

Putting [older] people at the heart of assessment

- are older people's voices being heard?

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Government Policy

- **National Strategy**
[Opportunity Age: meeting the challenges of ageing in the 21st century]
- **Green Paper**
[Independence, Well-being and Choice: our vision for the future of social care for adults in England]
- **Social Exclusion Unit interim report**
[Excluded Older People: Social Exclusion Unit interim report]
- **National Service Framework**
- **Single Assessment Process**
- **Link-Age**

The Context of Single Assessment

- older people at the heart of service provision
- needs led not service driven provision
- little dignity for anyone in feeling dependent
- the right support at the right time
- agenda for change...

Agenda for Change

- set out by older people themselves
- addressing age discrimination and health inequalities
- addressing poverty and income levels
- a more integrated approach to delivering health and social care
- priority to linking housing and housing support with health and social care services

The birth of SAP

- NHS & Community Care Act (1990)
- NHS Plan (2000)
- National Service Framework for Older People (2001)

Single Assessment process (SAP)

- Four types of assessment
 - Contact
 - Overview
 - Specialist
 - Comprehensive
- Progress so far
 - variable

The CPA SAP professional learning and development resource...

- the resource itself
 - www.cpa.org.uk/sap
- the SAP discussion forum
 - www.cpa.org.uk/sap/forum

Obstacles to progress

- working cultures slow to change
- IT issues
- training
- GP / acute sector
- sharing information
- late involvement of social care and housing sectors

Emerging issues

- evaluation
 - professional's perspective
 - user perspective
- self assessment
- direct payments / personalised budgets
- 'whole systems' approach
- human rights
- rhetoric to reality...

**Retain the emphasis and focus
on person centred care and
engagement with older people.**

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