

What is the eligibility criteria for support?

The Care Act 2014 introduced a national eligibility criteria, which is consistent across England. There is an eligibility framework for adults and a different one for carers.

Adults with Care and Support Needs

To establish whether adults with care and support needs meet this threshold, we have to look at how their needs affect their ability to carry out tasks (achieve outcomes) such as eating properly, dressing themselves and maintaining personal hygiene. We will also look at how this impacts on their wellbeing.

The tasks we consider include:

- managing and maintaining nutrition, such as being able to prepare and eat food and drink
- maintaining personal hygiene, such as being able to wash themselves and their clothes
- managing toilet needs
- being able to dress appropriately, for example during cold weather
- being able to move around the home safely, including accessing the home from outside
- keeping the home sufficiently clean and safe
- being able to develop and maintain family or other personal relationships, in order to avoid loneliness or isolation
- accessing and engaging in work, training, education or volunteering, including physical access
- being able to safely use necessary facilities or services in the local community including public transport and recreational facilities or services
- carrying out any caring responsibilities, such as for a child.

We must then consider:

- If the person's needs arise from, or are related to, a physical or mental impairment or illness
- If the person's needs make them unable to achieve **two or more** of the above tasks (outcomes)
- If there is likely to be a significant impact on the person's wellbeing as a result of being unable to carry out these tasks.

Appendix 2

An adult is only eligible where they meet all three of these conditions.

Carers

There are three questions that we need to consider when making our decision about carers eligibility. If the answer is yes to all three questions, then the carer will meet the eligibility criteria.

What will we ask carers?

The three questions a carer will be asked are:

- is the need a consequence of providing necessary care to an adult?
- does the effect of the caring role impact on the ability to achieve any of the specific outcomes (below)?
- is there a significant impact on the carer's wellbeing as a consequence of the above?

We will assess if the carer's physical or mental health is, or is at risk of, deteriorating or the carer is unable to achieve any of the following outcomes:

- carrying out any caring responsibilities the carer has for a child
- providing care to other persons for whom the carer provides care
- maintaining a habitable home environment
- managing and maintaining nutrition
- developing and maintaining family or other significant personal relationships
- accessing and engaging in work, training, education or volunteering
- making use of necessary facilities or services in the local community including recreational facilities or services
- engaging in recreational facilities.

Appendix 2

Wellbeing is a broad concept, and it is described as relating to the following areas:

- personal dignity (including treatment of the individual with respect)
- physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing
- protection from abuse and neglect
- control by the individual over day-to-day life (including over care and support provided and the way it provided)
- participation in work, education, training or recreation
- social and economic well-being
- domestic, family and personal
- suitability of living accommodation
- the individual's contribution to society.