

Social Care Reform

Integrated Care Partnership
21 September 2022

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Introduction - Build Back Better

The Government introduced the Policy Document – Build Back Better, after the unprecedented challenge from COVID-19. Highlights are:

- Introduction of a 1.25% Health and Social Care Levy to benefit the whole of the UK, ringfenced for health and social care services and increase the rates of dividend tax by 1.25 per cent from April 2022.
- Usage of new levy towards significant new investment – reducing long waits for the tests and treatment that people need. £12bn per year for Health and Social Care over the next three years.
- Plan for healthcare to i) tackle the electives backlog, ii) putting the NHS back on a sustainable footing and iii) increasing the focus on prevention.
- A commitment to creating a sustainable adult social care system that is fit for the future, alongside the programme of wider healthcare reform. With investment of £5.4 billion (of the £36bn) in adult social care over the next three years to deliver the funding and system reform.
- Brings the health and the social care systems more closely together so that people are cared for in the most appropriate place for their needs, whether at hospital, in care or at home.
- A series of specific pieces of reform for Adult Social Care, such as:
 - From October 2023, no eligible person starting adult social care will have to pay more than £86,000 for personal care over their lifetime so people will no longer face unpredictable or unlimited care costs.
 - Developing a plan to support professional development and the long-term wellbeing of the Social Care workforce. The Government will also invest at least £500 million in new measures over three years.

Transforming the delivery of care in England

Build Back Better

People at the Heart of Care (Social Care Reform)

Overarching aim is:

- People have choice, control and support to live independent lives.
- People can access outstanding quality and tailored care and support.
- People find adult social care fair and accessible.

Health and Social Care Integration

Overarching aim is to join up care for:

- Patients and people who draw on services.
- Staff looking for ways to better support increasing numbers of people with care needs.
- Organisations delivering these services to the local population.

Mutually reinforcing reforms to make integrated social care and health a reality for everyone, improving equity of access, experience and outcomes across England.

Connecting Themes

- **Person-centred care**, improving population health and reducing health disparities, placing a much greater emphasis on prevention, early intervention and population health improvement and equality of access.
- **Workforce and Carers** – investment, training, personal development and career progression, and recruitment: shared approaches to facilitate integration and improve capacity. Recognition and support for unpaid carers.
- **Digital Transformation** – driving up safety and quality of care, empowering patients to manage their own health.
- Promotion of **place as the building block** for integration.
- **Housing**: helping people maintain healthy independent living. Thinking ‘housing and community’ when planning and delivering local health and care services.
- Developing a **sustainable care market**: ‘fair cost of care’.

The experience of care: *‘Everyone should be able to say; ‘I can plan my care with people who work together, to understand me and my carer(s), who allow me control, and bring together services to achieve the outcomes important to me.’ National Voices, TLAP 2013.*

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Social Care Reform Policy

On 1 December 2021, the Government unveiled “People at the Heart of Care: adult social care reform white paper”.

This sibling paper to the Integration White Paper is one of four documents that together are intended to deliver Governments commitment to transforming adult social care. This includes the [Health and Care Bill](#), the [Build Back Better](#) policy document and the [autumn Spending Review](#).

The white paper sets out the following key objectives:

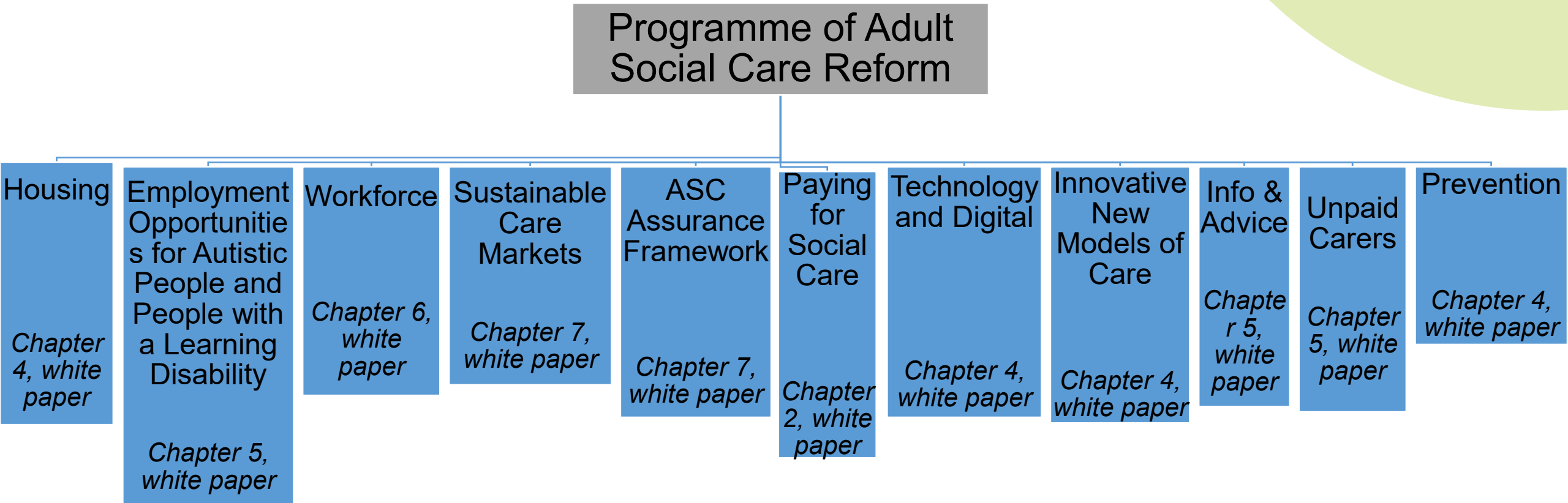
- **people have choice, control and support to live independent lives;**
- **people can access outstanding quality and tailored care and support;**
- **people find adult social care fair and accessible.**

The white paper sets out detailed strategies, policies and initiatives, some of which are to be delivered over three years and some of which receive additional government funding. Others are longer-term plans over ten years.

The Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) is developing an evaluation framework for the vision and its policies.

A [national website](#) has also been set up to explain the adult social care reforms.

Social Care Reform Scope



Social Care Reform Scope: Housing

Integration of health, care and housing

Integrated care partnerships will have a critical role in driving integration between health care and housing. Government will invest at least £300m from 2022 over three years to:

- Enable all local areas to agree a plan embedding housing in broader health and care strategies, including investment in jointly commissioned services.
- Boost the supply of supported housing coupled with driving innovation in how services are delivered alongside housing where possible.
- Increase local expenditure on service for those in supported housing (proportionately less of this is provided in the UK than in comparable countries).

Specialist housing market for older people

The Government will continue to invest in the Care and Support Specialised Housing (CASSH) fund, with £71m per year over three years to incentivise the supply of specialised housing for all age and care groups. This is in addition to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) Affordable Homes programme.

Disabled Facilities Grant

Government is committing to providing **a further £570m per year for local areas to deliver the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)**. Following the DFG review in 2018, it will produce **new DFG guidance** based on a public consultation in 2022, examining:

- Increasing the amount the grant can pay for an individual adaptation.
- How the DFG is allocated to local authorities to make sure it is better aligned with demand.
- How to align the complex DFG means test with charging reforms.

Government will also fund a new service to make minor repairs and changes in people's homes.

Social Care Reform Scope:

Employment Opportunities for Autistic People and People with a Learning Disability

Supporting autistic people and people with a disability into employment

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) will launch a local supported employment project to identify effective ways local authorities can support people into employment. This will start with approximately 1,200 participants and is expected to begin in 2022.

DWP will also work on a new proof of concept, Access to Work Plus programme, to test out enhanced support with employers to try and open up the job market.

The Council have already successfully bid to be part of this programme.

Social Care Reform Scope: Workforce

A social care workforce strategy

The white paper acknowledges 'pressing recruitment and retention challenges' and sets out three overarching aims for the workforce strategy:

- A well trained and developed workforce.
- A healthy and supported workforce.
- A sustainable and recognised workforce.

Universal new career structures and training opportunities

Government will invest **at least £500m over three years to transform and support the workforce** with universal new career structures and training opportunities. This will complement general initiatives, such as the National Plan for Jobs and the National Living Wage, which increased by 6.6% in 2022. A key element of the transformation will be **a knowledge and skills framework** to provide universally acknowledged career pathways that support career progression for care workers and registered managers. A funded learning and development offer will include:

- Investment in more training places, working alongside colleges and training providers with joined-up strategies from the Department for Employment, such as local skills development plans.
- Measures to improve the portability of skills, such as care certificates and skills passports with recognised standards.
- New digital workforce hub will allow workforce to access information and advice and will embed records of learning and development.
- Continuous professional investment for registered nurses and related healthcare staff and investment in social worker training routes.
- Local best practices in recruitment will be supported.

Social Care Reform Scope:

Sustainable Care Markets

Improving market-shaping, commissioning and contract management

£1.4bn will be provided over three years to enable local authorities to pay a fair rate for care and prepare local care markets for reform.

The white paper indicates that there is a problem with underpayment in some parts of the country and DHSC will shortly announce details of how it will work with the sector on this, including building on good practice in market shaping and commissioning that promotes new models of care.

Self Funders, under the Care Act 18(3), will be able to ask Local Authorities to broker residential services on their behalf at the price the Local Authority would usually pay.

Social Care Reform Scope:

ASC Assurance Framework

New assurance framework

The Health and Care Bill includes a duty for the CQC to review and assess local authority performance on Part 1 of the Care Act 2014. The white paper sets out initial thoughts about the activity that may be included in the new framework: oversight of workforce recruitment, retention and professional development; managing transitions between services; prevention and reablement; safeguarding; outcomes and leadership; shaping the care market and managing commissioning and contracting; meeting the needs of unpaid carers; and needs assessments, including for self-funders.

The **framework will be part of a new single assessment framework** that also covers integrated care systems. It will build on current assessment systems and on the “I” statements in the Think Local Act Personal Making it Real framework. It will be launched no sooner than April 2023.

There will be **new legal powers for the Secretary of State** to intervene in cases of serious failings.

Social Care Reform Scope:

Paying for Social Care

Introduction of a cap on lifetime personal care costs

Unlike the NHS, Social Care is a financially assessed service with people possibly having to contribute towards or wholly pay for their care.

Under reform, from October 2023, no one will have to pay more than £86,000 over their lifetime on their “personal care” costs.

Local Authorities will have to administer a digital care account for all people who wish to have one to enable tracking of costs against this £86,000. There are rules about what costs count towards the cap.

Extended means test

In addition to the cap, Government are extending the financially assessed means test. This will be more generous with more people able to access government funding towards their care costs (upper limit from £23k to £100k). £2.2bn of the funding is set aside for the cap and means test.

What is the financial assessment?

Money and assets



Social Care Reform Scope: Technology and Digital

A digitally enabled social care system

Government will **invest at least £150m of new funding to deliver a programme of digital transformation**. Measures include:

- A new scheme to test ideas at scale and build cases for change – for instance, helping people in care homes vulnerable to falls with technology such as acoustic monitoring.
- Working with partners to produce a shared roadmap of priorities and digital innovation programmes.
- Fulfilling the commitment in the draft strategy – ‘Data saves lives: reshaping health and social care with data’ – to ensure at least 80% of social care providers have a digitised care record that can connect to a shared care record, by March 2024.
- Developing infrastructure and cyber security, such as broadband upgrades in care homes and working with telecoms to support home care providers to work digitally – security is particularly important as working with the NHS deepens.
- Developing digital skills in the sector, including a comprehensive digital learning offer.

Social Care Reform Scope:

Innovative New Models of Care

Adopting innovation at scale - Innovative Models of Care programmes

The Government will **invest up to £30m in the Innovative Models of Care programmes**, to deliver new ways of working, such as Buurtzorg, at scale.

This will be a key vehicle for local areas to trial and evaluate different models in topics such as prevention, reablement, better support for unpaid carers, and enablers such as local community capacity building or outcomes-based commissioning. The programme is being designed with the sector. Government will provide some “risk-sharing” funding to mitigate additional costs of system change to local authorities and to support care providers to build capacity.

Improvement support

To deliver reform ambitions, the Government will increase improvement funding to **over £70 million over the next three years to step up improvement activity across the sector**, designing an offer that supports delivery of our reform ambitions in a way that has the greatest impact and meets local authorities' needs.

Social Care Reform Scope: Information and Advice

Improving information and advice

The government will **invest at least £5m to review existing initiatives and test and evaluate new ways of people getting personalised local advice** on the care and support available.

The Government will consider changing CQC regulations to require registered providers to be more transparent about their fees.

Plans for improved data to understand performance and spread best practice

The pandemic has shown the value of good, well-used data. The Government will review current data collections and publications and **establish an adult social care data framework by Spring 2022.**

The **adult social care outcomes framework will be updated by autumn 2022.** There will be a shift from aggregated data to anonymised client-level data using the NHS number. Work will take place to improve data sharing between local authorities and providers to allow real-time decision making. The survey of adult carers and the adult social care survey will be revised.

Social Care Reform Scope:

Unpaid Carers

Unpaid carers

Government will invest up to £25m for evaluated projects to 'kick start a change in services' and explore new models relating to respite and breaks and peer-group and wellbeing support.

The Health and Care Bill places a new obligation on Integrated Care Boards and NHS England to involve carers when commissioning care for individuals.

The Department for Education will amend the school census to identify young carers.

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy will introduce a carers' leave entitlement of five days unpaid leave a year for eligible employees.

Appendix B to the white paper sets out the progress so far on the 2018-20 Carers' Action Plan.

Social Care Reform Scope: Prevention

Focusing on prevention and health promotion

The government will **invest £3m over three years in a deconditioning inequality innovation fund for older people at risk of losing strength and mobility**, to be administered by the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities.

The integration white paper talks more to wider prevention initiatives across Health and Care.

Social Care Reform – Charging for Care

Starting to consider the implications: For Residents

- I will have to pay for my care if my assets are over £100k. If my assets are lower than £100k, my local authority may contribute towards my care costs depending on my level of income.
- From October 2023, I will only ever pay a maximum of £86k towards my personal care costs.
- The costs towards my cap will be based on what I personally pay towards my eligible care needs. I, or a family member, can choose to buy more expensive care but the extra cost won't go towards my cap.
- If I am in Residential Care I may still have to pay my Daily Living costs in the same way as if I lived in my own home.
- The Local Authority can now organise my care and support if I choose. In doing so they will support me with Care Act and Financial assessments.

Social Care Reform – Charging for Care

Starting to consider the implications: For Care Providers

- The economics of our market will change.
- We may have fewer self-funders coming directly to us and therefore our income from them will reduce.
- As self-funder income reduces, in order for us to maintain our income levels we will need to attract greater income from Local Authorities – both in total and unit price.
- We will need to work more closely with Local Authorities to help them understand a Fair Cost for Care that creates sustainable markets.

Social Care Reform – Charging for Care

Starting to consider the implications: For Local Authority

- The new means test will mean we are supporting more people than we did previously.
- Those that previously paid potentially an unlimited level of cost will be local authority funded when reaching the cap.
- We will be undertaking significantly more Care Act and Financial Assessments.
- Our systems and processes will have to accommodate the administration of new “Care Accounts” for everyone.
- We will likely have to commission services for more people.
- We will have to increase our engagement with our local providers to understand their costs.
- We will likely have to pay a higher price for care as the market economics shifts between local authority purchasing and that of self-funders.
- If not wholly funded by Government, this creates an additional financial pressure on Local Authorities.

Thank you.

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