February 2015

Creating high quality individualised outcomes: The role of innovative funding leadership in making this happen

"All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights"
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1]

Introduction

Most countries have established (or are establishing) national policy work on a range of innovative funding approaches. These approaches are instrumental in changing the way in which services to people with a disability are developed and delivered and are indicative of a world wide movement towards greater self direction by people with disabilities over the supports which they receive and greater self determination over how they choose to live their lives.

This report focuses on the following countries: Canada, the UK, New Zealand, Australia and Ireland as these are the countries participating in IIDL.

It examines how individualised service approaches and responsive funding arrangements have developed across member countries. The impact that these approaches have had on the service sector and the lives of people in receipt of supports are described. It will provide information on the process for evaluation of these various approaches, identify the strengths and weaknesses of the approaches and highlight the outcomes by access to personal stories.

This document highlights:
- Government policy and activities in the area of self direction and individualised budgets

- National activities and resources to support the development of innovative funding approaches
- Reports and evaluations on approaches to innovative funding
- Impact of innovative funding as it experienced by those accessing the schemes

The information was obtained through the participation of IIDL contacts and networks contacts as well as online searches.

We would like to acknowledge the help of Janet Peters (IIMHL New Zealand) and Erin Geaney (IIMHL) in compiling this report.

Please note it is not a definitive literature search, but rather a brief snapshot of some national or state resources and activities. If there is a major policy document missing we are happy to include it.

We hope you find it helpful.

Lorna Sullivan (NZ) and Michael Kendrick (US)

Approaches to Innovative Funding and their impact

Characteristics of how individual funding is organised

Individual funding is a way of organising consumer directed care that has been introduced into most Western European countries and parts of North America, Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

In the United Kingdom (UK Individual funding is generally referred to as 'direct payments', in the United States of America (US) as 'self determination', in Canada as 'self-managed care' and in some European countries as 'cash for care'.

In all individualised funding arrangements a defined package of funding is allocated to be spent on the disability support services of a particular person in the way that best suits them, including the disability support type and who provides the support.

The core of individual funding is that it is a portable package of funds allocated for a particular person who is supported to choose how to spend it on their disability support needs. Characteristics of the way individual funding is organised that vary are:

- ☐☐who holds and manages the funds

- ☐☐which parts of it are portable

- ☐☐which disability support types it can be spent on from which parts of the market.

https://www.dss.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/05_2012/op29.pdf

Canada

Michael Kendrick has undertaken a thorough and lengthy examination of key links for Canada. This bigger document can be found here: http://www.iimhl.com/files/docs/20150206.pdf

Below are excerpts from this.

National documents/agencies

Council of Canadians with Disability (CCD)
Social Policy
14.3% of Canadians report having a disability. Canadians with disabilities are more than twice as likely to live in poverty than other Canadians. They face exclusion from quality education, from employment and from participation in their communities. CCD's Social Policy Committee provides leadership on addressing the social and economic exclusion of persons with disabilities. CCD is a national human rights organization of people with disabilities working for an inclusive and accessible Canada.

CCD's Priorities Include:

- Disability-related supports

- Poverty alleviation

- Increased employment for persons with disabilities

- Promotion of human rights

- Ratification and implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

- Technology developed according to the principles of universal design

- Air, rail, bus and marine transport that is accessible to persons with all types of disabilities

CCD seeks to achieve these priorities through law reform, litigation, public education and dialogue with key decision-makers. http://www.ccdonline.ca/en/about This agency has many publications and resources. http://www.ccdonline.ca/en/socialpolicy

Disabling Poverty, Enabling Citizenship: Recommendations for Positive Change

This policy reform paper comes from the work of a Community University Research Alliance project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, called "Disabling Poverty and Enabling Citizenship". Led by the Council of Canadians with Disabilities, this research project, which began in 2008, will be completed at the end of 2014.

"Disabling Poverty and Enabling Citizenship" has had four themes, each with a set of research questions we have investigated over the last five years. The project has four academic partners and four community partners. Principal Researchers are Professor Michael J. Prince and Yvonne Peters. The project actively engaged students in the research and dialogue. http://www.ccdonline.ca/en/socialpolicy/poverty-citizenship/policy-reform/recommendation-change15May2014

Canada: National Persons With Disabilities Online
This site provides access to services and information for persons with disabilities, family members, caregivers and all Canadians.
http://www.pwd-online.gc.ca/pwdh.4m.2@.jsp?lang=eng

Government Information - Aboriginal And First Nations
This site provides a wide range of information, news, research and issues for aboriginal people.
http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/

Individualized Funding Movements in Canada – autism An early overview of the pros and cons is presented in *Dollars for Services: a.k.a. Individualized Funding,* published by Caledon Institute of Social Policy (a social policy think-tank established in 1992) and is accessible at http://www.caledoninst.org/Publications/Detail/?ID=22&IsBack=0

Beyond Ontario, individualized funding projects were pioneered in Alberta and are reported in early stages in Saskatchewan, Alberta and Atlantic Canada. But British Columbia seems to be most active and most advanced. There, forms of individualized funding have been used in the Choices for Supports in Independent Living (CSIL) program through the Ministry of Health; the Respite provisions of the At Home program through the Ministry of Children, Youth and Families; through micro-boards and through the Brokerage Pilot Project. The Individualized Funding Community Development Project, funded by the Ministry of Children, Youth and Families and administered by the BC Coalition of People with Disabilities, is working to build awareness and support for individualized funding. Several excellent websites include:

- Individualized Funding Project of British Columbia Coalition of People with Disabilities
- http://www.inclusionbc.org/our-priority-areas/supports-children-and-families/individualized-funding
- http://www.disabilityalliancebc.org/docs/guidetoindividualizedfunding.pdf
- http://www.ont-autism.uoguelph.ca/STRATEGIES6.shtml

L'Arche Communities In Canada
L'Arche communities are spread across Canada from Vancouver Island to Cape Breton. There are now 29 communities in Canada. They are part of an International Federation of 145 L'Arche communities in over 40 countries around the world. L'Arche has existed in Canada since 1969. It has grown steadily through the years. The newest communities, welcomed into the International Federation of L'Arche in 2004 and 2005, are in Saint John, New Brunswick and, in the project stage, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.
http://www.larche.ca/en/communities

People First Canada
People First of Canada is the national non-profit organization representing people who have been labelled with an intellectual disability. We advocate for human rights and full inclusion. We advocate for the right to choose where and with whom we live. We do this by sharing our stories, supporting each other, and speaking for ourselves. We advocate for change within community and government so that all people will be included in community. We work together so that, as equal citizens, our voices will be heard.
www.peoplefirstofcanada.ca

The Canadian Disability Policy Alliance (CDPA)
This is a national collaboration of 14 researchers in disability studies from four Canadian Universities, five disability advocacy associations, and consultants from federal and provincial governments. Over the last four years, the Alliance has conducted 27 research projects aimed at evaluating and improving disability policy in Canada.

Over the coming year, these research findings will be released to individuals and organizations involved with disability issues. We hope this information helps achieve meaningful change for people with disabilities in Canada. This is hosted by Queen's University.
http://healthsci.queensu.ca/research/chspr/spotlight/cdpa

Ready, Willing And Able: Inclusive Post-Secondary Education
Research indicates that post-secondary education and training significantly improves employment outcomes for people with developmental disabilities just as for their non-disabled peers. However, significant barriers need to be addressed. In recent experience, where inclusive post-secondary education programming has been introduced, 80% of participating students with developmental disabilities went on to secure employment. RWA profiles and supports initiatives with post-secondary education and training institutions to provide students with the same opportunities as their peers for learning activities – including assignments, practicums, exams, and study groups.
http://readywillingable.ca/key-elements/inclusive-post-secondary-education/

Rethinking Disability In The Private Sector: Report From The Panel On Labour Market Opportunities For Persons With Disabilities
The evidence gathered from our consultations with Canadian private sector companies and existing research has convinced us that there is a business case for employing people with disabilities. This is good news for employers seeking talent, and for the approximately 795,000 working-aged Canadians who are not working but whose disability does not prevent them from doing so. Almost half (340,000) of these people have post-secondary education. We must find ways to engage with and employ these individuals so we can benefit from their education and skills. http://abilityhere.ca/wpcms/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Web_Labour_Market_Report_Panel_eng.pdf

Social Inclusion Report Card
The Canadian Association for Community Living (CACL) has a vision for this country in which Canadians with intellectual disabilities are full participating citizens. A vision of equal citizenship—of citizenship that brings with it the same rights and freedoms guaranteed to all

Canadians. A vision of a country in which disability is viewed not as something to be avoided but rather embraced as a natural part of our diversity. It is a vision founded in the legitimate expectations of Canadians with intellectual disabilities and their families. A vision that we must all collectively work toward making a reality for all Canadians with intellectual disabilities. http://www.communitylivingontario.ca/issues/canadian-association-community-living/cacl-report-card

A website developed by young people with learning disabilities

Young people with learning disabilities have developed this site. This is our site - a place for us and our friends. High school to post-secondary and beyond is complicated. This website will provide you with information and answers on how to get there and what supports you'll need during your journey, so you can be successful. From here, you can click to specific areas that interest you, use the keyword search or just browse as much as you like. www.youth2youth.ca

Inclusive Education Canada

This website promotes the Canadian vision for inclusive education. It has been designed as a meeting place for parents, family members, teachers, education officials and community members who are committed to making inclusive education a reality in our communities. http://inclusiveeducation.ca

First Report of Canada of The UN Convention of The Rights of Persons With Disabilities

Canada is pleased to present to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities its initial report under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the "Convention"). Canada ratified the Convention on March 11, 2010 and it entered into force for Canada on April 12, 2010. http://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/albertadwa/pages/325/attachments/original/1394833920/Convention_on_the_Rights_of_Persons_with_Disabilities_-_Fir.pdf?1394833920

Disability Policy Canada Website

This website will represent a unique collaboration between researchers and members of the disability community around Disability-Related Policy in Canada. One of the greatest challenges to the organizations that comprise the disability community has been to help the people they represent understand how government policy, especially at the federal level, makes decisions that shape their lives.

But let's think about it. Things like personal supports (personal attendants, home care workers, homemaker services, respite workers and interpreters), technical aids and equipment (wheelchairs, TTYs, visual aids, prosthetic appliances), and brokerage services (peer support, skill building, and counselling) can make the day-to-day routine of a person with a disability that much easier to manage.

http://www.disabilitypolicy.ca/index_english.php
http://www.disabilitypolicy.ca/index_francais.php

Province Of Alberta

Alberta Human Rights Act: Discrimination and Persons With Mental Or Physical Disabilities
http://www.albertahumanrights.ab.ca/publications/bulletins_sheets_booklets/sheets/protected_grounds/mental_or_physical_disabilities.asp

Family Managed Services
http://humanservices.alberta.ca/disability-services/pdd-fms.html

AACL: Socially Inclusive Post Secondary Education In Alberta: Resources
http://www.aacl.org/inclusive-education/post-secondary-education/

AACL: Supportive Communities: Strengthening Families: Resources
http://www.aacl.org/partnerships-projects/supportive-communities-strengthening-families/

Alberta Association For Community Living: Provincial And Regional Family Voices Network
http://www.aacl.org/family-voices/family-voices/

Province Of British Columbia

BC Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation
http://www.gov.bc.ca/sdsi/

BC Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation:
Services to Adults with Developmental Disabilities (STADD)
http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=DF198B36936A4D9C8896C6331301E490

Ministry Of Social Development And Innovation: Information For People With Disabilities
http://www.hsd.gov.bc.ca/pwd.htm

Ministry Of Social Development And Innovation: Information For People With Disabilities
Employment Planning, Services and Support
http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=967FCE8BCF6C4539BB5F78620395E2E5

Inclusion BC Social Movement History Video
http://us1.campaign-archive1.com/?u=1b7161e0c15d3775331002a15&id=1a910c326b&e=b7571b54b1

Making Better Networks
https://spectrumpress.myshopify.com/collections/all

Province Of Manitoba

What Home Means to Me March 11 2013: People First Canada
Video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bDwSpypt9Xw

Manitoba League Of Persons With Disabilities
http://www.mlpd.mb.ca

The Legal and Human Rights of Manitobans with Disabilities
http://www.barrierfreemb.com/rights

Services for Persons with Disabilities
http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/pwd/

Children's Disability Service**s**
http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/pwd/css.html

Report: The Voice Of People With Disabilities: Making A Difference In Manitoba
http://www.mlpd.mb.ca/download/making-a-difference-in-manitoba-2012.pdf

Innovative Life Options: It is the mission of Innovative LIFE Options Inc. to provide each participant of In the Company of Friends and his/her Support Network with high quality resources, information and guidance that will assist each participant in creating the life that he/she desires within the framework of valued and meaningful relationships.
http://www.innovativelifeoptions.ca

Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Center
http://www.mfnerc.org

Province Of New Brunswick

NB Department of Education and Early Childhood Development: Inclusive Education Policy
http://www.gnb.ca/0000/pol/e/322A.pdf

New Brunswick Association For Community Living
http://www.nbacl.nb.ca/en/

New Brunswick Association For Community Living Disability Support Program
http://www.nbacl.nb.ca/en/disability-support-program

New Brunswick Association For Community Living: Videos: People's Stories
http://www.nbacl.nb.ca/en/stories

New Brunswick Association For Community Living Social Inclusion Program
http://www.nbacl.nb.ca/en/social-inclusion-program

New Brunswick Department of Social Development: Persons With Disabilities
http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/social_development/persons_disabilities.html

Province of Newfoundland and Labrador

The Violence Prevention Initiative - Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
http://www.gov.nl.ca/VPI/index.html

Newfoundland and Labrador Education Department: Provincial Strategy for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Newfoundland and Labrador
http://www.aes.gov.nl.ca/disabilities/strategy.html

Disability Employment Programs and Services FAQ
http://www.exec.gov.nl.ca/exec/hrs/faq/ds_faq.html

Disability Supports Program
http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/services/services_renderer.200972.Disability_Support_Program.html

Empowering People – Engaging Community – Enabling Success: First Progress Report on the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's Poverty Reduction Strategy
http://www.aes.gov.nl.ca/publications/poverty/PRSProgessReport.pdf

Newfoundland and Labrador **Housing's** Supportive Living Program
http://www.aes.gov.nl.ca/forcommunitypartners/slcpp.html

NLACL's Position Statement on Supportive Living and Housing
http://www.nlacl.ca/supportive-living-and-housing/

Better for You – Better for Us Report: Supportive Living In The Community By The Executive Directors and Chairs Network Of Newfoundland And Labrador
http://www.nlacl.ca/docs/better_for_you_better_for_us_July_15_2013.pdf

Breaking through barriers bigger than sound: Performance at the Miss Achievement Newfoundland & Labrador Scholarship Program
http://www.thetelegram.com/News/Local/2014-11-18/article-3942854/Breaking-through-barriers-bigger-than-sound/1

Ready, Willing and Able Employment Initiative
http://readywillingable.ca/

Province Of Nova Scotia

Choice, Equality and Good Lives in Inclusive Communities: A Roadmap for Transforming the Nova Scotia Services to Persons with Disabilities Program
http://novascotia.ca/coms/putpeoplefirst/docs/SPD_Transformation_Plan_and_Roadmap.pdf

Parents as Partners in an Inclusive Education Process: Dr. Carmel French, Child & Youth Study, MSVU, Halifax, Canada
https://nsacl.files.wordpress.com/2013/08/parents-as-partners-in-an-inclusive-education-process-nova-scotia-summer-2013.pdf

Towards An Inclusive Framework For The Right To Legal Capacity In Nova Scotia
https://nsacl.wordpress.com/recommended-links/towards-an-inclusive-framework-for-the-right-to-legal-capacity-in-ns/

Disabled Persons Commission - Government of Nova Scotia
http://disability.novascotia.ca/

People First Nova Scotia
http://peoplefirstns.ca

Disability Rights Coalition Of Nova Scotia (formerly the Kendrick Report Coalition)
http://users.eastlink.ca/~pkitchen/index.htm

Disabled Persons Commission Of Nova Scotia: Publications
http://disability.novascotia.ca/content/dpc-publications-0

Nova Scotia Laws And Policy Affecting Persons With Disabilities
http://disability.novascotia.ca/content/current-policy-and-legislation

Mawita'mk Society: Community based living within the Mi'kmaq culture and language
http://mawitamk.org/about-us/

Province Of Ontario

Community Living Ontario Reaction to Ontario's Premier's 'Huronia' Institution Apology
http://www.communitylivingontario.ca/news-events/news/community-living-ontario-reaction-ontarios-huronia-apology

Ontario Quality Assurance Measures
http://www.dsontario.ca/quality-assurance-measures

Ontario Passport Program (Individual Funding)
http://www.mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/developmental/servicesupport/passport.aspx

Individualized Funding in Ontario: Report of a Provincial Study
http://johnlord.net/Individualized%20Funding%20in%20Ontario--Report%20of%20a%20Provincial%20Study.pdf

Province Of Prince Edward Island

Department of Community Services And Seniors: Supports For People With Disabilities
http://www.gov.pe.ca/sss/disabilitysupports

Disability Services Final Review
http://www.gov.pe.ca/photos/original/SSS_DSR_Final.pdf

Department of Community Services And Seniors: Supports For People With Disabilities: Disability Action Council
http://www.gov.pe.ca/sss/index.php3?number=1032501&lang=E

Social Action Plan: Progress Report 2013-14
http://www.gov.pe.ca/photos/original/SAP_UP_2014.pdf

Inclusive Education Benefits All Children: PEIACL
http://peiacl.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Inclusive-Education-Benefits-All-Children.pdf

Province Of Quebec

Organization of educational services for at risk students and students with handicaps, social maladjustments or learning difficulties
http://www.rsb.qc.ca/public/59e74f4a-c76f-4582-97d9-9136f5687bf1/parents/acsssn/organizationofeducationalservicesforatriskstudents.pdf

The first paragraph of section 224 of Quebec's Education Act (R.S.Q, c.I-13.3)
http://www.canlii.org/en/qc/laws/stat/rsq-c-i-13.3/latest/rsq-c-i-13.3.html

Inclusive Education Service
http://www.learnquebec.ca/en/content/pedagogy/insight/partners/ies.html

Central Quebec School Board: Individual Education Plans
http://www.cqsb.qc.ca/myscriptorweb/scripto.asp?resultat=546597

Québec Poverty Reduction: CURA Research Findings
Yves Vaillancourt & Lucie Dumais Laboratoire de recherche sur les pratiques et les politiques sociales, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) December 2nd, 2014
http://www.ccdonline.ca/en/socialpolicy/poverty-citizenship/policy-reform/quebecs-poverty-reduction

Province Of Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID)
http://www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/SAID

SK Ministry Of Social Services: Disability Issues
http://www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/office-disability

A New Vision for Saskatchewan: Changing Lives and Systems through Individualized
Funding for People with Intellectual Disabilities
Last Updated on February 6th, 2013
http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=210

Saskatchewan Individualized Funding, Inc.
http://lin.ca/sites/default/files/attachments/fund.htm

Disability Strategy: Our Experience, Our Voice: Saskatchewan Disability Strategy
Consultation Summary – Prepared by the Citizen Consultation Team 2013
http://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/have-your-say/saskatchewan-disability-strategy

The Saskatchewan Abilities Council
http://www.abilitiescouncil.sk.ca/index.cfm

Learning Disability Association of Saskatchewan
https://www.ldas.org

Yukon Territory

The Yukon, Northwest Territories & Nunavut
http://everycanadiancounts.com/the-yukon-northwest-territories-nunavut/

DID YOU KNOW SOCIAL INCLUSION IS PLANNED FOR ISOLATED YUKON?
http://www.disabled-world.com/news/canada/yukon/survey-inclusion.php

Yukon Health and Social Services
http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/

Yukon Housing Authority
http://www.housing.yk.ca/about_yhc.html

Overview Of Yukon Decision Making Legislation to Support People with some Degree of
Mental Incapability
http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/pdf/decision_making_leg.pdf

Family And Children Services Memorandum of Agreement between Kwanlin Dun First Nation (KDFN) and Department of Health and Social Services (HSS)
http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/family_children.php

A Better Yukon for All:
Yukon government's social inclusion & poverty reduction strategy
http://www.abetteryukon.ca

Northwest Territory

We All Belong
http://www.ykacl.ca/sites/default/files/We%20All%20Belong.pdf

Northwest Territories Disability Council
http://www.nwtdc.net

Canadian National Institute For the Blind/Alberta and NWT
www.cnib.ca/en/alberta

Northwest Territories Disability Council Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/pages/NWT-Disabilities-Council/436138019806132

Where can I find... A Guide to Services for Persons with Disabilities in the Northwest Territories
http://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/a_guide_to_services_for_persons_with_disabilities_in_the_nwt.pdf

Yellowknife Association For Community Living Resources & Publications
http://www.ykacl.ca/content/ykacl-resources

Nunavut Territory

Nunavummi Disabilities Makinnasuqtit Society (NDMS)
http://www.nuability.ca

NDMS Dream Of Social Inclusion: Downloadable Pdf
http://nuability.ca/index.php/resources/page/28

NDMS News and Events:
http://nuability.ca/index.php/news

United Kingdom

National reports/agencies

Personal Outcomes Evaluation Tool (POET)
Over the past 10 years, In Control together with the Centre for Disability Research at Lancaster University has been developing the Personal Outcomes Evaluation Tool (POET) to measure the outcomes of personal budgets and personalised care and support – and the impact they are having on people's lives. One product of this has been three National Personal Budget Surveys published by Think Local Act Personal. POET was initially developed for use in adult social care, and then in health. The DfE has also funded In Control to develop a version of POET able to measure the impact of personal budgets and education, health and care (EHC) plans for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). A version for providers is also currently in development.
http://www.in-control.org.uk/media/168329/poet%20summary%20all%20sectors%202014%20final.pdf

Experiences of personal budget holders and carers across adult social care and health
In this recent analysis of the impact of personal budgets on the lives of people conducted by In Control in the UK, over 4000 people and carers shared their experiences for this report – the largest ever number – offering valuable insight into what is working well and not so well.

The findings suggest people continue to experience positive effects of using personal budgets and improvements to feelings of dignity, independence and quality of life. It is clear though there remains significant room for delivery improvement.

In the report's foreword, Minister of State for Care and Support, Norman Lamb MP, said: "*We must strive to improve the outcomes people experience as a result of using personal budgets not just focus on increasing the numbers. We should always be asking 'are people getting better lives and support - and is the experience simpler and more flexible?"*

Commenting on the findings, Julie Stansfield, In Control's chief executive said: "*When used to their potential personal budgets are an important tool enabling people to get control over their lives. We have now moved on from questioning whether they have a role to play in public services, they are a clear part of the future of social services, education and health for people of all ages, but the question now is what can we do to make them work for people in the best possible way? This report gives us the clearest indication to date on what's working and*

what's not in their delivery and provides a very useful insight for councils and health organisations on where they need to focus their efforts". **Third National Personal Budget Survey: October 2014** http://www.ecdp.org.uk/node/841

Individual Service Funds for Homecare
The principles of the Individual Service Funds model are simple. When used in the right way, individuals being supported should say:

What? – "I can use my hours/budget flexibly and can choose what I am supported with".
Where? – "I am supported where it makes sense for me; at home and out and about".
Who? – "I choose who I want to support me. My support workers know me and I know them".
When? – "I get support on the days and at the times that are right for me".
How? – "I choose how I am supported and my support workers know this is important to me".
Co-production – "I am fully involved in decisions about my own support and how the wider service develops".

However, to make a real difference it is critical that these principles are delivered in practice. http://www.in-control.org.uk/publications/reports-and-discussion-papers/individual-service-funds-for-homecare.aspx

Quality, Innovation, Productivity and Prevention (QIPP) and Personal Health Budgets
Personal budgets in adult social care have a strong track record of improving satisfaction with services and quality of life. This report shows the satisfaction levels of around 400 personal budget holders with different aspects of their quality of life. More than two-thirds of people using personal budgets report that the control they have over their support (66%) and their overall quality of life (68%) has improved since they took up a personal budget. A majority of people report spending more time with people they want to (58%), taking a more active role in their local community (58%) and feeling that they are supported with more dignity (55%). http://www.in-control.org.uk/publications/reports-and-discussion-papers/qipp-and-personal-health-budgets-report.aspx

Personal Budgets for Children

Measuring the outcomes of EHC plans and personal budgets 2014
For the first time in the United Kingdom, children and young people up to the age of 25 will be able to request a statutory assessment and EHC plan whilst they are in further education and training. In addition, young people and families with an EHC plan will have the right to ask for a personal budget, allowing them to direct the support detailed in their plan.

In this evaluation seventy-two parents completed the survey from 44 schools in six local authority areas. The age of children was evenly spread: The average age was 11 and ranged from 3 to 18-years-old.
http://www.in-control.org.uk/media/167879/ehc%20poet%20report%20final.pdf

The In Control Children's programme membership is growing fast as are the numbers of children, young people and families using personal budgets. Over the past five years, we

know of more than 2,000 families who have used personal budgets. There is increasing evidence of the positive impact working in a self-directed way has on children and families. http://www.in-control.org.uk/what-we-do/children-and-young-people.aspx

A wide range of further publications are available: http://www.in-control.org.uk/what-we-do/children-and-young-people/publications.aspx

Support and Aspiration Introducing Personal Budgets 2013
In Control has been working to develop self-directed support and personal budgets since 2003 drawing heavily on the work of the independent living movement led by disabled people. Their work with children's services took off in 2007 with the formation of the children's programme; over the past six years they have worked closely with over 50 children's services, many parents, families and other services across England and Scotland.

The vision held for the implementation of personal budgets for children within education is described as follows:
- Children's special education needs (SEN) are picked up early and support is routinely put in place quickly
- Staff have the knowledge, understanding and skills to provide the right supportfor children and young people who have SEN or are disabled
- Parents know what they can reasonably expect their local school, college, localauthority local services to provide, without having to fight for it
- Aspirations for children and young people are raised through an increased focus on life outcomes
- For more complex needs, an integrated assessment and a single Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan is put in place from birth to 25, and
- There is greater control for parents and young people over the services they and their family use.

http://www.in-control.org.uk/media/161498/support%20and%20aspiration%20personal%20budgets%20oct13.pdf

Useful Tools and Strategies

Making your own support plan – an Easy Read Booklet
http://www.in-control.org.uk/publications/easy-read/making-your-support-plan.aspx

Whole life approach to personalisation
Cambridge is the first local authority to embark on Total Transformation and at the same time begin work on individual budgets and self-directed support for children and young people as members of Taking Control. http://www.in-control.org.uk/resources/procedures,-guidelines-and-templates/whole-life-approach-to-personalisation.aspx

Systems, practices and support for social work under self-directed support
This guidance is structured in the form of a table, which is based upon In Control's seven-step model of self-directed support. This is followed by an important section on Helping People to Stay Safe, which applies throughout the process. http://www.in-

control.org.uk/resources/procedures,-guidelines-and-templates/systems,-practices-and-support-for-social-work-under-self-directed-support.aspx

Implementation of direct payments
This guide describes why it is important that direct payments systems within local authorities are made central to the whole system of self-directed support. http://www.in-control.org.uk/resources/procedures,-guidelines-and-templates/implementation-of-direct-payments.aspx

Making it personal
Making it Personal partners in the United Kingdom worked alongside a number of local voluntary and statutory providers, groups of parents/carers, disabled children and young people and commissioners with an aim of building on the original Making It Personal project to provide a suite of resources aimed at a wide ranging audience. These resources are designed to enable providers, families and commissioners to gain a greater understanding of recent changes in the UK system and the impact these changes will have on the lives of families of disabled children and young disabled people.

- **For providers**: guidance on how to become personal budget ready
- **For families**: extended guidance on personal budgets and direct payments
- **For commissioners of education, health and social care services**: refreshed guidance
- **For Family Information Services**: new guidance to ensure that they are equipped to support families by identifying the range of services available to them under the local offer
- **Brand new case studies** illustrating real life examples of how the reforms can work positively for all
- **New eLearning suite** has been developed to explain the changes in simple, easy to digest modules. Users can create a free account (please note that by creating an account, you are agreeing to complete a short survey on the effectiveness of the resources, this will be emailed to you by our external evaluators SQW)
- **Zone on the Knowledge Hub** for commissioners to share expertise
- Pilot work with families of disabled children who wish to pool/combine their personal budgets to buy services, with SEND pathfinder support http://www.in-control.org.uk/what-we-do/children-and-young-people/useful-resources/making-it-personal.aspx

Progress for Providers

Checking your progress in delivering personalised support for people living at home
""As an older person myself, and someone who has experience of caring for my late husband at home, I was delighted to be involved in the development of Progress for Providers: Checking your progress in delivering personalised support for people living at home." Winnie Cooke.

The overriding goal of Progress for Providers is to improve the experience of people who use care services and help them remain at home. It also offers the additional benefits of supporting family and other informal carers and developing the homecare workforce. Use of this self-audit tool is an opportunity for homecare providers to provide their regulator and local commissioners with evidence of progress.
http://progressforproviders.org/

New Zealand

Investigation of Individualised Funding and Local Area Coordination-Type processes: A Literature Review.
This literature review sets out key themes and findings to emerge from the literature relating to the following issues:

- the key features of IF arrangements;
- the outcomes for disabled people of implementing IF arrangements;
- the costs and benefits of IF arrangements versus other alternatives;
- the requirements for implementing IF processes.
- the key features of LAC-type processes;
- the outcomes for disabled people that result from LAC-type processes;
- the costs and benefits of LAC-type processes;
- the implications of LAC-type processes have for other parts of the disability support system; and
- the requirements for implementing LAC-type processes.

https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/lit-review-lac.doc

New Model for Supporting Disabled People: synthesis of Year 1 evaluation findings
The key objective of the New Model is to support disabled people and their whānau/family to have 'a good life' through greater choice and control over the support they receive and the lives they lead.
Key elements
The design of the New Model has the disabled person (and their whānau/family) as its centre. There are four key elements:

1. Improved access to information and personal assistance for people and their whānau through local area coordination arrangements

2. Allocation of funding with greater flexibility over how the funding is used (rather than prescribed types and levels of services). This involves allocating indicative dollar values of support (reflecting the disabled person's individual circumstances), and greater use of self-assessment.

3. More choice and control for people over the support that is purchased through making individualised funding available to most people and for most supports, and making contracted supports and services more flexible and focused on outcomes.

4. Broader accountability arrangements to include the responsibilities of the Ministry, and disabled people and their whānau/family, and a stronger focus in all quality monitoring (contractual and regulatory) on whether people are living an 'everyday/good life'.
http://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/end-of-year-one-evaluation-report.pdf

Evaluation of Individualised Funding
"*Individualised Funding cuts to the core of the traditional disability system and the purpose and reasons why the state is involved in supporting people in need."*

"Individualised Funding is not a service but a mechanism that supports an individualised response."

"IF has been a breath of fresh air and is supporting people to get on with their lives."
Source: Host Provider.

The Ministry of Health is committed to working with the recommendations of an independent report it commissioned into individualised funding. Almost 1400 people who receive home and community support services are choosing to take control of and use public funding to structure their own support arrangements, such as selecting or employing their own support workers. They do this by working with Individualised Funding Host Providers, who assist with issues such as administration and payment for support services delivered. The Ministry wishes to expand and enhance individualised funding, and in May of 2011 it commissioned Synergia to review the expansion of the programme to date. That report is now available: Evaluation of Individualised Funding following the expansion to new Host Providers (PDF, 788 KB)

The Ministry's formal response is included below. The report makes recommendations about the future enhancement of the programme, and emphasises there is an across-the-board view that individualised funding is the way of the future. The recommendations to the Ministry include:

- A continued rollout of IF
- A review of what services can be utilised under IF
- Regular reporting of IF data, and support for clients and providers on employment issues
- Ensure that host providers and the NASCs (which work with disabled people to identify their needs) are supported and encouraged to work together
- Training of support workers

An important part of the Ministry response is trialing Enhanced Individualised Funding in parts of the Bay of Plenty (as part of the Demonstration of the New Model for Supporting Disabled

People). This will allow disabled people to purchase a wider range of supports beyond home and community support services. If successful, it could be expanded nationally.
http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/disability-services/disability-projects-and-programmes/individualised-funding-project/evaluation-individualised-funding

Personal Experiences of people Accessing Innovative funding

Video Stories
A great selection of people's stories.
https://www.youtube.com/user/manawanuiincharge

Personal Stories
These case studies look at the reality of using Individualised Funding. They explore the changes IF can make, the ways IF can be used and services structured to get the most out of the funding available. They also look at some of the challenges people can face when they start using IF and problem solve ways around them.
http://www.incharge.org.nz/?page_id=1237

http://www.health.govt.nz/your-health/services-and-support/disability-services/other-peoples-stories/new-model-people-stories

Australia

Resources to support disability sector organisations move towards self-directed supports and services – Government of Western Australia
This toolkit is designed as a resource to help people with disability, families and carers, Local Area Coordinators and disability sector organisations develop ideas about self-directed supports and services. It provides information on existing local and international resources that support an understanding of the concept and its implementation.
http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/Global/Publications/Reform/Self%20Directed%20Supports%20and%20Services/Self-Directed%20Supports%20and%20Services%20Resource.pdf

Individualised Funding - A summary review of its nature and impact, and key elements for success: Julia Farr Foundation
This paper offers an overview of work in various places around the world, where people living with disability and their families have control over their support funding. It describes the basic elements that currently feature, together with the benefits that have been reported, with due acknowledgement to some of the challenges associated with these frameworks. The paper

sums up a range of elements that favour success, and concludes that Individualised Funding should be a standard option in all disability support jurisdictions.
http://www.purpleorange.org.au/files/1713/3403/8767/Individualised_Funding-_a_summary_review.pdf

Individual Funding Model for WA: Discussion Paper Government of Western Australia

The intent of the paper is to guide on-going discussions on the issues that will have an impact on Individual Funding and has a focus on:

- clear identification of the features required in the individual funding procurement model, consistent with the across government procurement policy and ease of use by consumers
- exploration of options and implications for change to existing processes, and establishment of clear and reasonable timelines for implementation of the recommendations generated**.**

http://www.ideaswa.net/upload/editor/files/discussion_paper_from_workshops_on_individual_funding_(final)_-_15_august_2012_(3).pdf

Effectiveness of individual funding approaches for disability support
This report, by the Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC), examined the effectiveness of individual funding of disability support and aimed to inform policy to improve the provision of disability support.

The study was commissioned by the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA). The research methodology included a literature review; secondary data analysis of the Commonwealth State Territory Disability Agreement (CSTDA) National Minimum Data Set (NMDS); interviews with policy officials from all states and territories; case studies with 10 disability service providers, involving interviews with people with disabilities and staff; and questionnaires for people with disabilities and service providers.
http://www.dss.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/05_2012/op29.pdf

Self-directed disability support: Building people's capacity through peer support and action research
In this project, people with disability all over Australia met in small groups to talk about their disability support. The project had two goals: peer support, with people in the groups learning from each other; and action research, with people doing research activities and sharing their findings about disability support with other people, for example, in this report.

Disability support in Australia is changing, and people with disability increasingly have more opportunity to decide the details of their support—about how, when and by whom it is provided. In this report, this is called self-directed disability support (SDDS). The one year project was to find out how people with disability experience and manage the transition towards SDDS.
https://www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/media/SPRCFile/Selfdirected_disability_support__building_peoples_capacity.pdf

Talks that Matter
A series of online video's and personal stories of people's experiences with individualised funding and self directed services.

Talks That Matter is a new and exciting online video strategy which brings together a range of interesting people with fascinating stories to tell about disability, community, diversity and social change. **Talks That Matter** contains over eighty interviews, documentaries and presentations devoted to showing people's stories. It highlights the issues that really matter to people with a disability.
http://www.belongingmatters.org/#!gallery/c1nzd

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)
This commenced on 1 July 2013. At 30 June 2014, the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) had approved 7316 plans for people with disability, allowing them access to the reasonable and necessary support they require to lead an ordinary life.
This is comprehensive report on the findings and learnings from this first 12 months of a very ambitious scheme to transform disability services in Australia.
http://www.ndis.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/annual_report_2013_14.pdf

Ireland

Value for Money and Policy Review of Disability Services
The Review is a multi-year project, which will result in very significant changes to the way in which services and supports for people with disabilities are delivered.

The National Implementation Framework outlines the steps to be taken in the initial phase of the implementation process. A more detailed implementation plan will follow the completion of the policy appraisal recommended in the VFM Review and required for all significant public service expenditure and policy proposals.

The National Implementation Framework specifies that the role of the HSE is to deliver the recommendations in the VFM Review. That responsibility has been assigned to the Head of Operations for the Disability Services who works to the National Director of Social Care, who has overall operational responsibility for Disability Services and Services for Older People in the Social Care Directorate.
http://health.gov.ie/future-health/reforming-social-and-continuing-care-2/disability/vfm-disability-review/

National Carers Strategy
It is expected that Ireland's ageing population (1) and medical advances in relation to disability and chronic illness will result in more people, of all ages, with longer term and complex care needs requiring care and being cared for in the community in the future. At the same time, it has been proposed that social trends such as greater family mobility, increases in divorce rates and the numbers of people living alone may have implications for the number

of people that will be available to assume these caring responsibilities. While there are positive and rewarding aspects of caring, there are also challenges and demands.

Research has shown that carers may experience emotional or psychological difficulties, physical ill health and may have to make adjustments to family life and to work life (2). For some, a lack of recognition of their work can lead to a sense of disconnection from society and from opportunities that others take for granted. In addition, in recent years, increased attention has focused on children and young people who care for a family member. This role can have adverse impacts on their social, educational, emotional and health needs, and on their future life opportunities.
http://www.abiireland.ie/docs/National_Carers_Strategy_2012.pdf

Budget 2015 Press release by Disability Federation of Ireland, Center for Independent Living Carmichael, Care Alliance Ireland, Not for Profit Business Association, Federation of Voluntary Bodies, Mental Health Reform and Neurological Alliance of Ireland.

We are seeking a rebalancing of the recovery programme and the protection of, and investment in, people with disabilities and conditions, which are disabling. Budget 2015 must be driven not only by fiscal considerations but also by the adjacent pursuit of sustainable social outcomes.

1. **Ensure funding for services and supports for people with disabilities.** Reducing the independence of people with disabilities drastically reduces their quality of life resulting in increased costs to the state. Ensuring the accessibility of all public and community based services and empowering people with disabilities to become more independent positively impacts on wellbeing and reduces reliance on state run services.

2. **Halt reductions to the basic standard of living of people with disabilities requiring welfare support.** This means recognising the extra costs that people with disabilities incur and noting their disproportionate likelihood of experiencing poverty.

3. **Appoint a Minister to Cabinet with overall responsibility to drive and coordinate** 'disability inclusion' across government departments and state agencies. Disability is a societal issue, and not a sectoral one, that stretches across the life cycle, affecting people of all ages and their families directly and indirectly. Reform is required to change how Government Departments operate, to achieve mainstreaming and person-centered outcomes, and to ensure that these efforts are in line with the Government's implementation plan for the National Disability Strategy. These actions, to ensure the social, economic and cultural rights of people with disabilities need to be driven from Cabinet level.

4. **Ensure the ambition, commitment and cultural shift required in reforming the public service exists to drive forward the delivery of the commitments in the National Disability Strategy.** Robust implementation of the NDS will be required if Ireland is to fulfill its obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which is yet to be ratified.
http://www.disability-federation.ie/index.php?uniqueID=10958

Inclusion Ireland: Self-Advocacy Resource Unit

About the Self-Advocacy Resource Unit The key focus of this dedicated self-advocacy webpage is to share new resources and information. This resource will encourage and support the emergence of new self-advocacy groups. It will also enhance the capacity of existing self-advocacy groups through information provision, sharing of resources and networking opportunities.

Self-advocacy
Self-advocacy is when a person speaks up for himself or herself.
Self-advocacy is about speaking up for your rights and taking control of your life.
Self-advocacy is when a person stands up for themselves and fights for what they want.
Self-advocacy is when you understand your rights and take action.
http://www.inclusionireland.ie/content/page/saru

Time to Move on from Congregated Settings: A Strategy for Community Inclusion In June 2011, the HSE published the Report of the Working Group on Congregated Settings - "*Time to Move on form Congregated Settings – A strategy for Community Inclusion".*
The report sets out what is now the agreed national policy for a new model for residential support in the mainstream community, where people with disabilities are supported to live ordinary lives in ordinary places. The model envisages that people living in congregated settings will move to dispersed housing in ordinary communities, provided mainly by the housing authorities. These will have the same entitlement to mainstream community health and social services as any other citizen, such as GP services, home help, public health nursing services, access to primary care teams. Persons with disabilities will have access to specialised services based on an individual assessment. They will receive the supports they need to live independently and to be part of their local community.

The move from a residential centre to an ordinary home will involve a significant change for the individuals concerned and their families. The report sets out a process for planning each individual move around the person's preferences, and for good support through the process of transition. To support this process, the HSE established a broad – based implementation group charged with overseeing the process of transition at national level, and this will be complemented by similar regional and local implementation teams.

The overall objective of the national group is to ensure that following implementation of the recommendations of the report people with disabilities will be actively and effectively supported to live full, inclusive lives at the heart of the family, community and society. They will be able to exercise meaningful choice, equal to those of other citizens, when choosing where and with whom they live. People with disabilities will have the right to direct their own life course.
http://www.hse.ie/timetomoveon/

Inclusion Ireland 2013 Position Paper on Implementing The National Disability Strategy
A National Disability Strategy (NDS) was introduced by the government in 2004, with the overall aim of supporting the equal participation of people with disabilities in society. The current Programme for Government includes a commitment to publish a realistic implementation plan for the NDS including sectoral plans with achievable timescales and

targets within available resources. The Minister for Disability, Older People, Equality & Mental Health has established a new NDS Implementation Group (NDSIG) to guide the development of this plan and monitor its subsequent implementation. Inclusion Ireland has been invited by government to contribute to the preparation and monitoring of the implementation of the NDS.

We are guided in this work through the collaboration and active involvement of our membership, which include people with intellectual disabilities; their family members; academics; community and voluntary organisations providing services and supports to people with an intellectual disability; and parent and friend groups throughout Ireland. This document summarises the views of Inclusion Ireland on the NDS and its implementation to date. It outlines the core elements of the NDS and identifies where progress has been made. It provides a summary of the changing context since the announcement of the NDS in 2004 and identifies some of the policy and legislative gaps which remain to be addressed, and identifies issues of priority.
http://www.inclusionireland.ie/sites/default/files/documents/position_paper_on_implementing_the_nds_.pdf

Advocacy Reports: National Advocacy Service
The National Advocacy Service for People with Disabilities (NAS) was launched by Minister Joan Burton TD on March 31st 2011. This report looks at the work of NAS during 2012 as it continued the process of establishing its role as an independent voice for vulnerable, isolated people with disabilities. Across the five regions NAS advocates promoted the service at community level and negotiated access to people with disabilities in residential institutions across the disability spectrum, physical, intellectual, people with mental health difficulties, people with acquired brain injury and people on the autism spectrum.

NAS and CIB have met with and built relationships with key stakeholders at local and national level and worked to build the skills and experience of staff while improving and developing the structures, policies and procedures to support a high quality service.
http://www.citizensinformationboard.ie/publications/advocacy/advocacy_index.html

Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People
Disability health services for children are organised and delivered very differently across the country because of the way they have been initiated and developed over many years. Some organisations provide services for a specific group of children who have a particular kind of disability, or they only operate in one part of the country. This means that while there are excellent services for some children in an area there may be little or none at all for others.

The aim of the '*Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People*' programme is to achieve a national unified approach to delivering disability health services, so that there is a clear pathway to the services they need for all children regardless of where they live, what school they go to or the nature of their disability or delay.

The programme's objectives are based on the recommendations of the Report of the Reference Group on Multidisciplinary Services for Children aged 5 to 18 Years completed in 2009 and approved by the HSE in 2010.
http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/disability/progressingservices/

An evaluation of personalised supports to individuals with disabilities and mental health difficulties - summary findings report

This is the summary findings report of a major study evaluating personalised supports for people with disabilities and mental health difficulties, commissioned by Genio. It is one of the most comprehensive studies of its kind in Ireland and internationally; 197 people with disabilities and mental health difficulties were included from 24 projects, as well as 102 relatives of these individuals and 187 key workers supporting the participants. The views of senior managers of each project were also sought.

http://informationhub.ie/section/disability/papers-reports/evaluation-personalised-supports-individuals-disabilities-and-0

Assistive Technology In Ireland: Research on the provision of Assistive Technology in Ireland and other countries to support independent living across the life cycle

The field of Assistive Technology (AT) concerns the practical tools that can support functional needs of people who experience difficulties linked to disability or ageing. It encompasses a broad spectrum of low tech and high tech technologies, for example, walking frames, wheelchairs, hearing aids, vision aids and computer-based communication aids. These technologies play a crucial role in enabling independent living and access to education and employment. The value for money that public expenditure on AT may represent and its potential to contribute cost-savings through reduced demand for more expensive services is increasingly being recognised.

This study examined the approaches to provision of AT in Ireland and a number of other jurisdictions with relatively well-developed systems. The scope of the study covered provision of AT to meet the needs of people with disabilities and older people across three core settings – home/community/ everyday life, employment and education. The main countries covered were Ireland, Denmark, Norway, Netherlands, Italy and the UK, as well as a more limited coverage of Germany. These were selected to reflect a number of different welfare systems and ways of funding and organising AT provision. The overall objective was to provide guidance for the future development of the Irish system in ways that would reflect established or emerging good practice in the field.

http://nda.ie/Policy-and-research/Research/Research-publications/Research-on-the-provision-of-Assistive-Technology-in-Ireland/

Access to Life: Personal Assistant Services in Ireland and Independent Living by People with Physical and Sensory Disabilities
Disability Federation of Ireland, Irish Wheelchair Association and The Center for Independent Living, 2014

'Social justice' means ensuring that everyone, no matter who they are, or where they live, has the opportunity to develop, be self-determining and participate positively in the community. The barriers that deny social justice for people with disabilities are well-recognised – ignorant attitudes, inaccessible facilities, inappropriate and inadequate services and supports. Our Taoiseach and Tánaiste acknowledged these barriers when, late in the 2011 election campaign, they each named disability as their key social policy priority.

The opportunity to become self-determining and a full citizen is about ensuring that the person with impairments has access to supports that enable them to take charge of their life, to engage with the world as they see fit. The Personal Assistant (PA) service, pioneered by

a group of individuals with physical disabilities two decades ago, is an empowering initiative, giving the person with disabilities control over any assistance they need to go about daily life. Those pioneers pre-empted the Government's policy objective outlined in the National Disability Strategy, of "maximising independence and self-reliance and integration in the mainstream".

This research on the PA service contributes to DFI's own mission, which, is "to act as an advocate for the full and equal inclusion of people with disabilities and disabling conditions in all aspects of their lives". We are acutely aware of the serious difficulties imposed on people with disabilities by the serial cutbacks in the deficit reduction programme. Since an effective Personal Assistant service is a critical part of the social justice infrastructure, as it enables people with disabilities to participate in society as citizens, the way the PA service has fared is an important indicator of policy performance. This research looks at the situation of the PA service today in Ireland, particularly from the perspective of those using the service, the Leaders.
http://www.disability-federation.ie/index.php?uniqueID=10810

Understanding Emotional, Psychological and Mental Health Disability in Ireland: Factors Facilitating Social Inclusion, 2014
This report uses the data from the National Disability Survey 2006 to look at people with enduring emotional, psychological and mental health disability, and the extent to which those with this condition may have other forms of disability also. It highlights the interlinkages between physical disability and mental ill-health, illustrating the importance of physical disability services supporting people in relation to mental health, and of mental health services linking in with supports for physical disability. People with mental health conditions are less likely to be currently working than the population at large but, most have worked in the past. The research highlighted stigma as a significant barrier for those with mental health conditions. The research was funded by the National Disability Authority, and conducted by the Economic and Social Research Institute - lead author Dorothy Watson.
http://nda.ie/News-and-Events/News/Understanding-Emotional-Psychological-and-Mental-Health-disability-in-Ireland-Factors-Facilitating-Social-Inclusion.html

Independent and Community Living - the views of people with disabilities, families and frontline staff
The aim of this consultation was to elicit the views of people with intellectual disability, physical and sensory disabilities, family members, advocates and frontline service providers on options for Independent Living, community participation and quality of daily life for people with disabilities in Ireland that will maximise their independence, choice, control of their daily lives and community participation. The consultation aimed at hearing the participants' perspectives of the barriers and challenges, and what might facilitate achievement of these goals. The NDA also consulted participants on emerging policy proposals from the Department of Health and Children as part of the value for money and policy review of disability services.
http://nda.ie/Publications/Health/Independent-and-Community-Living/

Report on the Practice of Assessment of Need under Part 2 of the Disability Act 2005
In 2011, this project was a partnership between the National Disability Authority, the Department of Health and the Health Service Executive.

Children born after June 2002 are eligible, under the Disability Act 2005, for an independent assessment of health and disability support needs arising from a disability. In the light of concerns set out in a HSE report that the assessment process was lengthy and was absorbing significant resources, this study examined how the process functioned on the ground.
http://nda.ie/Publications/Disabilty-Supports/Report-on-the-Practice-of-Assessment-of-Need-under-Part-2-of-the-Disability-Act-2005.html

Supported Accommodation Services for People with Intellectual Disabilities
A review of models and instruments used to measure quality of life in various settings
In 2005 the National Disability Authority commissioned a consortium of researchers from Ireland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America to examine the quality and costs of supported accommodation for people with intellectual disabilities.
This report summarises:

- A review of deinstitutionalisation and post-deinstitutionalisation research conducted between 1995 and 2005, and
- An examination of the instruments used to measure outcomes for people with intellectual disabilities who receive residential support services

http://nda.ie/Publications/Environment-Housing/Housing-Publications/Supported-Accommodation-Services-for-People-with-Intellectual-Disabilities/Supported-Accommodation-Services-for-People-with-Intellectual-Disabilities.html

Building For Everyone
The 2002 version of Building For Everyone has been replaced by the 2012 version 'Building for Everyone - a Universal Design approach', available at www.universaldesign.ie. This version is available for reference purpose only.
http://nda.ie/Publications/Environment-Housing/Building-For-Everyone/

A Commissioning Framework for Disability Services
In 2011, the National Disability Authority undertook a consultation exercise to help develop advice on a framework for commissioning disability services. The traditional way of funding disability services in Ireland has been through block grants to disability service providers. Commissioning is an alternative way of procuring services, where the funder specifies what services they require, and invites service providers to meet those specifications.
http://nda.ie/Publications/Health/

Justice & Safeguards
The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities sets out important provisions on equal recognition of people with disabilities before the law, equal legal protection, equal access to justice, and freedom from violence, exploitation and abuse. Research in Ireland and internationally shows that people with disabilities are more likely to experience crime.
http://nda.ie/Publications/Justice-and-Safeguarding/

Policy Reform Options for Community Organizations to Consider
Recommendations are presented for the federal government and provincial/territorial

governments. As well, a series of recommendations speak to cooperation among governments in Canada.

Focus of policy reform options

- Poverty and exclusion of Canadians with disabilities
- Role of income security programs and tax measures
- Legal protections, human rights and court decisions
- Relations between governments, and between governments and societal organizations
- Public participation and engagement in policy development

http://www.ccdonline.ca/en/socialpolicy/policy-reform/policy-reform-options-for-community-organizations

Agencies contributing to this publication:

In Control – UK

Manawanui InCharge – New Zealand

Ministry of Health – New Zealand

National Disability Insurance Agency – Australia

Government of Western Australian

Bespoke Lifestyles – Australia

University of New South Wales

Belonging Matters Australia