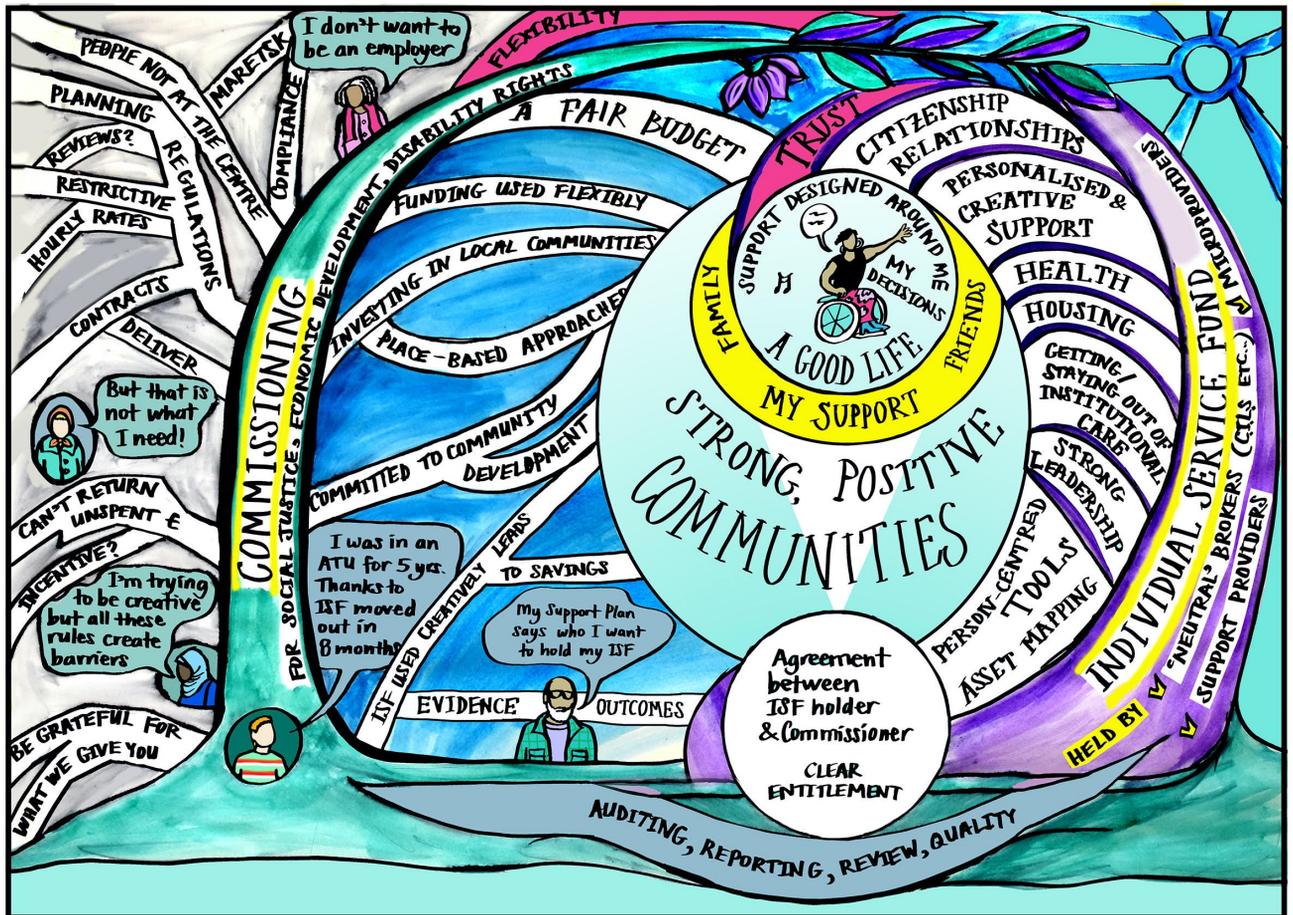


# Progress with Individual Service Funds in England

A webinar with Learning Disability England



East of England Building Positive Futures Programme, ADASS and TLAP. Online, 2020-2021. Graphics by [www.penmendonca.com](http://www.penmendonca.com) @MendoncaPen  
This graphic includes work presented by the Centre for Welfare Reform and colleagues

Chris Watson, Founder, Self-Directed Futures

2pm-3pm 22 July 2021



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# About

Self-Directed Futures is a social enterprise that shares its profits to support the wider work of [The Centre for Welfare Reform](#). Our mission is to help create a world where we believe and act as if everyone, every single person, matters.

Achieving citizenship and self-direction for all is our main goal and at the heart of what we do – we believe that everyone can and should be treated as equal citizens.

We want to empower individuals and families to take control of their support and build the kind of lives that they want to live. Our work is rooted in community and aims to build upon every person's unique gifts and talents.

Our [associates](#) have a wealth of experience of improving health and social care systems and have developed significant expertise in commissioning, brokerage, training, coaching and the principles of good Self-Directed support, focussing primarily on the practical implementation of Individual Service Funds.



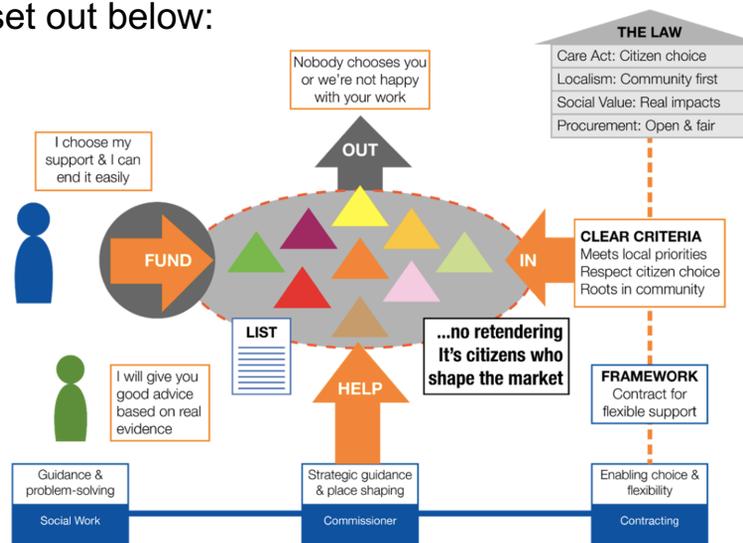
# Self-Direction

Self-Directed Support puts people at the centre of their care and enables activities and supports to be flexibly designed so that high quality, outcome focused help is delivered, often in a more cost-effective way.

We believe in:

- Widening access to genuinely self-directed support
- Supporting systems to change their model of service delivery away from time and task and towards outcomes-based approaches
- Increasing the range of different provisions available in the marketplace including growing small specialist providers, community micro enterprises and personal assistants
- Helping people 'right size' their personal budgets using creativity, community connecting and support brokerage approaches
- Supporting the discharge of people with learning disabilities and autism from long stay hospital units using creative brokering and personalised market shaping

Our ambition is to see an increase in the use of direct payments and Individual Service Funds in England and a growth in the number and range of creative, community led support options available to citizens. Our vision for a vibrant community-based marketplace for support is set out below:



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# Webinar Content

## Individual Service Funds in England (ISFs)

Please join us to hear about how people are starting to use Individual Service Funds in England to have more choice and control over their support.

ISFs are a type of personal budget that can offer nearly the same amount of choice and control as a Direct Payment but without some of the complications. They were introduced in England through the Care Act 2014, as a promoted option for local authorities to be able to commission this form of self-directed support.

Since then, several pilots have taken place around England to trial ISFs and to 'test and learn' more about how they work and the benefits for people using them.

In this webinar you will hear from Chris Watson, Founder of Self Directed Futures, Jacqui Hendra, a social care assessor who works with ISF's in Devon and Gary Kent who runs a support provider organisation called New Key.

The webinar will cover:

- What ISFs are
- What are their benefits and why they are different to Direct Payments
- What your rights are and what is happening with them around England
- Gary and Jacqui's work together supporting people with ISFs in Devon
- Trudy's real life ISF story
- Question and answer session with all speakers



# Speakers



**CHRIS WATSON**

Chris has over 24 years experience of working in the public and voluntary sector in health, social care and community development with a focus on working with people with learning disabilities to achieve citizenship within their communities. Chris set up Self-Directed Futures to inspire and support commissioning and provider organisations to apply the principles of self determination, citizenship and self-directed support.



**GARY KENT**

Gary set up the organisation NewKey after a light bulb moment when he realised everyone needs their own front door. NewKey provides support to people living in supported living accommodation in Bristol, Torquay, Totnes and Kingskerswell. People who use the service include people with physical disabilities, autism or learning difficulties - a growing number of whom now use Individual Service Funds to direct their support.

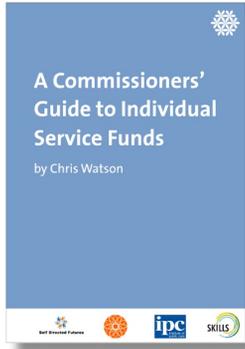


**JACQUI HENDRA**

Jacqui is an experienced Social Care assessor and a major advocate for Individual Service Funds, having been the lead assessor and case manager for Devon County Councils initial ISF pilot. Jacqui is passionate about personalisation and handing over control to people and families to design their own support using ISFs.

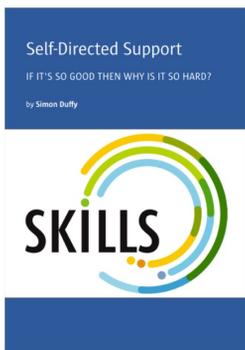


# Publications



This guide is an introduction for commissioners which will help them create systems that will transform people's experience of health and social care. Putting people in control of their lives and helping people shape their own support is a basic human rights requirement. ISFs make this a realistic possibility for everyone.

The guide is available to read [HERE](#).



This discussion paper marks the next stage in developing an international community to support and develop self-directed support as part of a wider effort to advance equal citizenship.

The paper is available to read [HERE](#).



This guidance was developed for people working with Individual Service Funds and provides practical advice and guidance based on our collective learning from ISF's across England since 2015.

The paper is available to read [HERE](#).



This summary paper was created by ADASS and describes progress around personalised commissioning approaches in the east of England and our work supporting the development of Individual Service Funds in Essex.

The paper is available to read [HERE](#).



Email: [chris.Watson@selfdirectedfutures.co.uk](mailto:chris.Watson@selfdirectedfutures.co.uk)

<https://www.selfdirectedfutures.co.uk>



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