



Community care assessment

What is it?

If you feel that the person you care for would benefit from help because they have a mental or physical illness, or are elderly or disabled, social services must carry out a community care assessment.

The assessment lets social services find out what the person's care needs are and decide which services could help to meet those needs.

How can it help?

Each local authority offers different services, but they may include:

- a place in a care home
- homecare services
- meals on wheels
- short break services (respite)
- daycare
- care in a care home

Getting these services will depend on whether the person you care for meets the local authority's eligibility criteria, which are used to decide if people are entitled to receive any services.

Who to contact

You will need to identify and contact your local social services department to request an assessment for further advice.

If you have questions about your assessments or need contact details of your local authority, call our free, confidential helpline on 0808 802 02 02 or visit our website, www.nhs.uk/carersdirect.

Carers Direct is a free national service. We offer information, advice and support for people who care for someone else.

Our comprehensive website has over 1,000 articles, 12 videos and a host of web tools to help you make decisions about your caring role. If you prefer to talk to someone about what options are available to you, our helpline advisors are on hand seven days a week, and in confidence, to do just that.

Call free on 0808 802 02 02^{*}
or go to www.nhs.uk/carersdirect

Carers Direct

*All calls from UK landlines and mobile phones are free. Lines are open 8am to 9pm, Monday to Friday, and 11am to 4pm on weekends and bank holidays. Textphone users should call 18001 0808 802 02 02. To use our call back service, in English and other languages, please go to www.carersdirectenquiry.nhs.uk/callback/carers.aspx