

2 A NATIONAL CARE SERVICE FOR SCOTLAND - CONSULTATION (AN31-2021)

The Independent Review of Adult Social Care recommended the creation of a National Care Service, with Scottish Ministers being accountable for adult social care support. The First Minister set out a commitment to start formal consultation for the new National Care Service in the first 100 days of the Parliament with a view to introducing legislation in the first year of the Parliament. However, the Scottish Government's ambition is to go beyond that. The consultation published therefore seeks views on creating a comprehensive community health and social care service that supports people of all ages. It is focused on exploring the suggestions for significant cultural and system change that will need to be supported by primary legislation, new law, and to ensure the governance and accountability across the system to deliver successfully for people.

The Scottish Government are proposing that the National Care Service will define the strategic direction and quality standards for community health and social care in Scotland. It will have local delivery boards which work with the NHS, local authorities, and the third and independent sectors to plan, commission and deliver the support and services that the people of Scotland require.

The proposals will also take forward recommendations of the Independent Review of Adult Social Care around:

- ensuring that care is person-centred and human rights based
- providing greater recognition and support for unpaid carers
- improving conditions for the workforce
- commissioning for public good, and
- more effective approaches to scrutiny and improvement of social care services.

The consultation is divided into the following themes,

- Improving care for people
- The scope of the National Care Service
- Community Health and Social Care Boards
- Commissioning of services
- Regulation
- Fair work and valuing the workforce

The Consultation will run from the 9th August 2021 until the 18th October 2021 and can be accessed here: [A National Care Service for Scotland - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](https://consult.gov.scot).

Officers in relevant Council services have been asked for comments on the consultation paper. Officers will arrange a briefing with elected members to gather their input. These comments will help to shape a draft report and the consultation submission that will come to Policy and Resources Committee on 27th September 2021 for approval prior to submission to the Scottish Government by the October deadline.

The Committee is asked to note the position.