



ISLINGTON

# **Continuing to Support People – view from the local authority**

Sean McLaughlin

Corporate Director of HASS

October 2009

## It's not simple ...

- Putting People First: prevention strategies by April 2010
- Whole system efficiencies (e.g. less residential care)
- Putting council first: competing corporate priorities



## You don't know what you've got 'til it's gone...

- Positive commissioning: strategic decisions reflect local priorities
- Partnership working
- Excellent contract management
- Cost effective solutions with a focus on prevention



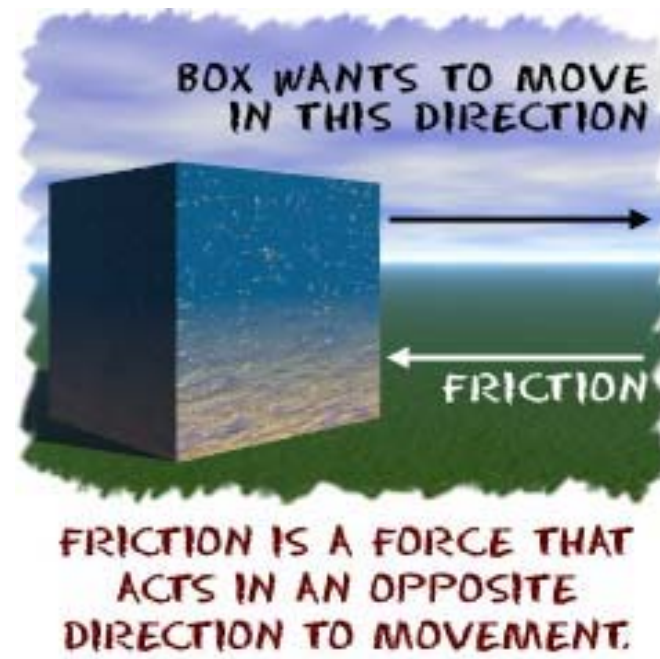
## SP has achieved a lot

- Homelessness – down
- Mental health admissions – down
- Drug-related offending – down
- Residential care – down
- Young people services, community safety ...



## Although frankly, it was a big of pain ...

- Inflexibility
- Legalistic boundaries
- Compliance, governance, inspection ...!



## So now it's all over?

- Ringfence gone
- Who's cutting area based grants – central or local government?
- Balancing mainstream budgets
- Social care cost pressures
- Scepticism about prevention and “woolly” floating support



## Keep what works

- Make prevention cost effective – it's your only chance
- Commit to partnership
- Take a pragmatic view of the commissioning body
- Maintain ringfence for the same broad aims
- Flexibility – not dilution
- Constantly scrutinise VFM

