

Integrated Impact Assessment – Summary Report

Each of the numbered sections below must be completed
Please state if the IIA is interim or final

1. Title of proposal

Self-Directed Support Policy for the City of Edinburgh Council

2. What will change as a result of this proposal?

Edinburgh Children services and HSCP have jointly implemented self-directed support to enhance the personalisation of care services, allowing individuals greater choice and control over their support arrangements.

We have embraced the principles of self-directed support to comply with the Social Care (Self-Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013. The aim was to provide individuals, particularly those with disabilities or long-term health conditions, with more autonomy in how they manage their care and support services.

The introduction of an SDS Policy and accompanying documents which will provide assurance to Council and HSCP colleagues and Edinburgh citizens of the Council's commitment to the Social Care (Self Directed Support) (Scotland) 2013 Act.

The Policy Objectives are to:

- To empower individuals to have greater control over their care.
- To improve the quality and relevance of the services provided.
- To promote independence and community engagement

Potential Benefits include:

- Increased autonomy and choice for individuals
- Improved satisfaction with services
- Better alignment of services with individual needs

The policy will mitigate potential risks which could include:

- Inequities in access to self-directed support
- Variability in service quality
- Financial risks for individuals if not well managed

Training: All Staff to receive training on supporting individuals in managing their SDS options as part of essential learning requirements.

Resources: we are developing informative materials to help users understand their choices under SDS.

The policy will continue to be updated in line with the Scottish government improvement plan 2023 – 2027 and revised practice standards.

3. Briefly describe public involvement in this proposal to date and planned

Conducting a policy impact assessment for self-directed support (SDS) involves evaluating the effects of the policy on various stakeholders and the broader community. Self-directed support typically refers to approaches that give individuals more control over the services they receive, particularly in areas like health and social care.

There has been an SDS engagement session on 6th December 2023, with a following IIA session on 13th March 2024 and 2nd August 2024.

The event on the 6th of December used a world café approach to explore the principles of SDS, how these were being implemented in Edinburgh and what needed to change. The event generated a range of priorities from all those in attendance. This was used to inform the policy together with Government legislation and practice standards.

Stakeholders engaged with the policy have included individuals and groups affected by the policy, such as:

- Individuals receiving support which included people with lived experience, families and caregivers
- Service providers (public, private, and non-profit)
- Local authorities and government
- Advocacy groups and community organisations

The policy enables the Scottish government Self-directed support plan to be implemented. More than a hundred individuals and organisations responded to the consultation that informed the government plan.

The Policy attempts to reflect some of the most commonly expressed views about what needs to happen to improve SDS, and what needs to be prioritised.

The responses to the consultation highlight several issues that will be key to improvement:

- ensuring people with lived experience are involved in planning services
- ensuring people who need social care support are informed about SDS and understand their rights
- ensuring access to support, including independent support and advice throughout the SDS process
- making sure SDS is included in social workers' education and ongoing training
- ensuring leaders are informed about SDS and subscribe to the values and principles of SDS

4. Is the proposal considered strategic under the Fairer Scotland Duty?

Yes

5. Date of IIA

Engagement event 6th December 2023

Friday 2 August 2024 - *An Interim IIA was also undertaken on 13 March 2024*


6. Who was present at the IIA? Identify facilitator, lead officer, report writer and any employee representative present and main stakeholder (e.g. Council, NHS)

Name	Job Title	Date of IIA training
Nichola Dadds (facilitator)	Operations Manager, Children and Justice Services, CEC	23/06/2021
Rose Howley	CSWO and Service Director Performance, Quality and Improvement	
Kathy Henwood	Service Director, Children's and Justice Services, CEC	
Janine McGowan	Head of Children's Services, CEC	
Michelle Kirkpatrick	Senior Manager, Children's Disability Services, CEC	
Matt Kennedy	Head of Service Assessment and Care Management, HSCP	
Catriona Grant	Consultant Social Worker, Parents Advocacy & Rights (PAR)	
E. McK	SDS Service User	
C. W	SDS Service User/ Parent Carer	
Linda Black	Kindred Advocacy Scotland	

7. Evidence available at the time of the IIA


Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected and to the environmental impacts of your proposal
Data on populations in need	Population and demographics - Edinburgh	The policy provides the Council's commitment to providing SDS support for those who are eligible. It is estimated that around 5-7% of children in the UK have some form of disability. Applying this figure to the child population of Edinburgh (approximately 80,000 to 100,00

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected and to the environmental impacts of your proposal
		<p>children) it can be inferred that there may be around 4,000 to 7,000 children with disabilities in the city. Not all children will require assessment and support from a social worker.</p> <p>Children with disabilities may have a range of conditions, including but not limited to: Physical Disabilities, Sensory Disabilities, including visual and hearing impairments. Learning Disabilities. Mental Health Conditions: Anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues that can affect children.</p> <p>Edinburgh offers various services and support for children with disabilities, including: Education Support: Specialized educational provisions, including additional support needs in schools. Health Services: Access to paediatricians, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, and other healthcare professionals. Support from social work services, including assessments, care plans, and family support services. Community Services: Access to recreational activities, social groups, and support networks tailored for children with disabilities and their families.</p> <p>Edinburgh City Council and various local organizations often implement initiatives to support children with disabilities, focusing on: Inclusion: Promoting inclusive practices in schools and community settings. Accessibility: Improving access to facilities and services for children with disabilities. Parent and Family Support: Providing resources, training, and networks for families of children with disabilities.</p>


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		<p>Edinburgh’s population is expected to increase from 527,620 (mid-2020) to 575,576 by 2037.</p> <p>The average age of the population of City of Edinburgh is projected to increase as the baby boomer generation ages and more people are expected to live longer. Estimates of future numbers of older people are sourced from National Records of Scotland (NRS) population projections for local authority areas. The number of people aged 85+ living in Edinburgh is projected to increase by 80% between 2018 and 2043.</p> <p>Edinburgh will also see an increase of those with complex and long-term care needs within the adult population, driving a growing need for specialist resources and an impact on future adult service provision. Edinburgh is estimated to have 30,735 adults aged 16-64 with moderate to severe disabilities.</p>																		
Data on service uptake/access	<p>Currently 471 children receive SDS packages.</p> <p> SDS uptake 19 May 2023.xlsx</p> <p>Learning Disability Statistics Scotland last year from EHSCP</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="513 1653 860 1843"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type of disability</th> <th>2022/23</th> <th>2023/24</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LD</td> <td>1,459</td> <td>1,507</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ASD</td> <td>85</td> <td>110</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LD and ASD</td> <td>157</td> <td>207</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not Known</td> <td>18</td> <td>195</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>1,719</td> <td>2,019</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Type of disability	2022/23	2023/24	LD	1,459	1,507	ASD	85	110	LD and ASD	157	207	Not Known	18	195	Total	1,719	2,019	<p>The uptake of SDS in Edinburgh after an assessment of need has been gradually increasing as awareness grows among service users and providers.</p> <p>The figures represent the children who receive a self-directed support service.</p> <p>The figures also represent purchased services for people with learning disabilities in Edinburgh through the EHSCP. There could be some people receiving more than one service.</p> <p>Challenges to Uptake involve awareness and understanding of SDS options can be a barrier for some individuals. Some potential users may feel overwhelmed by the responsibility that comes with managing their own care budgets</p>
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		Variability in service availability and quality can influence decisions around SDS.
Data on socio-economic disadvantage e.g. low income, low wealth, material deprivation, area deprivation.	Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Poverty commission Edinburgh publications. PHS Child Poverty Report - 2020. PHS Child Poverty and Health briefing - 2019.	<p>Women are more likely to be the carer identified and will have the burden of family responsibility. Often if there is a lack of resource, waiting lists or reduction in package, they will be left with further caring responsibilities.</p> <p>Guidance and training need to assess the abilities of the carers to make sure accessibility doesn't exclude anyone.</p>
Data on equality outcomes	equalities-and-diversity-framework-2021-25 (edinburgh.gov.uk) 2022 Survey report. Tackling social inequalities report 2020. Inquiry into health and wellbeing of children and young people 2021. Annual report 2022-23.	not being able to get a service is a massive issue, E noted they are in the minority of having good quality service since 2006, but there is also people who have been using a service which has suddenly gone, not the Council's fault, but it gets into an antagonistic atmosphere through frustration. That lack of service comes in at various stages.
Research/literature evidence	The Promise SDS Scotland post legislative scrutiny	<p>Ethos to SDS is about being clear about what is available and be able to give people choice and empower them to make decisions about their own life.</p> <p>The Scottish Government self - directed Support Plan has arisen out of the work of the National SDS Collaboration, which first came together in April 2022. The National SDS Collaboration includes the Scottish Government, COSLA, individuals, and independent support and disabled peoples' organisations from across the social care sector, all</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected and to the environmental impacts of your proposal
		<p>of whom have a stake in the successful delivery and implementation of self-directed support. The aim of the National Collaboration is to ensure that Scottish Government policy around SDS is informed by a wide range of people including those who have lived experience of SDS, or who are involved in delivering it. The National SDS Collaboration will continue to provide a forum for stakeholder discussion of the implementation and evaluation of the Plan.</p>
Public/patient/client experience information	<p>SDS Policy Engagement Event - <i>Flipchart notes taken from engagement event in December 2023</i></p>	<p>The landscape and legislation is complex and easy read guide with key points is crucial to help navigate through.</p> <p>Complaining can be exhausting, particularly when you have a complex disability. It would be beneficial to have a step before this as this is often what families are looking for, just an explanation or clarity about why a decision is made.</p> <p>Not always given the same response, this can be confusing.</p> <p>There is no whole family approach, noted that three different assessments were needed for one family.</p> <p>It can be difficult when you have a SDS budget to match it with what is available.</p> <p>Understanding options and what information is provided to know the differences can be confusing, there is scope for an organisation to pull together what is available and help navigate people through this.</p> <p>Legislation is complex and there is a need for an easy read guide with key points and pointers for users.</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected and to the environmental impacts of your proposal
Evidence of inclusive engagement of people who use the service and involvement findings	SDS policy Engagement event  SDS policy engagement event - fl	Top priorities from engagement event Support is a right not a privilege Being listened to Regular Reviews People & Families are experts in their lives Open honest & transparent Value meaningful participation Choosing rather prescribed Trust, power, creative, sharing Awareness Clarity Information Communication Relationship based love Budget pressures & meeting needs Skilled workforce
Evidence of unmet need	VOCAL Edinburgh Carers Survey sds-improvement-plan-2023-2027/ .	Support from national organisations to help people navigate through the process and signpost. Accompanying procedures and associated documents need to provide clarity, timescales, signposting. Policy links into what we have already and to support facilitating the range of choice and children’s rights. Ability to have informed choice and a staffing team to support that. Need to reflect more on children and families and applications of this, will need to make sure that is more pronounced and included within the accompanying documents
Good practice guidelines	SDS Toolkit SDS Factsheet Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)	Training is key for colleagues who work with families so they can understand and communicate better particularly around resource availability. Framework of standards and the policy is setting out that we are committed to these standards. Critical and respite care do we need to tell the people of Edinburgh what

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected and to the environmental impacts of your proposal
	<p>Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 (legislation.gov.uk)</p> <p>Scot Gov SDS Scotland Act 2013-</p>  <p>self-directed-support -framework-standard:</p> <p>https://www.gov.scot/publications/statutory-guidance-accompany-social-care-self-directed-support-scotland-act-2013-2/</p>	<p>the need is that triggers and SDS assessment – who are the people that can get SDS, need to be clear about that.</p> <p>Need to reflect more on children and families and applications of this, will need to make sure that is more pronounced and included within the accompanying documents Collaboration across the HSCP and Children’s Services is key</p> <p>Policy doesn’t cover everything; it is a commitment to implement legislation and there will be procedures that are specific to Children’s Services and HSCP and also accompanying training, processes and guidance for colleagues</p>
Carbon emissions generated/reduced data	<p>Sustainable travel</p> <p>Edinburgh - getting around disabled accessibility</p>	<p>Edinburgh is a complex city, city centre is difficult to park and access, and city development might impact on that access for those with disabilities or those providing services.</p>
Environmental data	<p>https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/download/15501/edinburgh-by-numbers-accessible-version</p> <p>Edinburgh statistics - employment unemployment and economic activity</p>	<p>Need more information on whether Edinburgh’s job market is a positive or negative around challenges to access services and what can be done to reduce the inability to access SDS activities.</p> <p>Poor transport can impact delivery of service and those living in city centre might be impacted to traffic and parking controls.</p>
Risk from cumulative impacts		<p>Budget restraints and applicability will have financial impact and needs to be kept in consideration. Substantial and Critical – need to strengthen position and utilise and maximise what is available in the community. The policy links in with Government Standards, however there is tension with financial commitment. Budgets</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected and to the environmental impacts of your proposal
		will need to have manager oversight to ensure cost effective best options for families.
Other (please specify)	 self-directed-support -improvement-plan-2	This is the Self-directed support improvement plan for 2023- 2027 which we will be working through within timescales.
Additional evidence required		

8. In summary, what impacts were identified and which groups will they affect?

Equality, Health and Wellbeing and Human Rights	Affected populations
<p>Positive Policy statement is clear and sets out what it is. Procedures in both HSCP and Children’s Service that goes alongside it is very clear about eligibility and accessing SDS. This is very clear about what is a S23, S12, what an Assessment of Need is and accessing SDS spend.</p>	Those with protected characteristics who are eligible for SDS
<p>Negative Need to make a clearer statement about who can access SDS and make sure training is available for all colleagues, so a consistent message is given.</p> <p>Need to consider a whole family approach, particularly when there are disabilities and consider who we can support people to navigate the SDS landscape.</p> <p>Legislation is complex and there is a need for an easy read guide with key points and pointers for users. It is difficult to navigate and can cause issues for those trying to find the right supports.</p> <p>Edinburgh offers various resources to help individual and will review how we are able to support individuals navigate the SDS process.</p>	

Equality, Health and Wellbeing and Human Rights	Affected populations
Local advocacy groups may also provide assistance and guidance to individuals considering self-directed support.	

Environment and Sustainability including climate change emissions and impacts	Affected populations
Positive Policy and accompanying documents will be clear about commissioned support within local community through the third sector.	Those with protected characteristics who are eligible for SDS
Negative Edinburgh is a city with a competitive jobs market and high cost of living which might impact on availability and competitiveness. Poor transport can impact delivery of service and those living in city centre might be impacted to traffic and parking controls.	

Economic	Affected populations
Positive Eligibility and four options included in the policy is strengthened and gives clarity about what the SDS options are. Commitment to engagement and participation is included.	Those with protected characteristics who are eligible for SDS
Negative Where do we meet unmet need, how can this be communicated better to those impacted by decision making following assessment. More opportunities needed to ensure people can spend their budget as not always possible, sometimes expectations are not met, and Council has a responsibility to stimulate the market and work with providers to make sure the outcomes are the best. Whilst specific and up- to date figures regarding the uptake of self- directed support may not be readily available with the current operating model. We are actively promoting SDS and working towards increasing its adoption	

- 9. Is any part of this policy/ service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors and if so how will equality, human rights including children's rights, environmental and sustainability issues be addressed?**

No

- 10. Consider how you will communicate information about this policy/ service change to children and young people and those affected by sensory impairment, speech impairment, low level literacy or numeracy, learning difficulties or English as a second language? Please provide a summary of the communications plan.**

In brief by using a range of accessible communication methods and actively engaging with children, young people, and their families, the communication plan will aim to ensure that all individuals, regardless of their abilities or language skills, can understand and access information about self-directed support.

This inclusive approach fosters empowerment and autonomy among young people and their families.

Communication Methods may include:

- Visual Aids: images, symbols, and infographics to represent ideas visually, making them more accessible to those with low literacy skills.
- Multimedia Resources: Create videos or animations that explain SDS in simple language, using sign language interpretation for hearing-impaired audiences.
- Easy Read Materials: Develop easy-read guides that use simple language and short sentences, with accompanying visuals to enhance understanding.
- Workshops and Interactive Sessions: Organise workshops where children and young people can interact with facilitators who can explain SDS in person, using hands-on activities and role-playing to illustrate concepts.
- Bilingual Resources: Provide materials in multiple languages to support English as a second language speakers, ensuring translation is culturally sensitive and accurate.
- Support Tools: communication devices or apps that assist with speech for those with speech impairments, facilitating their ability to ask questions and engage.

Engagement Strategies can include:

- Peer Support Groups: spaces where young people can share experiences and learn from each other, fostering a sense of community and support.
- Family Involvement: family information sessions to ensure caregivers understand SDS and can help convey this information to their children.

- Collaboration with Schools and Community Organisations: Partner with schools, special education programs, and community organisations to reach children and young people effectively.

Feedback Mechanisms:

- Surveys and Questionnaires: Distribute simple, accessible surveys to gather feedback on the effectiveness of the communication methods used and areas for improvement.
- Follow-Up Sessions: Conduct follow-up discussions with participants to understand their needs better and adjust communication strategies accordingly.

Evaluation:

- Monitor the reach and impact of communication efforts through attendance at workshops, engagement in feedback sessions, and the number of inquiries about SDS following campaigns.
- Adjust communication strategies based on feedback and evaluation results to improve future outreach efforts.

11. Is the plan, programme, strategy or policy likely to result in significant environmental effects, either positive or negative? If yes, it is likely that a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) will be required and the impacts identified in the IIA should be included in this. See section 2.10 in the Guidance for further information.

N/A

12. Additional Information and Evidence Required

None identified other than using the governments improvement plan.

13. Specific to this IIA only, what recommended actions have been, or will be, undertaken and by when? (these should be drawn from 7 – 11 above) Please complete:

Specific actions (as a result of the IIA which may include financial implications, mitigating actions and risks of cumulative impacts)	Who will take them forward (name and job title)	Deadline for progressing	Review date
Implementation plan across HSCP and Children's Services is required following on from the Policy to ensure all supporting documents are clear and concise work colleagues and service users.	Heads of service across Childrens and HSCP supported by Quality assurance manager	Prior to roll out of training (by end of year)	Annually in line with policy review

Specific actions (as a result of the IIA which may include financial implications, mitigating actions and risks of cumulative impacts)	Who will take them forward (name and job title)	Deadline for progressing	Review date
Development of an easy read guide which includes clear pointers for users to include details of where you can access services, what is available.	SDS working group	Prior to roll out of training (by end of year)	
Link to new Legislation which came in this year around children's rights needs to be included.	Michelle Kirkpatrick (CS)	Prior to publication of document	N/A
Unmet need of role of carer and support for navigating through SDS to be explored and included in the implementation plan to ensure we give colleagues the tools to communicate better to those impacted by assessment decisions	Heads of service in Childrens and HSCP supported by QA manager and Comms team	During training and roll out of Policy	N/A
Participation Strategy to be progressed alongside partnership model.	Heads of service in Childrens and HSCP supported by QA manager	On completion of implementation plan, by end of year	N/A
Support and training for colleagues to enable them to implement the policy, adhere to accompanying documents and be able to deliver information to service users that might be difficult around assessments and eligibility	Learning and Development and SDS working group	On completion of implementation plan, by end of year	N/A

14. Are there any negative impacts in section 8 for which there are no identified mitigating actions?

potential risks could include:

- Inequities in access to self-directed support
- Variability in service quality
- Financial risks for individuals if not well managed

However, there are no identified negative impacts that are unable to be mitigated.

15. How will you monitor how this proposal affects different groups, including people with protected characteristics?

By systematically assessing the impact of a self-directed support policy, stakeholders can better understand its implications and work towards improving outcomes for all involved. This implementation process and communication plan is

crucial for ensuring that the policy meets its objectives and serves the best interests of individuals and communities effectively.

The metrics for evaluating the policy's success post-implementation will include:

- Satisfaction levels among service users
- Changes in service uptake
- Health and well-being indicators
- Cost-effectiveness analyses

We are continuing to improve our quality assurance and establishing mechanisms for continuous feedback and evaluation, allowing for regular updates to the policy based on user experiences and outcomes.

We are continuing to learn from what advocacy support and complaints are telling us to improve service provision.

16. Sign off by:

Name: Rose Howley, Chief Social Work Officer and Service Director, Quality Performance and Regulation.

Date 23/09/2024

17. Publication

Completed and signed IIAs should be sent to:

integratedimpactassessments@edinburgh.gov.uk to be published on the Council website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/impactassessments

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board/Health and Social Care

sarah.bryson@edinburgh.gov.uk to be published at

www.edinburghhsc.scot/the-ijb/integrated-impact-assessments/