

Putting People First



In Darlington



"Commissioning for Citizenship"

A plan about how Adult Social Care plans to spend its money and use its resources over the next 20 years.

Easier read version - July 2009



What this paper is about?

This is a paper that says how Adult Social Care in Darlington Council will spend its resources. Resources can be:

- Money
- People
- Buildings



Being a citizen

Adult Social Care think that a move to a more personalised, individual or person centred way of people getting their social care support is done best by supporting people to be citizens rather than people who simply receive services.



By “personalised” we mean people having real choice and control over who, how and where they get their support.



Simon Duffy in a book called “The keys to citizenship” says that these are the main things that make up being a citizen.

- Making decisions about life
- Having some idea about how you live your life
- Having money
- Having somewhere good to live



- Having the support you need
- Being a part of your community
- Having rights

Darlington Adult Social Care believes that this is a good way of checking that people are supported to be citizens.



What is Commissioning?

There are lots of different ideas about what commissioning is – we think it is simply about , a way of making sure that the support that people want is available when they want it.



How Adult Social Care will spend its money and use its resources?

Adult Social Care have identified the sorts of things that it wants to use its resources on, these are called “commissioning intentions”

We hope that by setting out how the Council wants to spend its money it will:

- Help people who provide support change their business if they need to.
- Help people who want to set up a new business
- Support people who need social care and their families have a bigger say in how they are supported.



Adult Social Care has 4 main ideas about how they want to use their resources

- Supporting people to use universal services. These are the everyday services and ways of being



supported that the community also use and includes leisure services, education and employment.

- Giving those people who need a little bit of support when they need it rather than waiting until things are urgent. This is sometimes called prevention and early intervention. This might be equipment like an alarm if someone falls
- Making sure that people have as much choice and control as they want to have
- People spending time being a part of their local community.



However, there is no extra money and over the next few years there may be less! The trick is to make sure these changes happen without spending more

These are some of the other ways Adult Social Care plans to spend its money and use its resources. We have broken these down into 4 main areas

- **Ways to give people more choice and control** – this includes making sure people have the information and support they need to make their choices and everything that happens is done in a “person centred way” This means people are making the decisions that are important to and for them.



- **Developing the local market**, this means making sure that what people want to buy is available. We will do this with local user led organisations



- **Working in partnership**, this includes making sure individuals and family carers are treated as equal partners, making sure that the support that people get is joined up



- **Better Commissioning**, this means getting better at what and how we make sure that the types of support that people want to buy, is available. We need to get better at making sure that the support that people buy is helping them get a better life.



Most of the things we buy or decisions we make about using what we already have will be based on what people want to and do buy with their personal budget

What Next?

These are just some of the ways Adult Social Care will spend its money and use its resources, things will change as we get better at finding out what it is people want.



We will use this information when we write and develop our plans to make sure that they deliver what local people want.

For more details about Adult Social Care's plans please see the Full version of "Commissioning For Citizenship" available on the Council's website www.darlington.gov.uk or contact Adult Social Care, Central House, Gladstone Street, Darlington, DL3 6JX – Tel: 01325 346200