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Exploring and understanding the broadness of accessibility (Legislative Requirements)

Accelerated Reform Fund (ARF)
Online learning workshop - July 2024

Before we start...

Introductory video to the ARF

Accelerating Reform Fund programme - SCIE

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Accelerating Reform Fund

The Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) has launched a £42.6 million Accelerating Reform Fund (ARF) to boost the quality and accessibility of adult social care by supporting innovation and scaling, and kickstarting a change in services to support unpaid carers.


Last updated: 24 April 2024

About the fundOur involvementWhat's nextNewsFAQsContact

About the fund

The Accelerating Reform Fund (ARF) focuses on embedding and scaling approaches to transform care and support including for unpaid carers, who play such a vital, selfless role in our society. This will accelerate progress towards the government's social care vision where people have choice, control and support to live independent lives, and where care and support is of outstanding quality and is provided in a fair, accessible way.

Local authorities have registered their interest with the DHSC, in partnership with others, in their integrated care systems, to fund local innovation projects. They are expected to work collaboratively with others such as the NHS, care providers, voluntary and community sector groups, including unpaid carers. The ARF is supporting at least two projects per region, one of which will focus on unpaid carers, and consider co-production with both care recipients and unpaid carers, ensuring they are inclusive of local diverse needs.



“Accessibility means that people can do what they need to do in a similar amount of time and effort as someone that does not have a disability. It means that people are empowered, can be independent, and will not be frustrated by something that is poorly designed or implemented”.

GOV.UK (2024)

And what
else?

The Accessible Information Standard (AIS)

All organisations that provide NHS care and/or publicly-funded adult social care are legally required to follow the Accessible Information Standard.

The Standard sets out a specific, consistent approach to identifying, recording, flagging, sharing and meeting the information and communication support needs of patients, service users, carers and parents with a disability, impairment or sensory loss.

NHS England. (2024)

How does this relate to:

- Service directories
- Information advice and guidance pages
- Supported self-assessments
- ?

Care Act, general responsibilities and specific duties

- Promote individual wellbeing
- Prevent, reduce and delay
- Integration, cooperation & partnership
- Information & advice
- Commissioning

General responsibilities



- Carers
- Assessment
- Eligibility
- Care and Support Plan. Personal Budget and Direct Payments. Review of Care and Support Plan
- Independent advocacy
- Safeguarding
- Transition
- Continuity of care
- Finance

Other duties



Care Act, accessibility and Supported self-assessment?

“A supported self-assessment should use similar assessment materials as used in other forms of needs or carers’ assessments, but where the person completes the assessment themselves, the local authority assures itself that it is an accurate reflection of the person’s needs”

The ‘assessment’ must follow the core statutory obligations, but the process is flexible and can be adapted to best fit with the person’s needs, circumstances, wishes and goals.

“Advice and information content should, where possible, be provided in the manner preferred by the person and will therefore often need to be available in a number of different formats”

“The duty in the Care Act will not be met through the use of digital channels alone, and information and advice channels are likely to include all of the following:

- face-to-face contact
- use of peer-to-peer contacts
- community settings
- advice and advocacy services
- telephone
- local authority’s own and other appropriate internet websites, including support for the self-assessment of needs
- third party internet content and applications
- Email”

Care Act, accessibility and Independent Advocacy

People with care and support needs and family carers have a right to a Care Act Independent Advocate if they would otherwise find it substantially difficult to **participate** in Care Act processes, and have no appropriate person to support them

The support is about 'participating' in the process, not about speaking on behalf of the individual

Care Act and accessibility- the spirit of the law

Is providing tablets or PCs in libraries, making information in digital means accessible to the local population?

What about if we also provide digital literacy training?

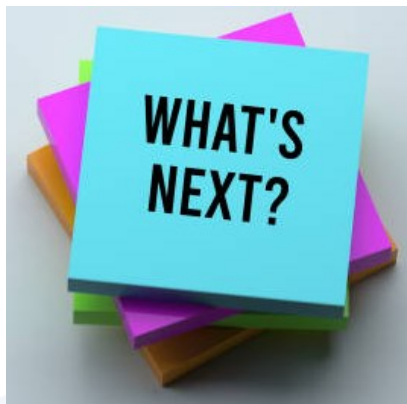
Ability to process, understand and act upon received information! Can they process information coming from a screen?

Within its broad sense...
what does accessibility
mean in your ARF project?

What are you doing, or
can you do to ensure full
accessibility for your ARF
projects?



30 Mins



innovation@scie.org.uk

SCIE – We will send a survey to understand what has gone well and what we can do better

arfevaluation@ipsosresearch.com

Ipsos - Ipsos will be conducting surveys and interviews with relevant stakeholders to evaluate the programme's processes and emerging impacts.

The slides, key message and identified tools will be uploaded to SCIE's website



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Thank you

For more information please visit

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