



Transforming Adult Social Care

Newsletter for Oxfordshire

TRANSFORMING
ADULT SOCIAL CARE

Summer 2010

Number 15

**On the 4th
October self
directed support
will be launched
across
Oxfordshire**



The big date has finally been fixed, 4th October 2010 will be the day self directed support officially arrives in all of Oxfordshire. Staff training and other preparations are in full swing behind the scenes. The October date is important because it is also a national *Putting People First* deadline for local authorities to introduce self directed support.

Every individual who is referred to Social Services for an assessment for the first time will go through self directed support from October. New referrals will be told what their personal budget is and be offered assistance with making their support plan.

We will also start assisting people who already receive care and support from Social Services onto self directed support. This happens when an individual's arrangements are due for review - normally once a year. Social Services will write to everyone individually explaining how and when they will get their personal budget. Doing it this way means the change will take place gradually over the course of 2010 and 2011.

To find out more please visit Oxfordshire's website for self directed support, or contact the team.

Support Brokerage

Support brokers are people who specialise in helping others to make their support plan, and put it into place.

Oxfordshire has awarded a contract to Age UK and Advance Housing and Support to provide support brokerage. It is not compulsory to use a support broker and people are encouraged to make the support plan themselves.

The Support with Confidence scheme which currently approves Personal Assistants will be expanded from October to train, check and approve support brokers in Oxfordshire.

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/supportwithconfidence



The Transforming Adult Social Care team is planning a series of launch events across the county. Please visit the news section on the website to find out when and where the events will be taking place:
www.takingcontroloxon.org.uk/news

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**OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

Working for you



TRANSFORMING
ADULT SOCIAL CARE

"I am really happy, and living the life I want to live."

Jenna Witcher

Personal stories from around Oxfordshire

Jenna and Luke already receive personal budgets.

Mark is looking forward to having a personal budget and reflects on the likely changes it will bring.

Luke from Berinsfield



Rather than having one live-in carer, Luke prefers to employ eight individuals on a part-time basis which means he

gets to meet a variety of different people and hear all their stories!

The personal budget allows him the freedom to make choices such as this.

Although Luke's personal budget is mainly taken up by his care needs, he saves money to get out of the house and have a good social life. He goes out shopping, to the cinema and enjoys 1960s music concerts. He's a regular at the local pub quiz, and his memory for facts and amazing general knowledge means that the opposition tries to sit as closely as possible to him to hear the answers!

Jenna from Kidlington

Before I started using a direct payment my life was very boring and my mum used to have to do everything with me. I used to be jealous of my sisters going to work and college. I felt left out of things and it made me want to sit in my room on my own and not talk to anyone.

I do lots of different things now. I have a lot more choice now about how I do things and I like that.



I love going on holidays with my Nan and Grampy, and I do a lot more exercise down at the gym. I am also in a professional dance group with my boyfriend. I am really, really happy and feel I am living the life I want to live.

Mark from Oxford

I've always had a disability but it wasn't until fairly recently that I became paraplegic. I had to rely on care workers to help me out with basic things but sometimes they would turn up late and on occasions did not turn up at all.



When I have my own money, I will be able to use it to hire care professionals. As their employer I can say what time I want them here and what I need them to do – they will work around my routine rather than the other way around.

Find these and more case studies on our website:
www.takingcontroloxon.org.uk

Feeling the Pinch

The effects of the recession and the government's commitment to reducing the national debt means that everyone is talking about money at the moment.

Director of Social and Community Services, John Jackson said "We are working very hard to ensure that people in Oxfordshire get the best possible service within the resources available."

We will keep you informed as we find out more about how this will affect Adult Social Care. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

Contact us

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Useful Links

www.takingcontroloxon.org.uk
www.twitter.com/takingcontroloxon
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/supportwithconfidence