

## Policy Briefing: The Care Act 2014 Factsheets

Document published by: Department of Health Date published: October 2014

Original Document: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-act-2014-part-1-factsheets/care-act-factsheets--2>

### Purpose of document

The Care Act 2014, passed in May 2014, takes forward the government's commitment to reviewing and reforming adult social care in England. It gives local authorities new duties and responsibilities to significantly improve the quality of care and support for adults and carers. In October 2014, the government published revised regulations and guidance on the Care Act for local authorities which include factsheets to accompany Part 1 of the Act. The factsheets have been prepared to help people to understand how the Act will work in practice, including the duties and powers that local authorities will have under it, and how the changes to care and support will affect them.

### Summary of contents

The guidance consists of 12 new factsheets that relate to the parts of the care and support reforms that come into effect in April 2015. They also describe some of the key features of the Act including general responsibilities; entitlement, assessment and eligibility of care; support and care planning; charging, and funding reform; safeguarding, carers, continuity of care; provider failure; prisoners, and people living in approved premises.

### Summary of outcomes

The Act will make sure that every decision made about social care puts the wellbeing of people and what matters to them at the forefront. The reforms aim to achieve care and support for adults that are fairer and clearer to understand than they have been in the past, as well as physical, mental and emotional wellbeing for both the person in need of care and the carer. This will give carers equally priority with the same legal rights.

### Summary of recommendations

- A modern system with more personalised, and integrated care with health services, and better preventative services and assessment of need.
- Improve access to information and advice including financial services to help people financially plan, and also with their care costs.
- New legal rights for carers to have the support to meet their needs for care.
- Have a common system nationwide that makes access to care more consistent, and a new model of paying for care that includes a minimum eligibility threshold, a universal deferred payment scheme, and a cap on care costs.
- Ensure that people are supported to keep themselves well and reassured that their wellbeing is the main focus behind care and support.
- Prioritise access to services, and a good range of providers to choose from should people require them, to help prevent or delay worsening of care needs.

### Further information and resources

Easy Read Version

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/365345/Making\\_Sure\\_the\\_Care\\_Act\\_Works\\_EASY\\_READ.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/365345/Making_Sure_the_Care_Act_Works_EASY_READ.pdf)

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Date summarised: 27th February 2015