

The Care Act

What does it mean for you?

Information for people receiving a service from
Kent County Council Adult Social Care

Easy
Read



KCC working for you
kent.gov.uk/careact

Hello



We (Kent County Council) would like to tell you about how care and support is changing for the better from April 2015.



This is because of the Care Act.



The Care Act is a new law about care and support for adults in England.



There used to be lots of different laws on care and support. This could make it difficult to know what care and support you could get.

The Care Act brings all these laws together to make one new law instead.



There are clearer rules to say:



- What people should be able to get



- What councils have to do.



If you receive care and support these changes could help you.



They could also help you if you care for someone else.



This leaflet tells you about the main changes. **It is for your information only. You do not need to do anything.**



What do we mean by care and support?

Care and support means help with things like:



- being supported to do things for yourself around or for the home



- help to get dressed, out of bed or washed



- help with making meals and eating



- getting out and about



- keeping in touch with friends/family

What difference will the Care Act make to me?



The way the council decide what care and support you need is changing.

The council will think about:



- your care and support needs, your health and wellbeing



- what is important to you and your family.



You will also be more in control of your care and support. Helping you to be independent.

The changes mean you will:



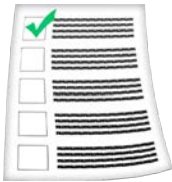
- help decide the care and support you receive



- be able to make sure you get the care and support you need



- know how much your care costs



- know how much the council pay towards your care and how the money is spent.



All councils in England will use the same rules when looking at how they can help people.



This will make it easier for you to make plans now and for the future.



And if you move to a different part of the country you will still get the care and support you need.

Paying for care home costs



There are different ways to pay if you need to be in a care home.



One way is called a deferred payment agreement.

This means you can use the value of your house to pay for your care later.



You can then pay the council back when you decide to sell your home or after you die.

Information for carers



In Kent thousands of people care for or support an adult family member or friend.

This might be in their home or somewhere else.



The changes mean carers may be able to receive help so they can carry on caring and keep well.



A carer's assessment can help you decide what help and support you need.



You can ask for an assessment from the council.



If you would like to know more about the Care Act, or ask for this document in another format:



- Visit www.kent.gov.uk/careact



- Email careact@kent.gov.uk



- Call: 03000 41 99 94



- Text relay: 18001 03000 41 99 94