

## Eligibility Criteria for Community Care Services: Fair Access to Care Services

In assessing need, Social Services and Health takes into account:

- ❖ A person's presenting needs and abilities,
- ❖ The level of risks that the person faces in both the short-term and the long-term,
- ❖ The support that is already available to the person.

Essential care services are provided to assist people towards a level of living and independence where:

- ❖ There is no source of informal support reasonably able to perform them,
- ❖ The personal safety or well-being of the person (or their carers) is at significant risk without the provision of services, or
- ❖ Services are aimed at maximising the person's independence.

The **Fair Access to Care Services Framework** is used to determine who is eligible for social care services. It has 4 bands, which describe the seriousness of the risks of loss to independence if steps are not taken to address these needs.

Local Authorities can determine which levels of needs can be met, focussing on those with greatest, immediate or long-term needs.

In Wakefield MDC, it has been agreed that Social Services and Health will meet the eligible needs identified as **critical and substantial**, those with moderate or low-level needs are supported through preventative services available within the community.

In applying the eligibility framework only one eligibility decision has to be made about whether the risk sufficient for Social Services and Health to meet the presenting needs or not. There are no further eligibility criteria for services, though there are statements of purpose that explain the role of different services in addressing need.

Where eligible needs are identified then a care plan will be prepared to address these. This will ensure that the person's own support systems are complimented where appropriate by additional support to ensure the needs are addressed. The most appropriate services will be arranged to meet the identified care needs taking account of choice and the duty to ensure help is offered in the most cost-effective manner.

The same Eligibility Framework is used for everyone, so that similar outcomes are achieved for individuals in similar situations. The framework itself makes no reference to age, gender, ethnic group, religion, disabilities, impairment etc and is applied with an approach that is focuses on identifying and meeting individual eligible needs.

## SOCIAL SERVICES AND HEALTH

### Fair Access to Care Services - Framework for Determining Eligibility for Adult Social Care from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2005

FACTORS AFFECTING INDEPENDENCE						
<b>CRITICAL</b>	Life is, or will be, threatened; and/or significant health problems have developed or will develop	There is, or will be, little or no choice and control over vital aspects of the immediate environment	Serious abuse or neglect has occurred or will occur	There is, or will be, an inability to carry out vital personal care or domestic routines	Vital involvement in work, education or learning cannot or will not be sustained	Vital social support systems and relationships cannot or will not be sustained; and/or vital family and other social roles and responsibilities cannot or will not be undertaken
<b>SUBSTANTIAL</b>		There is, or will be, only partial choice and control over the immediate environment	Abuse or neglect has occurred or will occur	There is, or will be, an inability to carry out the majority of personal care or domestic routines	Involvement in many aspects of work, education or learning cannot or will not be sustained	The majority of social support systems and relationships cannot or will not be sustained; and/or the majority of family and other social roles and responsibilities cannot or will not be undertaken
<b>NEEDS ABOVE HERE ARE ELIGIBLE FOR SS&amp;H INTERVENTION</b>						
<b>MODERATE</b>				There is, or will be, an inability to carry out several personal care or domestic routines	Involvement in several aspects of work, education or learning cannot or will not be sustained	Several social support systems and relationships cannot or will not be sustained; and/or several family and other social roles and responsibilities cannot or will not be undertaken
<b>LOW</b>				There is, or will be, an inability to carry out one or two personal care or domestic routines	Involvement in one or two aspects of work, education or learning cannot or will not be sustained	One or two social support systems and relationships cannot or will not be sustained; and/or one or two family and other social roles and responsibilities cannot or will not be undertaken