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Direct Payments Survey



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Dear Direct Payments Co-ordinator,

The enclosed questionnaire has been sent to you on behalf of the Direct Payments Survey Group.

Researching the implementation of direct payments and the experience of direct payment service users has been given high priority nationally. This unique survey is being carried out by three leading research groups and is backed by the Department of the Health and the ESRC. Information is being requested from all local authorities in the UK and all organisations in the UK providing support to direct payment users.

Support to users is crucial to the provision of direct payments. Lack of information on the arrangements for direct payments support nationally has so far prevented systematic evaluation. This survey aims to:

- Provide a national map of resources being supplied to supporting direct payments users
- Assess and determine the necessary conditions to support implementation of direct payments
- Explore the variations in the way that direct payments are structured and their possible impacts
- Consider the variations in the costs of supporting direct payment users and possible explanations for this including the quality and scope of the support that is being provided
- Identify best practice in the provision of direct payments support
- Explore the impact of variations in local resources on both levels of uptake and intensity of direct payments care provision, taking into account interrelated factors as described above

The survey will also inform the work being carried out by the three research teams (which is described briefly overleaf).

We would be grateful if you would complete the questionnaire and return it in the Freepost envelope enclosed by 10 November 2004. If you need further copies of either questionnaire you can download them from the survey web pages at www.pssru.ac.uk/dps.htm. If you have questions about the survey or completing the questionnaire, please contact XXX Tel. XX E-mail XX . [Contact name to be a representative from each team depending upon allocation of sites].

None of the information you provide will be shared with any other sources or for any other purposes. The names of local authorities will not be disclosed in

The Direct Payments Survey has ethical approval from the Research Ethics Committees of the London School of Economics and Political Science and the University of Glasgow. Approval has also been granted by the Association of Directors of Social Services.

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the reporting of data. Local authorities will be described by geographical location, local authority type and political control (e.g. a Labour run unitary authority in Greater London; a Conservative run rural county council in North West England.) Such descriptions will not be used in cases where they would allow particular local authorities to become identified.

Data from the survey will be analysed during 2005. Results will be published later in the year and made available to respondents. In some cases you may be asked by one of the three research teams if you would be prepared to take part in follow-up telephone interviews and/or further case-study work.

With thanks and best wishes,

The Direct Payments Survey team:

Ms Vanessa Davey, Professor Colin Barnes, Mr José-Luis Fernández, Ms Debbie Jolly, Dr Jeremy Kendall, Professor Martin Knapp, Dr Geof Mercer, Dr Charlotte Pearson, Dr Mark Priestley, Professor Sheila Riddell, Dr Paul Swift and Ms Nicola Vick

The Direct Payments Survey National Direct Payments Projects

Disabled People and Direct Payments: A UK Comparative Study

Two-year study funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

Dr Charlotte Pearson; Professor Sheila Riddell; Professor Colin Barnes; Ms Debbie Jolly; Dr Geof Mercer; Dr Mark Priestley

www.leeds.ac.uk/disability-studies/projects/ukdirectpayments.htm

An Evaluation of the Impact of the Social Care Modernisation Programme on the Implementation of Direct Payments

Three-year study funded by the Department of Health as part of the Modernising Adult Social Care (MASC) research initiative.

Ms Nicola Vick; Dr Paul Swift; Dr Perri 6; Ms Roseanne Tobin; Dr Helen Spandler

www.healthadvisoryservice.org/special_projects/direct_payments.htm

Evaluation of the Direct Payments Development Fund Implementation

Two and a half year study funded by the Department of Health focusing specifically on direct payments to older people and mental health service users.

Ms Vanessa Davey; Professor Martin Knapp; Mr José-Luis Fernández; Dr Jeremy Kendall

www.lse.ac.uk/collections/LSEHealthAndSocialCare/researchProjects/evaluationOfSocialCare.htm

PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

