

QUALITY STANDARDS FOR WELL-BEING OUTCOMES¹

Local authorities **must** achieve the quality standards set in this code of practice.

1. Local authorities must work with people who need care and support and carers who need support to define and co-produce personal well-being outcomes that people wish to achieve.

In order to achieve this, local authorities in the exercise of their social services functions **must**:

- a) Work with partners to ensure access to clear and understandable information, advice and assistance to support people to actively manage their well-being and make informed decisions.
- b) Work with people, as partners, to prevent the need for care and support and with other partners to arrange services in a way that prevents or delays peoples need for care and support.
- c) Work with people as partners to undertake an assessment of personal well-being outcomes in a timely manner.
- d) Ensure decisions made have regard to a person's individual circumstances and the UN convention on the rights of children and the UN principles for older people and the UN convention on the rights of disabled people.
- e) Treat people with dignity and respect.
- f) Ensure people have control over the planning and delivery of their care.
- g) Arrange an independent advocate to facilitate the involvement of an individual where that person can only overcome the barrier(s) to fully participating in the process of determining, reviewing and meeting need, through the support of an advocate.
- h) Have in place suitable arrangements for assessing and determining need and eligibility.

¹ <https://gov.wales/docs/dhss/publications/160401codeen.pdf>

- i) Ensure people who have a care and support plan have a named contact who shares relevant information with partners to allow a seamless transition of care and support across services.
- j) Ensure that the impact of the care and support on people's lives is measured, as well as the achievement of personal outcomes.
- k) Work with other professionals, including providers, to facilitate and lead a multi-disciplinary plan for care and support.
- l) Have in place suitable arrangements to make people aware of paying for care and charging arrangements.

2. Local authorities must work with people who need care and support and carers who need support and relevant partners to protect and promote people's physical and mental health and emotional well-being.

In order to achieve this, in the exercise of their social services functions local authorities **must**:

- a) Jointly develop with partners and people the means to promote and support people to maintain a healthy lifestyle.
- b) Support people to access services which enable them to maintain a good level of mental health and emotional well-being.
- c) Encourage and empower people to manage their own health and wellbeing, be active and benefit from proactive, preventative care and support.

3. Local authorities must take appropriate steps to protect and safeguard people who need care and support and carers who need support from abuse and neglect or any other kinds of harm. Abuse, neglect and harm are defined in the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

In order to achieve this, in the exercise of their social services functions local authorities **must**:

- a) Respond effectively to changing circumstances and regularly review achievement of personal well-being outcomes.
- b) Provide care and support to people where it is necessary to meet their assessed needs in order to protect them from abuse or neglect or a risk of abuse or neglect or to protect a child from harm or a risk of harm.
- c) Develop suitable arrangements for people who put their own safety or that of others at risk to prevent abuse and neglect.
- d) Support people to protect the people that matter to them from abuse and neglect.
- e) Manage risk in ways which empower people to feel in control of their life, consistent with safeguarding needs.
- f) Work in partnership with others to investigate allegations of abuse and neglect to ensure that people are protected from harm.

4. Local authorities must actively encourage and support people who need care and support and carers who need support to learn and develop and participate in society.

In order to achieve this, in the exercise of their social services functions local authorities **must**:

- a) Support people to do the things that matter to them to achieve their personal well-being outcomes.
- b) Help people to gain the skills and educational attainment they need to engage in things that matter to them.
- c) Encourage people to be active members of their communities, and to Support each other in reducing social isolation.

5. Local authorities must support people who need care and support and carers who need support to safely develop and maintain healthy domestic, family and personal relationships.

In order to achieve this, in the exercise of their social services functions local authorities **must:**

- a) Work in partnership with people to investigate allegations of abuse and neglect and take action to ensure that people are protected from harm.
- b) Support people to maintain the relationships that matter to them, consistent with safeguarding needs.
- c) Help people to recognise unsafe relationships and protect themselves from abuse and neglect.
- d) Take the views of people's families, carers and other personal relationships into consideration when assessing their care and support needs, if appropriate.
- e) Provide people with stable and consistent care and support placements.

6. Local authorities must work with and support people who need care and support and carers who need support to achieve greater economic well-being, have a social life and live in suitable accommodation that meets their needs.

In order to achieve this, in the exercise of their social services functions local authorities **must:**

- a) Support people to participate as active citizens both economically and socially.
- b) Support people to access and sustain the ability to engage in meaningful work.
- c) Support people in accessing financial advice and help with benefits and grants.
- d) Provide access to services through the medium of Welsh, in line with the Welsh Governments' framework for Welsh Language, 'More Than Just Words' or in other languages of choice where necessary.
- e) Support people to access living accommodation that meets their needs and facilitates independent living.