

Consultation Questionnaire

Draft Statutory Guidance on Care and Support

Consultation Questions

Section 2 : Values and Principles

**Question 1a: Was this section of the guidance clear and easy to understand?
(please tick)**

Yes	No
x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Question 1b: How useful did you find this section of the guidance?
(please tick)**

Very useful	Quite Useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful
x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 1c: Do you have any further comments on this section of the guidance?

Some advice to help you to answer this question – Please provide your suggestions for improvements or additions to this section. Are there any further topics that you would like to see included, any changes that should be made or any other comments you'd like to make?

Comments

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Consultation Questions

Section 3: Values and Principles

**Question 2a: Was this section of the guidance clear and easy to understand?
(please tick)**

Yes	No
x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Question 2b: How useful did you find this section of the guidance?
(please tick)**

Very useful	Quite Useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful
<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 2c: Do you have any further comments on this section of the guidance?

Some advice to help you to answer this question – Please provide your suggestions for improvements or additions to this section. Are there any further topics that you would like to see included, any changes that should be made or any other comments you'd like to make?

Comments

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Consultation Questions

Section 4: Eligibility and Assessment

Question 3a: Was this section of the guidance clear and easy to understand? (please tick)

Yes	No
x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 3b: How useful did you find this section of the guidance? (please tick)

Very useful	Quite Useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful
<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 3c: Do you have any further comments on this section of the guidance?

Some advice to help you to answer this question – Please provide your suggestions for improvements or additions to this section. Are there any further topics that you would like to see included, any changes that should be made or any other comments you'd like to make?

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Section 5 : Support Planning

This section of the guidance covered:

- general guidance on support planning
- risk
- resources
- the choices that must be made available to the supported person and
- information and support

**Question 4a: Was this section of the guidance clear and easy to understand?
(please tick)**

Yes	No
x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Question 4b: How useful did you find this section of the guidance?
(please tick)**

Very useful	Quite Useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful
<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 4c: Do you have any further comments on this section of the guidance?

Please provide your suggestions for improvements or additions to this section. Are there any further topics that you would like to see included, any changes that should be made or any other comments you'd like to make?

Comments

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Section 6 : Monitoring and Review

**Question 5a: Was this section of the guidance clear and easy to understand?
(please tick)**

Yes	No
x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Question 5b: How useful did you find this section of the guidance?
(please tick)**

Very useful	Quite Useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful
<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 5c: Do you have any further comments on this section of the guidance?

Please provide your suggestions for improvements or additions to this section. Are there any further topics that you would like to see included, any changes that should be made or any other comments you'd like to make?

Comments

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Section 7 : Facilitating genuine choice for individuals

**Question 6a: Was this section of the guidance clear and easy to understand?
(please tick)**

Yes	No
x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Question 6b: How useful did you find this section of the guidance?
(please tick)**

Very useful	Quite Useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful
<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 6c: Do you have any further comments on this section of the guidance?

Please provide your suggestions for improvements or additions to this section. Are there any further topics that you would like to see included, any changes that should be made or any other comments you'd like to make?

Comments

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Consultation Questions

Section 8 : The role of the NHS professional

**Question 7a: Was this section of the guidance clear and easy to understand?
(please tick)**

Yes	No
x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Question 7b: How useful did you find this section of the guidance?
(please tick)**

Very useful	Quite Useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful
<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 7c: Do you have any further comments on this section of the guidance?

Please provide your suggestions for improvements or additions to this section. Are there any further topics that you would like to see included, any changes that should be made or any other comments you'd like to make?

that are more appropriate for statutory guidance rather than Regulations?

Comments

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Consultation Questions

Section 9.1 : Children and Families

Question 8a: Was this section of the guidance clear and easy to understand? (please tick)

Yes	No
x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 8b: How useful did you find this section of the guidance? (please tick)

Very useful	Quite Useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful
<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 8c: Do you have any further comments on this section of the guidance?

Please provide your suggestions for improvements or additions to this section. Are there any further topics that you would like to see included, any changes that should be made or any other comments you'd like to make?

From an Adult Support and Protection perspective there is some concern about what should happen during transition to adult services where there are issues about a young person's capacity to consent when they reach 16. There needs to be more clarity about the legal framework within which decisions can be made on their behalf once they are 16.

The guidance states families should be informed about the *opportunity* to apply for Power of Attorney or Guardianship. The young person would need to have the capacity to grant a Power of Attorney. Families cannot apply for a Power of Attorney - if the young person lacks capacity then a legal framework for decision making is necessary. Is it expected that in all such cases a guardianship application should be made and if so the necessary time to progress this would need to be stressed to families, in order to minimise the risk of disruption of support and ensure that legal requirements are met.

There are significant concerns that families will feel pressured into providing support

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Consultation Questions

Section 9.2 : Supported decision-making and circles of support

Question 9a: Was this section of the guidance clear and easy to understand? (please tick)

Yes	No
x <input type="checkbox"/> in part	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 9b: How useful did you find this section of the guidance? (please tick)

Very useful	Quite Useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful
<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 9c: Do you have any further comments on this section of the guidance?

Please provide your suggestions for improvements or additions to this section. Are there any further topics that you would like to see included, any changes that should be made or any other comments you'd like to make?

It was felt this section over simplifies the complexities around supported decision making and assumes (rightly in most cases) that the additional people assisting with the decision making have the best interests of the person at heart and are not putting the person under undue pressure to make a particular decision.

The Guidance states that *reasonable steps* should be taken to involve the person but it was felt more clarity was required around what should happen in cases where this is suspected and the interface with Adult Support and Protection.

Para 110 is helpful - although it was felt the first sentence should be further strengthened. The legal requirement to have a guardian or attorney appointed under the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 and the fact that only those so appointed can legally make decisions on behalf of an adult needs to be highlighted.

Para 113 states that if a professional has questions about a person's capacity they should seek assistance from an MHO. There are concerns about the appropriateness of this at such an early stage as there is considerable potential to increase the workload for MHOs. This is a highly complex area and more clarity is sought to ensure people are not placed at increased risk of harm.

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Consultation Questions

Section 9.3: Carers

Question 10a: Was this section of the guidance clear and easy to understand? (please tick)

Yes	No
x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 10b: How useful did you find this section of the guidance? (please tick)

Very useful	Quite Useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful
<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 10c: Do you have any further comments on this section of the guidance?

Please provide your suggestions for improvements or additions to this section. Are there any further topics that you would like to see included, any changes that should be made or any other comments you'd like to make?

There are concerns about carer stress if they take on the funded support role and the resultant impact this may have on the supported person.

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Consultation Questions

Section 9.4: Direct payments

Question 11a: Was this section of the guidance clear and easy to understand? (please tick)

Yes	No
x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 11b: How useful did you find this section of the guidance? (please tick)

Very useful	Quite Useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful
<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 11c: Do you have any further comments on this section of the guidance?

Please provide your suggestions for improvements or additions to this section. Are there any further topics that you would like to see included, any changes that should be made or any other comments you'd like to make?

It should be made clear that in the monitoring of direct payments, if the supported person's health, welfare or financial needs are not being met then consideration should be given to whether they fall within the definition of an Adult at Risk as defined by the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007, and they may be at risk of harm / significant harm and Adult Support and Protection measures may be required.

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Section 9.5: Wider legal duties and strategic responsibilities

Question 12a: Was this section of the guidance clear and easy to understand? (please tick)

Yes	No
x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 12b: How useful did you find this section of the guidance? (please

Very useful	Quite Useful	Not very useful	Not at all useful
<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Question 12c: Do you have any further comments on this section of the guidance?

Please provide your suggestions for improvements or additions to this section. Are there any further topics that you would like to see included, any changes that should be made or any other comments you'd like to make?

It was felt that much clearer guidance on prioritising Protection issues is necessary. The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 and Self-Directed Support legislation both give councils statutory powers and duties which could be seen to be conflicting. As well as potentially leaving vulnerable people at risk of harm / significant harm, this could increase both professional risks for individuals and corporate risk. Given the scrutiny under which public bodies are placed when there are issues of safeguarding, much more clarity on this is required. Adult Support and Protection is a very complex and nuanced area requiring sound professional judgement particularly in areas where there may be undue pressure and questions about capacity.

Other specific issues identified were:

- Information-sharing between councils and support agencies when there is known risk relating to a supported person and potential risk to staff whom they might employ and steps that might be taken to ensure safety for staff.
- People felt that the Guidance should provide clarity on whether councils should insist on a PVG check for people employed to provide funded support.

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Consultation Questions – General Questions

The Guidance document as a whole

Question 13: Do you have any further general comments on the guidance?

For example, are there any gaps in terms of the topics covered by the guidance? Are there any major changes that you would recommend? Do you have any comments on the style and layout of the guidance, or the language used in the guidance?

East and Midlothian Adult Protection Committee welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft Guidance and Regulations and wishes to state its support in general for the implementation of Self-Directed Support. In this document comments have been made on the questions where a response was relevant to Adult Support and Protection.

Whilst wanting to promote a risk enablement model it must be acknowledged that the reality for people we work with in Adult Support and Protection is that support is often required for a vulnerable person to manage risk, and sometimes protective measures are required. The risk of undue pressure is significant, particularly if family members are employed and it is suggested that more clarity around this is required.

It was felt that the legal duty to report if someone knows or believes that a person may be an adult at risk of harm under section 5(3) ASPA should be highlighted

The costs and benefits arising from this guidance

Question 14: Do you have any comments on the financial costs or benefits of the requirements set out in the guidance?

Can you identify any financial costs or benefits to individuals, local authorities, health boards, providers or any other person or organisation affected by the guidance. In considering the costs and benefits you may wish to consult the Business Regulatory Impact Assessment published for the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act available at the following hyperlink:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/03/5525>

We plan to update the BRIA in light of the comments and information from this consultation.

Comments

The equality and human rights impacts of the guidance

Question 15 (a): Do you have any views on the impact of the guidance on any or all of the following equality categories:

- i) age;**
- ii) disability**
- iii) gender;**
- iv) lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender;**
- v) race, and;**
- vi) religion and belief**

Some advice to help you to answer this question - By “equality impacts” we mean whether or not the guidance will affect certain groups in a positive or a negative way. In considering the impacts you may wish to consult the Equality Impact Assessment published for the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act available at the following hyperlink:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/03/9876>

We plan to update the Equality Impact Assessment in light of the comments and information from this consultation.

Comments

Question 15 (b): Do you have any views on the impact of the guidance on human rights?

For more information about human rights please see the Scottish Human Rights Commission’s website at:

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/abouthumanrights/whatarehumanrights>

There were considerable concerns in relation to safeguarding issues which may have human rights implications for individuals who might potentially be placed at risk.

Consultation Questionnaire

Draft Regulations

Consultation Questions

Question 1: What are your views on Part 2 of the draft Regulations (calculation, payment and termination of direct payments)?

Comments

Question 2: What are your views on Part 3 of the draft Regulations (appropriate/inappropriate circumstances for the employment of close relatives)?

There are concerns about the complexity involved in assessing whether there is undue pressure being placed on either the supported person by carers, or carers by the supported person to agree to or abide by the terms of the employment arrangement.

Risk of increased pressure on carers and the impact on the supported person within a family relationship is significant. Family dynamics will clearly change when family carers are paid to provide support.

Question 3: What are your views on Regulation 11 which deems individuals who are placed under a variety of criminal justice orders to be ineligible to receive direct payments?

For example, is it appropriate to impose the exclusions listed in Regulation 11? Are there any persons not listed in regulation 11 to whom it would be inappropriate to offer the option of a direct payment?

Direct payments should be discretionary and safeguarding issues around both the supported person and the funded carer should take precedence over the duty to offer a direct payment. Significant concerns were raised around the legal position for professionals and for local authorities around the interface between Adult protection child protection and SDS

Question 4: What are your views on restricting access to direct payments for those who are homeless, those who are fleeing domestic abuse or those who require support in relation to drug or alcohol addiction?

There should be discretion to have this option where, for example, it is assessed as part of a support and protection plan.

Question 5: What are your views on restricting access to direct payments in relation to the provision of long-term residential care?

This question was raised during the initial consultations on a draft SDS Bill. The Scottish Government would like to invite detailed views before making a final decision prior to the laying of the Regulations before the Scottish Parliament. Should the restriction be removed from the final regulations, thereby allowing direct payments for residential care? Or should it be retained? Please provide reasons as to your support or opposition to requiring authorities to provide direct payments for residential care.

Comments

Question 6: The draft Regulations do not specify circumstances where the direct payment option should be unavailable for care and support to children/families. *Should* there be specific restrictions on choice of support in relation to children/families support (i.e. support provided under Section 22 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995) and should these restrictions apply to the direct payment only, or to other options as well?

Comments

Question 7: Do you have any further comments on the draft Regulations?

For example, are there any gaps in terms of the topics covered by the Regulations? Are there any major changes that you would recommend? Are there any topics that are more appropriate for statutory guidance rather than Regulations?

Comments

Draft Regulations

Consultation Questions – General Questions

The costs and benefits arising from these regulations

Question 8 : Do you have any comments on the financial costs or benefits of the Regulations?

Can you identify any financial costs or benefits to individuals, local authorities, health boards, providers or any other person or organisation affected by the Regulations. In considering the costs and benefits you may wish to consult the Business Regulatory Impact Assessment published for the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act available at the following hyperlink:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/03/5525>

We plan to update the BRIA in light of the comments and information from this consultation.

Comments

The equality and human rights impacts of the regulations

Question 9 (a): Do you have any views on the impact of the Regulations on any or all of the following equality categories:

- i) age;**
- ii) disability**
- iii) gender;**
- iv) lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender;**
- v) race, and;**
- vi) religion and belief**

By “equality impacts” we mean whether or not, and in what ways, the Regulations will affect certain groups, and whether they will impact on those groups in a positive or a negative way. In considering the impacts you may wish to consult the Equality Impact Assessment published for the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013, available at the following hyperlink:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/03/9876>

We plan to update the Equality Impact Assessment in light of this consultation.

Comments

Question 9 (b): Do you have any views on the impact of the Regulations on human rights?

For more information about human rights please see the Scottish Human Rights Commission’s website at:

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/abouthumanrights/whatarehumanrights>

Comments