



south ayrshire
health & social care
partnership

Local Carer Eligibility Criteria

Implementation date: 1st April 2018



1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 came into force on the 1st April 2018. The principles of the Act are to support carers' health and wellbeing and help make their caring role sustainable.
- 1.2 The Act introduces new rights for both adult and young carers. It also places new duties on Integrated Joint Boards (IJB) to support both adult and young carers based on their identified needs and a requirement to publish a local eligibility criteria.
- 1.3 South Ayrshire Health & Social Care Partnership has set out a local eligibility criteria in this document that will define carers that are eligible for support.
- 1.4 Our approach to implementing the Carers Act 2016 will place carers who require support at the centre of the support planning process. The support planning process will explore the contribution to the cared for person and how this impacts on the life of the carer.
- 1.5 In the case of young carers, they are entitled to be children first and foremost and our approach will ensure compatibility with 'Getting it Right for Every Child'.
- 1.6 A requirement of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 is to publish a local eligibility criteria that incorporates:
 - i. A definition of eligibility and related terms.
 - ii. The thresholds that must be met to be eligible for support.

2. Definitions

Why do we need eligibility criteria?

- 2.1 The purpose of having eligibility criteria is to ensure the limited public resources available are targeted at those with the greatest level of need. It also enables public bodies to demonstrate equity, consistency and transparency in both the decision making process and the allocation of any resources.
- 2.2 The local eligibility criteria is applied when completing a carers support plan as part of the assessment process. The application of eligibility involves an exchange of information between all those involved in the assessment process. This conversation will determine what level of advice, guidance or possibly the provision of formal support is necessary to meet the needs of the carer.

Meaning of “carer”

- 2.3 An individual who provides or intends to provide unpaid care for another individual (the “cared-for person”).

Meaning of “young carer”

- 2.4 A young carer is a carer who is under 18 years old. It also includes carers who are 18 years old and remain at school.

Meaning of “adult carer”

- 2.5 An adult carer is a carer who is at least 18 years old and not still at school.
- 2.6 Please see the [Carers \(Scotland\) Act 2016](#) for further definitions of terms.
- 2.7 **Adult Carer Support Plan**

The Adult Carer Support Plan (ACSP) is a document that is used to explore the quality of life of the adult carer with a focus on their personal outcomes. On completion, any eligible needs will be discussed and it will be decided if any support needs to be provided.

2.8 Young Carer Statement

The purpose of a Young Carer Statement (YCS) is to identify and record a young carer’s personal outcomes and to determine how these can be achieved.

The SHANARRI indicators of wellbeing: **S**afe, **H**ealthy, **A**chieving, **N**urtured, **A**ctive, **R**espected, **R**esponsible and **I**ncluded are included inform the YCS. The young carer might have other needs and challenges and these may also be discussed when completing the YCS.

3. Eligibility Criteria

- 3.6 In South Ayrshire our approach to applying eligibility is underpinned by a strong commitment to prevention and early intervention. We have a well-established working relationship with a range of third sector organisations who deliver preventative services across the communities of South Ayrshire. The focus of prevention and early intervention is to provide carers with the right support at the right time carers that enables them to continue in their caring role.
- 3.7 The Adult Carer Support Plan (ACSP) and the Young Carer Statement (YCS) have been designed to look at impact on the quality of life of the carer in the context of their caring role and responsibilities. The purpose of completing a support plan is to explore any issues that are impacting on the health and wellbeing of the carer.

- 3.8 With a focus on outcomes, a support plan is completed with both the carer and the practitioner having an effective conversation about what matters to the carer.
- 3.9 The purpose of completing either an ACSP or YCS is to explore the health and wellbeing of the carer and identify personal outcomes. The plan should also include a contingency plan with emergency contacts that can be accessed should the situation change. Information and advice is also provided at this stage including the carers' rights. Once the plan is completed the local eligibility criteria is discussed and applied to ensure that the right level of support is delivered in each situation.

4. Process

- 4.6 The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 requires that local authorities (and effectively Health and Social Care Partnership) set out and publish their own local eligibility criteria.
- 4.7 The application of eligibility in practice can be broken down into three steps and they are as follows:

4.8 Step One

A carer is identified and is supported to complete either an Adult Carer Support Plan (ACSP) or a Young Carer Statement (YCS). This process involves having a good conversation between a carer and a practitioner with the focus on the health and wellbeing of the carer.

4.9 Step Two

During the process of completing the support plan the focus will be on the outcomes that would improve the quality of life of the carer. The conversation continues to discuss how the identified outcomes can be achieved and who needs to be involved. At this stage, a carer may be provided with advice and guidance or signposted to other services.

4.10 Step Three

With the agreed support plan in place, a carer who has eligible needs for formal services can then decide what [Self-Directed Support](#) would work best for them and how they would like any formal support delivered.

5. Eligibility for services

5.1 Eligibility for formal services is determined through a combination of needs and associated risk. There are five indicator categories

No risk	Indicates that there are no quality of life issues resulting from the caring situation. The carer's health and wellbeing is not at risk and they are able to achieve a good life balance. They do not currently have any requirement for support or advice.
Low risk	Indicates that there may be some quality of life issues but low risk to a carer's capacity for independence or health and wellbeing. There may be some need for universal and/or preventative support or advice.
Moderate risk	Indicates that there is some risk to a carer's capacity for independent living and health and wellbeing. This may call for provision of advice and guidance and signposting to relevant services.
Substantial risk	Indicates that there is significant risk to a carer's capacity for independent living and health and wellbeing and they may require input from Social Work or other Partnership services.
Critical risk	Indicates that there are critical risks to a carers health and well-being and their ability to continue in their role. Critical risk is likely to call for the immediate provision of formal social care services.

In South Ayrshire we will provide information, advice and signposting to individuals across all of the above risk categories. This will include information about access to services through our existing arrangements with the third sector and will include signposting to services such as [South Ayrshire Life](#) that can provide links to a wide range of relevant opportunities.

We currently only provide formal services to carers who have been assessed as having a critical level of needs.

6. Equalities and Impact Assessment

An Equalities and Impact Assessment has been completed and can be found [here](#).

7. Review

This policy and any associated procedures will be reviewed within three years subject to any further changes in legislation.

8. Related Documents and Policies

[Carers \(Scotland\) Act 2016](#)

[Getting it right for every child - GIRFEC](#)

[Fair Access to Community Care Services](#)

[Self-Directed Support Policy](#)

Short Breaks Statement

9. Concerns and complaints

We value comments and complaints about the health and social care functions for which we are responsible and will use information from them to help us to improve what we do. We want to hear from you if you have any comments or wish to complain. To assist you to make a complaint we have developed a [Complaints Handling Procedure](#) which sets out how we will handle complaints.

If you wish to make a complaint, suggestion, compliment or general query about our work, or our decisions, please do so by following the guidance set out and by completing the [online form](#).

This information can be made available, on request, in braille, large print or audio formats and can be translated into a range of languages. Contact details are provided below.

درخواست کرنے پر یہ معلومات نابینا افراد کے لئے ابھرے حروف، بڑے حروف یا آڈیو میں مہیا کی جاسکتی ہے اور اس کا مختلف زبانوں میں ترجمہ بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ رابطہ کی تفصیلات نیچے فراہم کی گئی ہیں۔

本信息可应要求提供盲文，大字印刷或音频格式，以及可翻译成多种语言。以下是详细联系方式。

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ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਮੰਗ ਕੇ ਬੋਲ, ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਸੁਣਨ ਵਾਲੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਲਈ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ, ਅਤੇ ਇਹਦਾ ਤਰਜਮਾ ਹੋਰ ਬੋਲੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਕਰਵਾਇਆ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ।

Niniejsze informacje mogą zostać udostępnione na życzenie, w alfabecie Braille'a, w druku powiększonym lub w formie audio oraz mogą zostać przetłumaczone na wiele języków obcych. Dane kontaktowe znajdują się poniżej.

Faodar am fiosrachadh seo fhaighinn, le iarrtas, ann am braille, clò mòr no clàr fuaim agus tha e comasach eadar-theangachadh gu grunn chànanan. Tha fiosrachadh gu h-ìosal mu bhith a' cur fios a-steach.

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