

Have your say

Question 1

The Scottish Government would like to make health and social care services better. We would do this first for older people and then improve services for all adults. Do you think this is a good thing and can you tell us why?

Yes. This would give an opportunity to iron out any teething problems while trying to meet the needs of a growing older population.

Question 2

Have we thought about all the things we need to put the money together for adult health and social care services? Do you have anything you would like to add or change?

There needs to be an integrated information sharing system and protocols in place between all sectors, in order to be able to manage and share patient information safely and confidentially. This will require investment in a common IT system.

Question 3

Councils and Health Boards will need to work together to make things better. We call this outcomes. This is different to how they work. Do you think what we want to do is a good way to make the change?

Yes. It would help if **all** sectors worked together towards achieving common outcomes which were relevant to each local area and that also linked with national outcomes through the Single Outcome Agreement.

Question 4

Should Health Boards and Councils both agree on how they will make things better for adult health and social care?

Yes. Both bodies should agree a strategy and plan of action which should include input from all 3 sectors as well as patients representatives and be accountable through the Community Planning Partnership.

Question 5

If health and social care services have to report to Ministers and Council leaders, is there the right balance of local and national responsibility?

There could be more local accountability through local community councils

Question 6

Should it be possible to create a new Partnership that covers more than one Council area? For example, a Lothian Regional Partnership?

This may have benefits for local authority areas on the mainland. However there must be room for flexibility to ensure that island groups retain their autonomy and are not allowed to be subsumed by areas which have little or nothing in common.

Question 7

Do you agree that it should be senior officials from Health Boards, Councils, elected Council members, professionals (such as doctors) and people from the voluntary sector that form the committee for the local Partnerships?

Yes. It should also include patient representatives.

Question 8

Do you think the new plan will mean changes can take place quickly if local services are not working properly? What could we do to help?

I think so but I would like to see common sense applied and patient safety be a priority. The Scottish Government should monitor the effectiveness of any changes and should intervene and provide support where services are not working properly (together)

Question 9

Do you think the new Partnerships should be able to include other areas of health and social care, if they want to?

This should be an option.

Question 10

If the money is put together, do you think our proposals will allow money to be spent better for the patient or service user?

Yes. Putting the money together will help to focus the minds of the planners and avoid any potential dispute about which service is paying for which aspect of a patient's care.

Question 11

Do you have experience of how easy or difficult it is to access services across both health and social care systems? If you have, would you like to tell us?

Communication is currently quite poor across services and needs to be improved. In future private and third sector organisations should be included in information sharing processes (appropriately), particularly where volunteers are involved in providing patient care and support.

Question 12

Should Ministers say in law the parts of the separate health and social care budgets that should be in the joined up budget? Would this allow the outcomes to be met locally?

Yes. I believe the only way to achieve the desired local and national outcomes is to join up the budget and be clear about which areas of care need to be invested in.

Question 13

Do you think we have given the senior officer the right amount of say in how the money is spent? Do you think it will be difficult for one person to be in control of all this money?

Yes. However it would be beneficial to leave room for some variation or deviation, to allow for special local circumstance, which would have to be fully justified to Ministers

Question 14

Have the proposals given the senior officer enough authority and responsibility to take control of this money?

Yes and I agree this has to be someone who is completely independent from all sectors.

Question 15

Should the Scottish Government tell Partnerships how to plan for local services, or should this be left to local areas to decide?

The Scottish Government should put considerable pressure on the Community Planning Partnerships to ensure patient representatives and third sector partners are not excluded from discussions and planning, particularly in the early stages. This will help to achieve better 'health and social care' outcomes.

Question 16

We think that local professionals, including General Practitioners, should be asked to help plan local services. Is this a strong suggestion, or should it be stronger?

It should be mandatory. This would avoid confusion and would help to

provide consistency across Scotland

Question 17

What practical help should we offer to help health and social care staff get involved with planning services?

Appropriate new IT equipment or that which is compatible with partner agencies.

Question 18

Should we use groups of doctor's surgeries to organise the local planning of services? If not, how could this be done better?

No. Doctors should be included in the consultation process but it should not fall to the surgeries to organise this much more complex set up.

Question 19

Should the partnerships talk to people in their communities? How might this be done?

The local CVS or Interface should hold a series of awareness raising events and ask the public for their views

About the proposed changes

Question 20

Do you think we should say how many people need to be involved in the planning of local service? For example, a percentage of the local population?

Some guidelines would be useful, as long as there is a very strong recommendation that all the main sectors are represented