



Safeguarding and personal budgets

Work being taken forward by In Control and NSPCC

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producing a useful resource

- ...not too big
- covering the questions and challenges you have
- answering some of the sticking points
- maximising potential of personal budgets whilst minimising risk
- a chance to be involved



...impact of budget cuts means evidence of local authorities putting budget before child protection

...more children 'in need' less children 'at risk'

...in such a climate and with such evidence how do we continue to promote families having control over personal budgets and support and not take similar restrictive approach dominated by a belief that this will help us manage budgets

maximising potential

- child and family centred
- consistent and skilled support
- participation in the local community
- visibility
- knowledge
- honesty

whilst minimising risk

- no compromise

But.....

where is the balance between no compromise and restrictions which are more about withdrawal of control.....

...too frequently we hear of choice and control being restricted for 'safeguarding reasons' when it is clear that the reasons for restrictions being made are more linked to a resistance to give away control and a perception that this will increase cost and challenge

what do you hear about personal budgets and safeguarding?

- in groups discuss all the different times you hear safeguarding being discussed when thinking about personal budgets
- keep a list of the different examples....

myths and reality.....

- in almost every example we are about to hear there will be elements of truth and elements of myth.....
- So what is a myth and what is real?

what would help you?

- give clear messages to the people you work with
- take a positive approach to minimising risk whilst making best use of personal budgets
- keep bureaucracy to a minimum – focusing on the essential and being proportionate

a practical example – why wait for the panel to say ‘no’?

- Including work and discussion on risk in the planning process
 - how do we manage risks?
 - do we need to use some of a personal budget to support managing risk?
 - include actions in the plan (does your EHC Plan have space for this)
 - promotes a positive approach to individual risks alongside information in local offer

Risk	Low probability	Medium probability	High probability
Low Impact			
Medium Impact			
High Impact			

- Useful approach to discussion with families – retaining a focus on honesty and transparency
- Safeguarding is all our responsibility – not just social workers....key workers, teachers, SENCO's, nurses can all have this discussion

what next?

- We will be looking for examples of practice as we develop the resource over the next three months
- We will share a draft version with all members and ask for comment and feedback in late August / early September
- Further information – nic.crosby@in-control.org.uk