

# Care in the city



## New opportunities and challenges

The implementation of the Care Act presents us with new opportunities and challenges. It's essential we use the opportunities to continue our personalisation of services, giving people more choice and control. We have made good progress over recent years and we need to build on this to implement the Act.

There will be additional funding in 2015/16 to support the implementation. We will use this money creatively, developing new ways of delivering services with our partners and citizens. This will help us provide better outcomes locally and perform our new statutory duties.

### Philip Letchfield

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## The care act in Brighton & Hove

### care and support & you

We've been broadly working in the way set out in the Care Act for some time. There will be some changes.

We are making improvements to our assessment arrangements from April 2015 to support people's involvement. If someone moves to another part of England we will work with the council there to ensure there is no gap in their care.

We'll continue to offer deferred payments on care home costs. From April 2015 we will charge to set up a deferred payment agreement and charge interest on the amount owed to us. These charges will help cover the costs of running the scheme.

We will continue to support carers in the city including providing the carers discount card, offering a carer's emergency backup scheme so that if something happens to the carer, the person they look after will get the support they have requested in the agreed plan. We will assess carers' needs and look at what other help we can offer such as money to spend on things that make caring easier.



## New guidance on safeguarding

The Care Act places adult safeguarding as a requirement for the first time. Replacing "no secrets" it encourages:

- Moving away from a process supported by conversations to a series of conversations supported by a process
- Safeguarding which is person-led and outcome focussed
- An emphasis on improvement and resolution in a person's circumstances

Alison Laing and Richard Cattell from Adult Safeguarding will soon provide workshops to help council staff understand the new duties, procedures, and implications of "Making Safeguarding Personal" for practice.

Dates of the workshops and details of how staff can join will be announced shortly.

## Key dates

### Tuesday 17 March

The council assessment services Care Act summit takes place from 9am – 1pm in the Brighthelm Centre

### Wednesday 18 March

Challenges and opportunities of working together” seminar at Brighton Racecourse. This is open to anyone who works in social care. Book your place now at [www.careshowcase.org.uk](http://www.careshowcase.org.uk)

### Wednesday 1 April

Care Act changes implemented.

## Better Care in action – the collaborative hostels project

The project was commissioned following the homeless health audit in 2013, which highlighted the high level of health needs among the city’s hostel population. Brighton and Hove has seven homeless hostels with 288 residents. It was developed with the aim of improving the health of hostel residents.

The service is based on a proactive model of care delivered by a multi-disciplinary team which includes an advanced nurse practitioner, an occupational therapist, a health care assistant, a nurse and a physiotherapist.

81 residents have received a service. This has helped to build trust and confidence between residents and the nursing team, tackling long standing health issues such as testing for blood borne diseases, immunisation, and diet.

This input has facilitated hostel support workers to address other issues and for services to work together to improve the wellbeing of the resident.

Hostel support staff are also working differently. With more freedom to work with independent care providers and pooling working hours, we can be more flexible in how care and support is delivered.

## Assessment tools are changing

We have reviewed our assessment tools to ensure these are Care Act compliant. The changes apply to initial and full assessments, reviews & support planning. At all stages we will need to have:

- A greater focus on the person identifying what works well for them, and how their needs are met.
- Consider whether independent advocacy is required.
- Apply the new national eligibility criteria.
- Provide advice to reduce needs and prevent or delay these developing in future.

The revised assessment and safeguarding tools will go live on 1 April 2015. During March and April there will be several briefing sessions for council staff to demonstrate the tools.

