

Personal Health Budgets – West Suffolk CCG and Ipswich and East Suffolk CCG

As part of their work to implement personal health budgets across Suffolk, West Suffolk CCG and Ipswich and East Suffolk CCG have developed a pilot to commission personal health budgets based on insights gained from support plans co-designed by service users and independent support planners from the voluntary and community sector.

A newly formed peer group will work with independent support planners from iCentric, Suffolk Family Carers and Suffolk Independent Living to develop personal care plans. The service user feedback and insights obtained from this pilot will then be used to co-create the local framework for personal health budgets rolled out across the locality. The peer group includes older people and people with physical and learning impairments.

Background

Local families had expressed the view that nurse co-ordinators were not always best placed to co-create their personal health budgets or understand their wide ranging service needs.

Aims

The project aims to:

- Offer patients and carers choice and control so they are empowered to take charge of their healthcare
- Allow patients and carers to independently select who they want to work with to co-create their personal health budget support plan
- Educate healthcare professionals about the benefits of individual participation through direct engagement between GPs, nurses and commissioners with members of the peer group
- Trial and evaluate the use of independent support planners