

# Policy/legislation Update 2018

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The provision of health and care services in Scotland is governed by a number of legal frameworks and guided by strategy and policy designed to ensure sustainable services which are safe, effective and person-centred. The following have been launched during the life of our existing strategic Plan 2016-2019

## Health and Social Care Delivery Plan Dec 2016

The Health and Social Care Delivery Plan was published on December 19, 2016 to up the pace of improvement and change within Scotland's health and care system.

This national delivery plan sets out a series of key actions for government and local health and care services to deliver better patient care and better population health.

Key pieces of work already being taken forward are brought together in the plan including: investment in and the reform of GP services, primary care and social care services, including integration of health and social care; delivering more effective planning of NHS services; and intensifying efforts to improve public health and mental health services.

The plan has been developed to help address the rising demand being faced by health and care services, and the changing needs of an ageing population.

## The new Carers (Scotland) Act

The new Carers (Scotland) Act was launched by the Scottish government on 1 April 2018. This new legislation will extend and enhance the rights of carers and brings with it a number of important changes.

The act applies to both adult and young carers and aims to support carers' health and wellbeing and help make caring more sustainable. **Overall, the goal is to deliver improved:**

- **Carer engagement and involvement**
- **Carer health and well-being**
- **Early intervention**
- **Personal outcomes for carers**

- **Information and advice**
- **Emergency care planning**
- **Discharge planning with reduced delays and readmission**

The Charter is intended to ensure first and foremost that carers are aware of their rights as carers.

## **Strategic Framework for Action on Palliative and End of Life Care 2015**

The framework outlines the areas for action to make sure that by 2021 everyone in Scotland who needs palliative care will have access to it. In Scotland, 90% of people spend their last period of life at home or in community settings, where family members and informal carers deliver most of their care.

It emphasises the need for a culture of openness about death and dying; promoting the value of timely, caring conversation and collaborative working. It highlights the place, needs and contribution of relatives, carers and communities and seeks to harness and develop the knowledge, skill and vision of all who work and volunteer to help those with palliative care needs.

Palliative and end of life care are integral aspects of the care provided by health or social care professionals to people living with and dying from any advanced, progressive and incurable condition.

Palliative care is not just about care in the last days and hour of life, but about ensuring quality of life for both the person and their family at every stage of the life-limiting disease process from diagnosis onwards.

The framework provides a clear and strong message to support future focus in this area

## **Palliative and End of Life Care learning and development framework 2017**

Enriching and Improving Experience. Palliative and End of Life Care: A framework to support the learning and development needs of the health and social services workforce in Scotland was published in partnership by NHS Education Scotland and SSSC

## Scotland's National Dementia Strategy 2017-2020

This is Scotland's third national dementia strategy. It builds on the progress over the last ten years in transforming services and improving outcomes for people with dementia, their families and carers. Setting out 21 new commitments, the strategy provides a framework for further action to ensure the realisation of our shared vision for people with dementia and their carers.

It maintains a focus on improving the quality of care for people living with dementia and their families through work on diagnosis, including post-diagnostic support; care co-ordination during the middle stage of dementia; end of life and palliative care; workforce development and capability; data and information; and research. Crucially, within this strategy, there is a recognition of the importance of taking a person-centred and flexible approach to providing support at all stages of the care journey.