

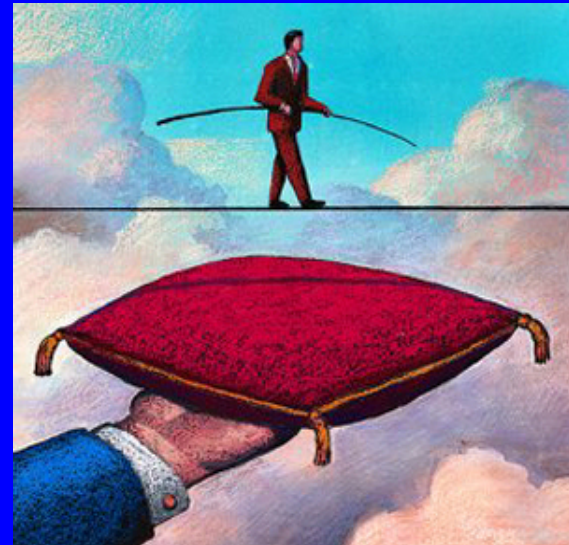


# Positive Risk Management and People with Severe / Profound Intellectual Disability

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# Positive Risk Taking: Factors which have Influenced Change

- Move towards care and support in the community
- PCP Process
- HIQA
- Organisational Factors



# Towards a Definition of Risk

## Precise Definition Contested:

1. As something to be avoided due to an association with danger and hazard
2. It is linked to personal development as a positive liberating experience

*(Alaszewski et al, 2000)*



Any issue real or imagined which is being used as an objection to a person moving toward increased inclusion in community life

*(Neill et al, 2008)*

# Challenges Along the Way: Perceptions of Risk

## Service Providers

- Traditional approaches & attitudes
- Policies and practices
- Overprotection

## Carers (Parents/Family)

- Personal attitudes
- Association between risk & physical danger
- Image of adults with Intellectual Disability 'perpetual children'

## Professionals

- Association between risk and health & safety
- Duty of care

*(Alaszewki & Alaszewski, 2002)*





# A Person Centred Approach to Positive Risk Management

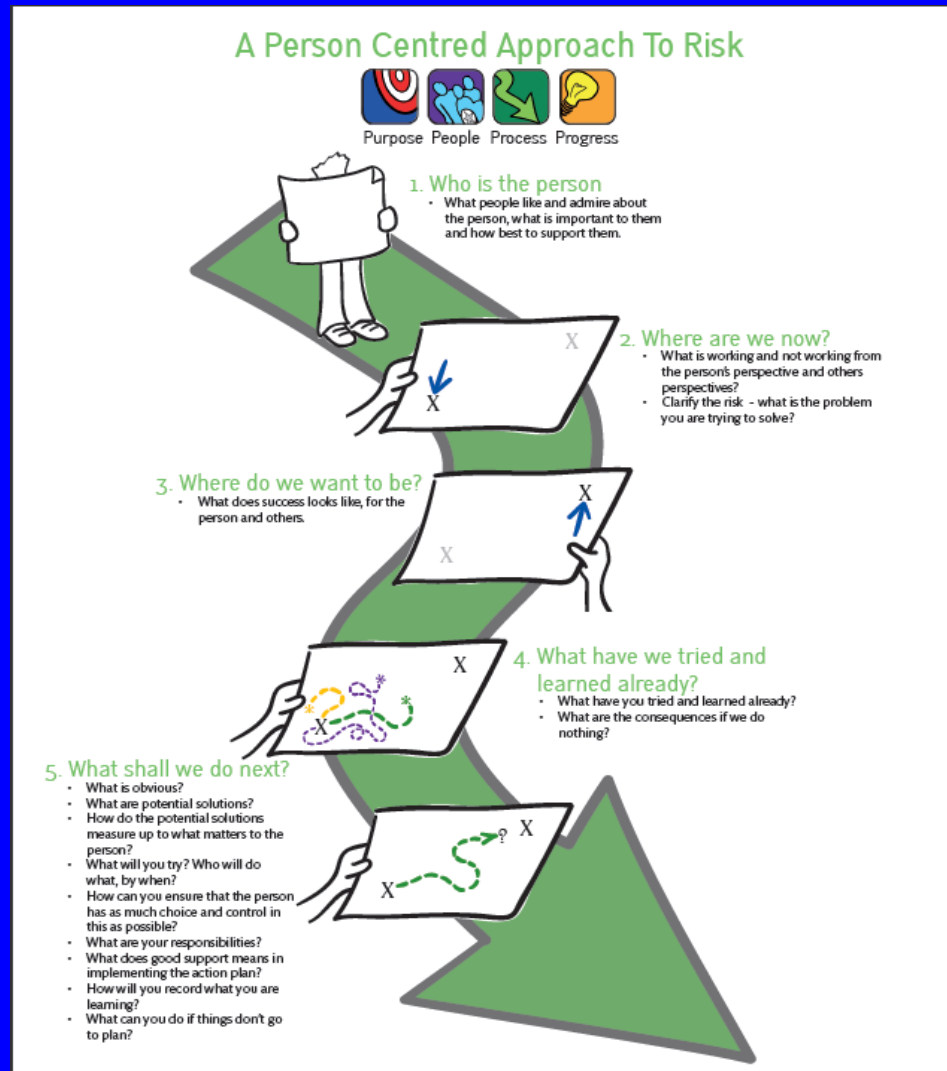
*(Neill et al, 2008)*

## Central to this process:

- Keep the person at the centre
- Treat family and friends as partners
- Focus on what's important to the person
- An intent to build connections with the community
- Being prepared to go beyond conventional service options
- Continuing to listen and learn with the person

# A Person Centred Approach To Risk

(Neill et al, 2008)



# 1) Who is the person?

- What people like and admire about the person
- What is important to them
- How best to support them





## 2) Where are we now?

- What is working and not working from the person's perspective and others perspectives?
- **Clarify the risk**  
- what is the problem you are trying to solve?





## 2) Where are we now? (Cont'd)

### Clarify the risk

- What is the issue that is causing the concern?
- Find out when where and how often the risk occurs
- What are the consequences of the risk?
- If the issue does not happen for the person what will the person lose out on?
- How can the person or others be supported more safely to do the issue discussed?
- What do we document about the risk?
- Who do we communicate the risk to?



*(Boulter & Pointu, 2006).*



### 3) Where do we want to be?

What does success look like for the person and others?



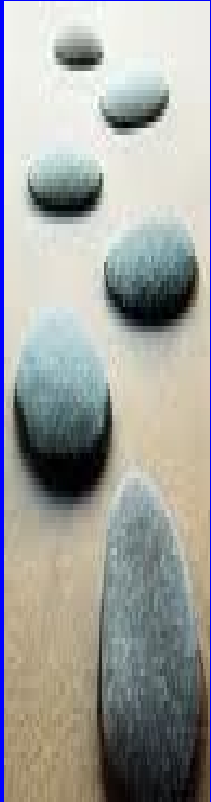
## 4) What have we tried and learned already?



- What have you tried & learned already?
- What are the consequences if you do nothing?



## 5) What shall we do next?



- What is obvious?
  - What are potential solutions?
  - How do the potential solutions measure up to what matters to the person?
  - What will you try? Who will do what by when?
- How can you ensure that the person has as much choice and control in this as possible?
  - What are your responsibilities?
  - What does good support mean in implementing the action plan?
  - How will you record what you are learning?

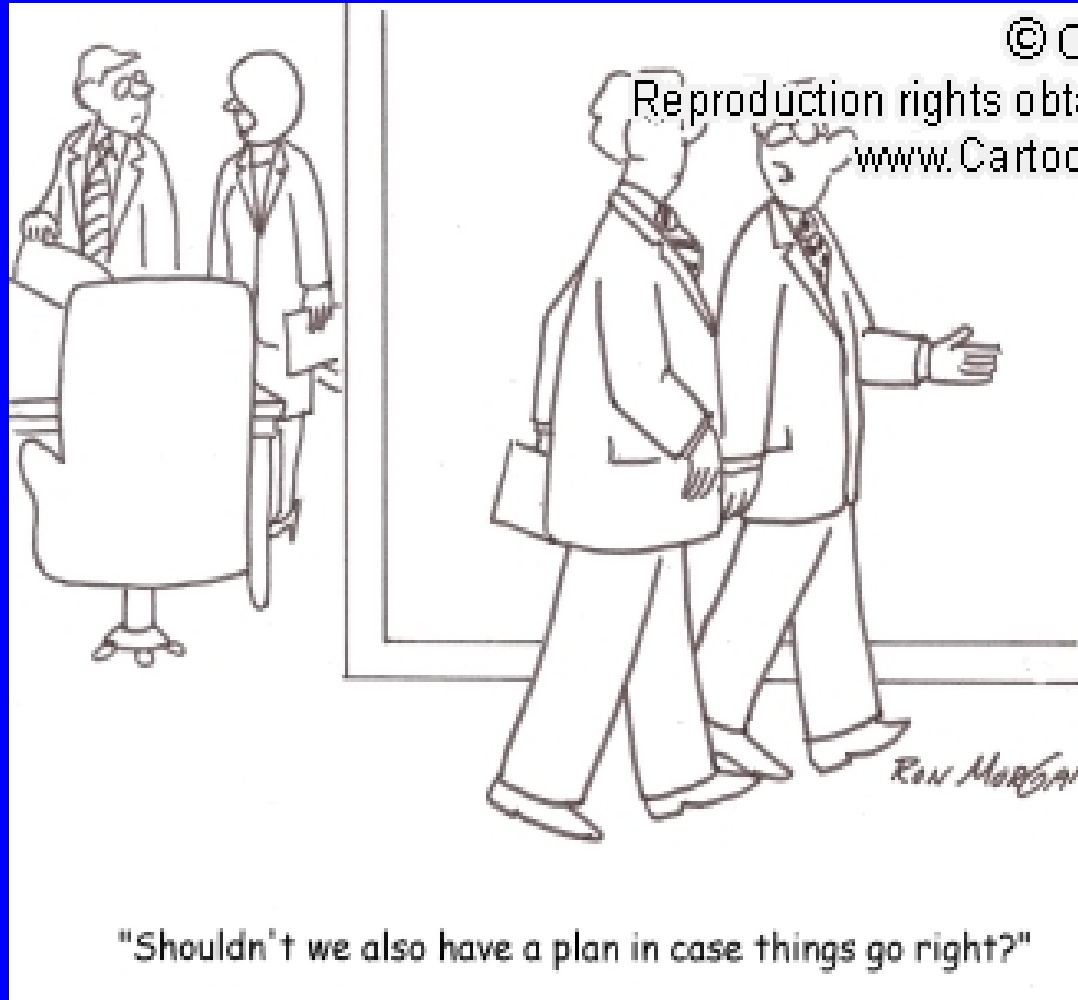


## 5) What shall we do next? (*Cont'd*)

What can you do if  
things don't go to  
plan?



**Let's make  
better mistakes  
tomorrow.**



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"Shouldn't we also have a plan in case things go right?"

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