
Resource allocation for disability

- NDA feasibility study

Eithne Fitzgerald

Head of Policy and Research

National Disability Authority



Údarás Náisiúnta Míchumais
National Disability Authority

What I will cover

- Value for Money and Policy Report
- Resource Allocation systems
- NDA study
- Next steps

Value for Money and Policy Review

Resource allocation recommendations - 1

Resource allocation framework with

- standard assessment of service user needs
 - way to cost those needs
 - identify how much will be met
 - identify quantum and cost of services received
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Value for Money and Policy Review

Resource allocation recommendations - 2

Move to model based on

- service user needs
- amount of resources available
- framework for distribution of available resources to meet assessed need fairly
- systems for eligibility and prioritisation

Value for Money and Policy Review

Resource allocation recommendations - 3

- end budgets based on last year's
- fund people not places
- programme budget basis, where objectives, outputs and outcomes of each element of budget is specified

Value for Money and Policy Review

Resource allocation recommendations - 4

- Build on NDA research and VFM review, move to new model over medium term
- Fair, transparent, allow innovation and flexibility
- Address exceptional needs
- Take into account any overarching resource allocation model across social care
- Adjust funding via Service Level Agreements

Value for Money and Policy Review

Individualised services recommendations - 1

- Move to person-centred service model
- Unit costing the basis
- Forms of individualised budgeting
 - Money follows the person
 - Mix of supports from different agencies
 - Personal budget administered by individual

Value for Money and Policy Review

Individualised services recommendations - 2

- Transfer of choice and control
- First pilot, test and establish alternative service options
- Analyse benefits in Irish context
- Set up adequate financial management, resource allocation and governance structures

Resource allocation systems

- Needs assessment process
- Standardised formula to convert points to money
- Can be used as basis for
 - resource allocation within agencies
 - funding as between agencies
 - personal budgets

Benefits of personalised funding

- More efficient and equitable allocation of scarce resources
- Enables individual self-direction
- Enhanced service quality
- Potential to leverage service innovations
- Potential for cost savings

NDA resource allocation study

- Literature review of tools used for individual resource allocation
 - UK – RAS 5 developed by In Control
 - US – Supports Intensity Scale, developed by AAIDD
 - Phase 1 – field trial of questionnaires
 - Phase 2 – costs – from points scores to €
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Supports Intensity Scale

- Measures support requirements across 57 life activities and 28 behavioural and medical areas (frequency, amount, and type of support)
 - Raw scores translated into where on percentage distribution you sit
 - Cost formula derived using SIS scores and other variables including amount of support at home
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In Control resource allocation tools

- Simpler, shorter assessment tool
 - Variations used across different UK councils
 - 'pounds for points' formula used to determine budgets
 - Indicative budget followed by individual plan
 - Final budget
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SIS and RAS 5 domains

SIS

- Personal care
- Activities of daily living
- Communication
- Work and community life
- Behavioural support
- Making decisions
- Friends and relationships
- Education

RAS 5

- Personal care
- Activities of daily living
- Communication
- Work and community life
- Behavioural support
- Making decisions

NDA study

- 15 interviewers trained
- 112 pairs of SIS/RAS interviews completed between February and April this year
- Adults under 65, male/female, range of disabilities, living arrangements, urban/rural
- Anonymised scores and feedback sheets from all participants independently evaluated

Preliminary findings

- Both assessment tools highly acceptable
- Small tweaks needed
- SIS took twice as long, gave more complex information
- But scores on both very highly correlated

~~How challenging behaviour is scored~~

Next steps

- Single assessment tool for older persons – InterRai – examine its disability assessment tools
- Separate systems or single system to allocate funds, assess needs and eligibility for services
- Carry out costing element of study

Conclusion

- Current allocation system needs to change
- Money should match people's needs
- NDA research providing the evidence base for choice of system
- Transparency, fairness, choice

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