

## Learning from the Individual Budgets for Families with Disabled Children Pilots to inform future planning

Graham Thom and Meera Prabhakar, SQW  
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# Introduction

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- Who we are
- The IB pilots
- Emerging findings
- What next for the pilots
- Wider implications and challenges

# An introduction to SQW

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- About the firm
  - Leading provider of social and economic research services in the UK with five offices
  - Work with a wide range of clients including central government departments, local authorities, non-departmental public bodies, national development agencies and charities
- Four key projects
  - Scoping work for DCSF on IBs, led to the pilot programme
  - Long term evaluation of the DfE's IB pilot programme
  - Evaluation of adult Common Assessment Framework for DH
  - Support to East Sussex Council on IBs, transition and the Learning for Living and Work Framework

# The IB pilots

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- Are about Individual Budgets, an approach based on
  - **Greater choice and control** to families with disabled children...through the **drawing together of a series of funding streams** and use of an **outcomes-based approach**...to enable the development and delivery of a **holistic and family-led support plan** ...whose associated funding can be managed in a variety of ways
- Six Councils involved in the pilot
- Led by social care
- Started April 2009
- First budgets went live early 2010
- Each area has around 30 families in the pilot
- Guided by the Common Delivery Model

## Emerging findings

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- Successful recruitment of a range of families
- Social care budgets have been the largest contributor to the IB package
- Engagement from PCT and education colleagues limited
- The resource allocation process was a learning experience
- Support planning was highly valued
- Generally positive feedback from families around choice and control
- Good progress in engaging parents in the process, practice is less developed and sure around how best to engage you people



## What next?

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- Green Paper signalled a wider set of pilots and extended the pilot in the six areas for another 12 months to:
  - Understand more of the impact on family wellbeing through tracking those with a live IB
  - Explore how education and health based funding could be incorporated into an IB for families with disabled children during 2011-12
  - ... which will help to inform the scope of the further Pathfinders envisaged in the Green Paper

# The challenges ahead

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- How best can **assessment** be integrated or information be shared across services
- Which bits of education **funding** can be disaggregated to an individual level
- And then how should education **resources be allocated to individuals** as part of an IB
- How best can **support planning** be joined up across services
- Who can act to **co-ordinate** across the range of services
- What have we missed
  - Are there big opportunities
  - Are there hidden challenges



# Contact

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Graham Thom

Associate Director

SQW

t. 0131 243 4007

e. [gthom@sqw.co.uk](mailto:gthom@sqw.co.uk)

w. [www.sqw.co.uk](http://www.sqw.co.uk)

Meera Prabhakar

Senior Consultant

SQW

t. 020 7307 7151

e. [mprabhakar@sqw.co.uk](mailto:mprabhakar@sqw.co.uk)

w. [www.sqw.co.uk](http://www.sqw.co.uk)

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