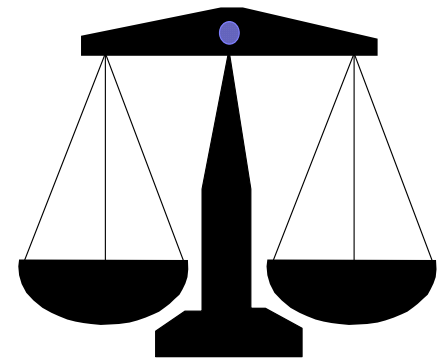


# Fair Access to Care Services - FACS

- National Context
- Local context
- Implementation issues





# National Context

- FACS is issued under Section 7(1) of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970.
- Nationally prescribed framework
- Partnership arrangements under Section 31 Health Act 1999



# Wider National Context

- Key links:
  - Single Assessment Process
  - Care Programme Approach
  - Fairer Charging
  - NHS Continuing Care
  - Supporting People



# FACS Aims

- Fairness in allocation of funding for social care
- One approach for all adult groups
- Consistency of **outcomes** for users/carers
- Root out discrimination

# What is FACS?

- Eligibility for services is determined by:
  - identifying harm or danger
  - or risks to an individual's independenceif needs are not addressed *and then*
- Grading the level of danger or risk



# What we do now

- Eligibility varies by user group and geographically
- Some service-based eligibility criteria in use
- We prioritise individuals, not different needs and risks to independence
- Budgets follow historic patterns



# What will be different

- One consistent approach
- Eligibility decisions based on danger and risks to independence, not services
- Some of an individual's needs may be eligible whilst others are not
- Budgets follow eligible needs



# Process

- Good assessment identifies presenting needs
- FACS framework used to determine which presenting needs are “eligible” for social care help
- Care Plan sets out how “eligible” needs will be met



# Interfaces

- Only for social care services
- Does not impact on DFG's, Housing needs eligibility etc
- Close interface between FACS and NHS Continuing Care needed
- Basis of agreements for joint and partnership services



# Preventive Approaches

- Joint agency approach to prevention - “what works” - e.g.:
  - Benefits take up;
  - Supporting People;
  - Flexible approaches for some simple services, e.g. frozen meals;
  - falls prevention



# Implementation Process

- Joint staff and managers training
- Phased implementation during October (except learning disability)
- Learning disability: new cases 1 November, existing cases 1 April 2003
- Inter-authority Members briefing (“round table”) November.



# Monitoring

- County-wide practice group for all user groups (incl. NHS colleagues)
- Formal Performance Monitoring
- Annual reports to Members



# Joint agency protocol

- Principles
- Communication
- Who needs to know/use it
- Emergencies
- Differences of View
- Training
- Monitoring Information



# Decisions

- What do you need to ratify the protocol?
- How will we raise awareness and train the large numbers of staff involved?
- What feedback do you require?



# How We Developed the FACS Approach

- Formal project approach
  - Mapping
  - Modeling
  - Consultation