The Individual Budget Pilots: The Unfinished Business

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The IB pilots - unfinished business 1

- Extended transition/transformation
  - Resources tied up, extended double funding
  - Changing culture, systems and practices

- Limited follow-up – different ‘steady state’ outcomes?

- Implementation shortcomings:
  - Independent brokerage/advocacy
  - IB support services
  - Monitoring and review – financial and personal risk
The IB pilots - unfinished business 2

- Impact of uncertainty – the problems with pilots
  - Risk aversion?
  - Reliance on conventional deployment mechanisms

- Developing RAS

- Shaping the market

- Is the model appropriate for older people?
Integrating funding streams

- Supporting People – most success
- Integrated Community Equipment Services – partly successful
- Access to Work – different eligibility criteria
- Disabled Facilities Grant – capital funding
- Independent Living Fund – most disappointment
IBs and the NHS

- Context – extensive partnerships with PCTs and providers
- ‘Missed opportunity’
- NHS continuing care – the risks to personalised support
- IBs and mental health
  - Integrated budgets and services
  - Implementation challenges
  - Blurred boundaries – ‘health’ vs ‘social’ services
  - ‘Cost-shunting’
- NHS personalisation pilots – will they build on social care experiences?
Can IBs remain cost-neutral in the long term?

- Allocating resources – underlying principles
- Integrating funding streams
  - Future of ILF – critical importance
- Increased demand for IBs
  - Mental health service users
- Managing ‘winners and losers’
- New market conditions
  - From bulk purchase to individual buyers
  - Additional transaction costs and risks for purchasers
Issues for policy debate

- Resource allocation – underlying principles
- Funding streams – personal budgets (social care only) or individual budgets?
- FACS and charging policies
- The legitimate ‘boundaries’ of adult social care funding
Practice issues

- Managing change
- Managing risk
- Brokerage, budget management support
- Shaping the market
- New ways of deploying IBs