Care Act 2014
Beyond compliance – towards excellence
Support for local authorities, care providers and their partners
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The Care Act 2014 introduces new responsibilities for local authorities. It also has major implications for adult care and support providers, people who use services, carers and advocates.

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) provides products and services to help organisations and people who use care services to implement the Care Act.

We know that the Care Act is about more than just compliance with new duties and regulations. It requires organisations to completely transform how they commission and deliver services and the way they work with people who use those services.

Most of our products are free. Our consultancy team is also on hand to offer a unique service to help you and your staff to implement the Care Act.

We provide a range of products and services to support local authorities, care providers and their partners to implement the letter and the spirit of the Care Act, including:

• guides and checklists
• short films
• model strategies and reports
• presentations
• training
• consultancy.

Our initial work focuses on:

• assessment and eligibility
• safeguarding adults
• commissioning independent advocacy services
• transition from childhood to adulthood
• prevention services in adult social care.

This leaflet outlines the free resources that we provide, and the consultancy services that we can develop for your organisation or locality.

Email trainingandconsultancy@scie.org.uk
Tel 020 7535 0917

www.scie.org.uk/care-act-2014
Care Act 2014 – Implementation support

SCIE can help local authorities, care providers and their partners to understand and embed good practice approaches to delivering the Care Act.

We can support organisations and partnerships to:

- develop and embed person-centred approaches to assessment and eligibility
- prepare for the increased demand for assessments, including from carers
- improve your approach to adult safeguarding
- redesign and co-produce your core processes and systems in line with good practice
- prepare for the funding reforms coming into effect in April 2016
- learn more about the provision of prevention services in adult social care through our Prevention Library
- develop approaches to promoting integrated commissioning and provision, building on the duties in the Act.

Training and development options

The Care Act – commissioning:

- The challenges in implementing good commissioning practice
- Commissioning to prepare for the Care Act
- Commissioning to achieve the aspirations of the Act

The Care Act – assessment and eligibility:

- How to focus assessments on a person's needs
- How to provide access to an independent advocate
- How to co-produce processes with people who use services and carers

The Care Act – safeguarding adults:

- How to improve multi-agency approaches to local adult safeguarding
- How to establish effective Safeguarding Adults Boards
- Best practice approaches for carrying out Safeguarding Adults Reviews

Find out more

To discuss your specific requirements or request a quote, email us at trainingandconsultancy@scie.org.uk, or telephone 020 7535 0917
Assessment and eligibility

The Care Act 2014 sets out in one place, local authorities’ duties in relation to assessing people’s needs and their eligibility for publicly funded care and support.

SCIE is producing the following resources to support local authority staff, social workers and others involved in assessment and eligibility.

- **Process map**: an overall guide to the assessment and eligibility strands of the Care Act.
- **Self-assessment examples**: case examples that illustrate how the self-assessment process can work.
- **Self-assessment guide**: a short at-a-glance guide to minimum standards for self-assessment.
- **Eligibility examples**: case examples to illustrate complex cases.
- **Eligibility films**: short films to prompt discussion around potential dilemmas.
- **Proportionate assessment guide**: a quick guide to proportionate assessment.
- **Asset-based approach**: an illustrated example and guidance of what is meant by an ‘asset- or strengths-based approach’.

Commissioning independent advocacy

The Care Act 2014 aims to strengthen the voice of people who use services, and their carers, throughout the process of assessing, planning and safeguarding. Local authorities will need to commission independent advocacy services to support people who may require it.

SCIE is producing the following resources to help local authority staff and commissioners to expand and commission effective independent advocacy.

- **Commissioning advocacy guide**: a guide for local authority staff responsible for commissioning advocacy services. The guide will help commissioners to recognise what a good advocacy service looks like, and to develop flexible approaches to commissioning.
- **Summary**: an at-a-glance summary of the full guide.
- **Easy read summary**: summary of the guide in easy-read style for people with learning disabilities.
- **Self-assessment tool**: a checklist to enable local authorities to test their approaches and progress on commissioning advocacy services.
Safeguarding adults

The Care Act 2014 sets out a clear legal framework for how local authorities and other parts of the system should protect adults at risk of abuse or neglect.

SCIE is producing resources to help social workers, local authority staff and their partners, chairs and members of Safeguarding Adults Boards, to meet their new safeguarding duties.

Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs)

- **A model Safeguarding Adults Review report**: outline of contents for a SAR report.
- **Guidance on carrying out reviews**: how to focus on learning, accredit report writers and quality assure reviews.
- **Models for reviews**: an overview of different models for reviews and setting standards in reviews.

Safeguarding Adults Boards (SABs)

- **Compliance checklist and resources**: what Safeguarding Adults Boards need to do to ensure compliance with the Care Act.
- **Membership and governance tools**: how to recruit a chair, ensure the right skills and experience amongst Board members, and design robust governance arrangements.

- **Model Safeguarding Adults Board strategy**: an outline strategy including communications strategy, quality assurance and preventative approaches.
- **Information sharing guide**: what information agencies should be sharing and with whom.

Gaining access

- Gaining access to an adult suspected to be at risk of neglect or abuse: a guide for social workers and their managers in England.

Challenging issues

- **Questions and answers**: guidance exploring challenging safeguarding issues in a question and answer format. Areas will include: who to share information with and how; working with people who self-neglect; when section 42 enquiries are needed; and engaging wider partners and the community.
The Care Act says that if a child, young carer or an adult caring for a child is likely to have needs when they, or the child they care for, turns 18, the local authority must assess them if it considers there is ‘significant benefit’ to the individual in doing so. This is regardless of whether the child or individual currently receives any services.

SCIE is producing resources to help local authority staff, social workers, care workers, young people and carers to plan for transition.

- **Transition from children’s to adults’ services – key resources**: this pulls together all the existing resources, policy documents and initiatives that relate to transition from children’s to adults’ services.

- **Transition from children’s to adults’ services – early identification**: examples of what local authorities are doing to identify young people who are not currently receiving support from children’s services, but are likely to have care and support needs as an adult.

- **Carers of young people in transition**: how to support adult carers of a young person in transition from children’s to adults’ services. Includes information on rights, choices, assessment processes.

- **Preparing for adulthood – young carers in transition**: how to support young carers as they become adults. Includes information on rights, choices, assessment processes.

- **Video diaries**: young adult carers over 18 share their experiences of growing up and becoming an adult, and practitioners speak about how they have supported them.
Prevention Library

The Care Act requires local authorities to ensure the provision of services which help to prevent, delay or reduce the development of care and support needs.

SCIE is producing the Prevention Library – an online resource which will act as a central knowledge hub for information about emerging practice and related research.

Commissioners are invited to share examples and to use the Library to find out what is happening elsewhere.

The Library will provide:

- a directory of searchable service examples across England
- links to recent research about preventative approaches and services in adult social care
- a short film introducing the Library which will highlight definitions and challenges around prevention.

Contact SCIE about the Prevention Library at info@scie.org.uk

Social Care Institute for Excellence

Sharing knowledge, improving lives

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) improves the lives of people who use care services by sharing knowledge about what works.

We are a leading improvement support agency and an independent charity working with adults’, families’ and children’s care and support services across the UK. We also work closely with related services such as health care and housing.

We improve the quality of care and support services for adults and children by:

- identifying and sharing knowledge about what works and what’s new
- supporting people who plan, commission, deliver and use services to put that knowledge into practice
- informing, influencing and inspiring the direction of future practice and policy.

SCIE also leads the NICE Collaborating Centre for Social Care – a consortium which develops NICE social care guidance and promotes quality standards.
SCIE’s Care Act 2014 publications are part of a suite of resources commissioned by the Department of Health in partnership with the Local Government Association, Association of Directors of Adult Social Services and the Care Providers Alliance to support those commissioning and providing care and support in implementing the Care Act 2014.

To find out more, visit www.local.gov.uk/care-support-reform

Supporting implementation of the Care Act 2014

Contact SCIE

www.scie.org.uk/care-act-2014

We can develop a support package for local authorities and care providers.

Email trainingandconsultancy@scie.org.uk
Tel 020 7535 0917

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