



COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

CONSULTATION – NEW NATIONAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE STANDARDS

REPORT BY HEAD OF SOCIAL POLICY

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To make the Council Executive aware of the public consultation the Scottish Government is currently conducting in relation to the proposed new National Health and Social Care Standards as well as outline the proposed draft response.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council Executive considers the proposed West Lothian Council response to the consultation by the Scottish Government in relation to the on the new National Health and Social Care Standards and agrees that the response be submitted to the Scottish Government.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values

- Focusing on our customers' needs
- Being honest, open and accountable
- Providing equality of opportunities
- Making best use of our resources
- Working in partnership

II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)

Health and care services will require to continue to follow existing legislation and best practice requirements which apply to their particular service or sector. The proposed new standards will replace the existing 23 sets of standards for different types of registered care settings.

III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers

Nil

IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators

Positive impact on:

% resident who feel we have an inclusive society.

% of adults receiving any care or support who rate it as excellent or good.

% carers who feel supported to continue in their caring role

		% adults supported at home who agree that they had a say in how their help, care and support was provided.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	Older people are able to live independently in the community with an improved quality of life. We live in resilient , cohesive and safe communities
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	N/A
VII	Consideration at PDSP	Social Policy Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel 12 th January 2017.
VIII	Other consultations	HSCP Consultation Meeting held 23 rd Nov 2016 with health and social care reps from range of service areas where new standards will require to be applied.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

Background

Current care standards were first introduced in 2002 for different types of registered care settings.

Since then the landscape has changed significantly with more people cared for and supported at home and as part of their local community. There has also in the intervening period been the establishment of Health and Social Care Partnerships with the associated need to ensure that people who use health and care services are able to obtain the right provision in order to meet their needs at any stage in their care journey.

In addition how health and care services are inspected has also changed with both the Care Inspectorate and Healthcare Improvement Scotland now working with other regulators and scrutiny bodies to carry out strategic inspections.

Reflecting on the above it was recognised the original standards which predominantly focused on technical issues such as policies and procedures were no longer fit for purpose. There was a need to replace these with new standards which reflected the recent changes to policy and practice.

Hence new care standards required to be identified which enable an assessment to be made as to how an individual's care needs were being met at a strategic and individual service level.

Current Position

New proposed standards have been developed which are based on human rights and the wellbeing of people using health, care and social services. The intention being these standards will be the delivery vehicle for the wide range of legislation and Scottish Government Policy which relates to health and social care provision.

Hence they are of relevance to both the people who use services and their carers; providers of care; service commissioners; HSCP as well as local authorities and NHS Boards.

A public consultation exercise is currently taking place on the proposed new standards with all responses requiring to be submitted no later than the 22nd of January 2017.

To facilitate a comprehensive response a consultation meeting was held within West Lothian by the HSCP with invited representatives identified from health and social care service areas where the new standards will require to be implemented. The views expressed at the meeting were captured to inform and facilitate a joint response, the draft contents of which are outlined in the attached Consultation Document within the Respondent Information Section (pages 10 – 17).

It is worth noting in formulating this response there was unanimous agreement with the approach which has been taken in developing the new standards, which has been to take a human rights based perspective as opposed to the previous focus which was on technical detail.

With regards to the actual contents of the standards, what is currently being sought by Scottish Government via the latest consultation are comments as to whether anything is missing or requires to be added to the standards. The consensus of opinion expressed by all at the consultation meeting was the standards were felt to be comprehensive overall with a few benefiting from some additional text predominantly to clarify meaning or context e.g. add a definition as to what is meant by regularly; add a definition as to what is meant by a natural environment. No significant omissions were identified which was deemed to be reassuring by those participating in the consultation exercise.

E. CONCLUSION

The new proposed standards should enable services to deliver and demonstrate how those who use health and social care services are able receive a personalised service of their choice throughout their care journey in order to best improve their quality of life.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Consultation on the New National Health and Social Care Standards

Appendices/Attachments: Consultation on the New National Health and Social Care Standards

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