

POST-WAR POLICY: THREE PARADIGMS

PROFESSOR BOB HUDSON

CENTRE FOR HEALTH SERVICES STUDIES



EXCELLENCE
IN HEALTH
RESEARCH

The RESIDUAL PARADIGM

- Epitomised by the Victorian Poor Law/Boards of Guardians
- Repealed by the 1948 National Assistance Act, but policies typically have long tails
- No comprehensive replacement policy
- LA Welfare Departments to offer residential accommodation but not home care support
- Workhouse premises and culture still prevalent in 1960s
- Modest permissions to expand services and support
- 20 years of continuity and incrementalism

The STATE PLANNING PARADIGM

- Mid-1960s: A new political and policy landscape
- Planning, expertise, consensus, problem-solving, royal commissions and inquiries
- The Seebohm Committee (1965) and report (1968)
- ‘The 5th social service’; the missing piece of the welfare state
- Structural change; new unified SSDs aiming to encourage use rather than deter access
- Key ingredients: bureaucracies to organize and plan; professionals to understand and respond; resources to make it happen

The MARKET PARADIGM

- 1970S/80S: a new ideology (Neo-Liberalism) and a new delivery mechanism (New Public Management)
- Key ingredients: consumer choice; quasi-markets; competition between providers; LAs as commissioners
- Personal social services became the canary down the ideological mine
- Growing income stream for private residential care via social security changes, leading to...
- The Griffiths report (1988), 1989 White Paper 'Caring for People' and the 1990 NHS and Community Care Act