality assurance work
- Pan Ayrshire student group session delivered 14<sup>th</sup> March.
- Continue to promote SDS in the public domain through promotional materials and social media presence.
- A good practice example of flexible and creative use of SDS budgets shared with permission with Social Work Scotland as part of their reflections on practice publication.

## **5. STRATEGIC CONTEXT**

5.1 The identified Self-directed Support Improvement work is aligned to the strategic objectives from the IJB Strategic Plan 2021-2031. These being:

- We focus on prevention and tackling inequality.
- We nurture and are part of communities that care for each other.
- We work together to give you the right care in the right place.
- We help build communities where people are safe.
- We are an ambitious and effective Partnership.
- We make a positive impact beyond the services we deliver.
- We are transparent and listen to you.

5.2 The work is further influenced by the values and principles of the South Ayrshire Wellbeing pledge, the aim of this being to empower our communities to start well, live well and age well.

## **6. IMPLICATIONS**

### **6.1 Financial Implications**

6.1.1 There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

### **6.2 Human Resource Implications**

6.2.1 There are no staffing implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

### **6.3 Legal Implications**

6.3.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

### **6.4 Equalities implications**

6.4.1 The report does not involve proposals for policies, strategies, financial decisions or activities that affect the Partnership's communities, therefore an equality impact assessment is not required.

### **6.5 Sustainability implications**

6.5.1 There are no anticipated sustainability implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

### **6.6 Clinical/professional assessment**

6.6.1 There is no requirement for a clinical or professional assessment.

## **7. CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

7.1 This report has been prepared in consultation with the relevant officers.

7.2 Currently there is partnership work ongoing with regards to the improvement of the implementation of SDS across the partnership. This includes:

Ayrshire Independent Living Network (AILN)  
In Control Scotland  
Unity Enterprise  
Community Brokerage  
Social Work Scotland

7.3 There is current and ongoing involvement with Self-Directed Support national networks (both Scottish Government and Social Work Scotland led) which are focussing on development and improvement work in line with the recently update National Self-Directed Support Improvement Plan.

## **8. RISK ASSESSMENT**

8.1 Provision of SDS is the major strategy to provide individualisation and control for people who use our services. By not supporting the current improvement plan and considering the current pressures in relation could potentially stall our ambition to fulfil this statutory duty.

## **REPORT AUTHOR AND PERSON TO CONTACT**

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## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

*Provide details here or links to any supporting papers relevant to the report here and, if possible, include a web link.*

*Appendices to the report should not be provided as background papers. These should form part of the main report.*

*21<sup>st</sup> September 2023*