

**LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN ADULT SOCIAL CARE - 'EARLY ASSESSMENT'**  
**MODEL**

**MARKET CONSULTATION**

**Overview**

The introduction of the Care Act 2014 from April 2015 means that the London Borough of Camden has a number of new duties towards people who may need care and support including carers. Camden has been assessing the impact of these changes in relation to increased demand for assessments from self-funders (from April 2016) and carers (from April 2015).

The guidance and regulations specifies duties to local authorities on preventing, reducing and delaying needs as well as specifying a number of ways in which assessments of needs can be completed in a proportionate, person centred way.

Camden recognises the vital role that voluntary sector and other community based organisations play in supporting Camden's residents. We are therefore developing a commissioning approach to allow organisations to complete 'early assessments' of needs on behalf and in partnership with the London Borough of Camden's Adult Social Care service.

This approach will need to meet the projected demand for needs assessments and, release capacity for adult social care to focus on those with the most complex needs. As part of the development of this approach, we would like to consult with providers to understand the level of interest in delivering these services, and to inform our commissioning and procurement strategy.

**Purpose of the new approach**

- To meet the projected demand for assessments following implementation of the new duties in the Care Act.
- Release capacity for adult social care to focus on those with the most complex needs
- Improve access to preventative services for services and organisations that work with people who may have social care needs.

**Overarching strategic outcome**

- Delaying or preventing ongoing needs in Camden residents by early access to preventative services.

**Early Assessment Model**

Assessments will be completed on behalf and in partnership with Camden adult social care in line with statutory duties.

This approach will improve the service we deliver to the people of Camden by identifying needs at the earliest point of contact. People needing support will be able to access early assessments in a proportionate way, carried out by organisations and people with whom they are already familiar with and trust.

With the appropriate training, safeguards and systems in place identified front line workers in provider organisations will;

- Receive accredited Trusted Assessor training on the use and provision of simple equipment and aids to maintain independent living.
- Receive an ongoing training programme provided by adult social care enabling identified workers to complete proportionate needs assessments and support people to complete self-assessments.

Assessments will focus on an individual's wellbeing, looking at building resilience and preventing needs developing.

Trained individuals carrying out early assessments will have access to a range of pre-eligibility services provided by adult social care and other services;

- Providing personalised information and advice,
- Signposting them to universal services.
- Directly access to prevention services such as telecare and simple equipment to an agreed cost level.
- A direct pathway to reablement services.

Where an individual appears to have eligible needs requiring an ongoing package of support or complex needs requiring professional input the assessment and care management service will lead the assessment. There will be a clear and direct process to facilitate this.

Assessments will be inputted directly into an adult social care database via a web portal. Assessment tools, guidance and other related information will be developed with provider organisations and provided by ASC.

Providers will have direct access to the appropriate expertise within ASC for advice whenever required – a formal structure will be in place to ensure this.

A formal system of feedback and monitoring will be developed to ensure that the trained individuals are receiving the appropriate level of support and to measure ongoing outcomes.

## **Providers**

Before commencing a formal procurement process, we are consulting with providers, particularly those that have contact with Camden residents, to explore and develop this approach further.

To be eligible to deliver these services, it is anticipated that providers must be able to meet certain obligations to provide early assessments on behalf of ASC.

- Identified assessors to undergo Disclosure and Barring checks arranged by LB Camden.
- A commitment for individuals to attend all compulsory training to act as an assessor including an ongoing programme of development.
- To complete assessments in line with the duties of the Care Act relating to proportionality, provision of supported self-assessment and a consideration of preventing needs and the individual's wellbeing.
- To follow a formally agreed assessment process within agreed timelines.
- Where appropriate to work jointly with Adult Social Care and any other service to complete an assessment in line with the wishes of the person being assessed.
- To abide by LB Camden information governance and data sharing protocols.

We would like to receive feedback on the following areas and any other comments that you may have about our proposals.