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**Eligibility Criteria: Exploring the Alternatives**

**20.6.22, online event 10.30am-3.30pm**

**Information for participants**

**Background**

This event, hosted by a collaboration of bodies as above, will help to open a conversation about how access to social care and support is managed in Scotland. The aim is to improve outcomes for people who use services and unpaid carers, in the context of a changing policy landscape.

We know that that eligibility criteria are intended as a tool to manage limited resources in face of increasing demand. However, in requiring a case to be made that an individual is in critical, or substantial need, they tend to amplify a focus on deficits and restrict support to people in crisis. Opportunities for preventative support and strengths-based practice are missed. The challenge is in how to shift to an enabling, rights-based approach, while making best use of all available resources.

Leaders from across the UK will speak about their experiences of redesigning structures and services and delivering support in alternative, innovative ways, while discussion groups will enable participants to explore these ideas further and consider how they might be applied in a consistent way across Scotland. This event will include people with lived experience, unpaid carers, policymakers, practitioners and professional bodies to discuss alternative approaches to eligibility criteria. The intention is not to determine a particular model at this stage, but to build a better-informed basis for decision-making on this important topic.

**Event speakers and chairs**

SPEAKERS

Sarah Boath is, since 2015, Team Manager for the Carer Support Team in Dundee. She has a background in community development, with various roles in the third sector and local authorities for 20 years.  Currently working on a Masters Dissertation at Dundee University on young carers. In her spare time, Sarah enjoys growing fruit and vegetables.

Lucinda Godfrey has worked at Dundee Carers Centre for 19 years, over 16 as CEO and is a committee member at the Coalition of Carers in Scotland. Lucinda’s background is youth work and she is passionate about people being involved in the design and delivery of services and approaches. Outside work Lucinda enjoys anything creative and a good book!

Adam Devanakis is a consultant social worker for adult services in Neath and Port Talbot in Wales, where he has worked since 2005. He has a special interest in mental health. Adam has been at the forefront of embedding strengths-based practice locally.

Graham Kilpatrick is a Service Manager for Disabilities in Midlothian Health and Social Care Partnership, managing integrated services. Graham has led on the development of an outcome-based approach to practice. He still oversees outcome-based practice as well as having budget responsibility for commissioned and directly provided social care services.

Mark Smith is Director of Public Service Reform at Gateshead Council. His mission is to create a new ecosystem of public services which respond in more relational and integrated ways to the real causes of people’s needs; cutting out wasteful and harmful interventions. Mark is a fellrunner who describes himself as having more ambition than talent.

CHAIRS

Alison Bavidge became National Director of the Scottish Association of Social Work in 2021. She started working in residential childcare in 1991. Since qualifying in social work in 1996, she has had the privilege of working with people in the justice system and adults’ social services across the voluntary and public sectors.

Graeme Reekie runs The Lasting Difference consultancy, specialising in charity sustainability. His experience in social care includes leading [Collaborative Commissioning](https://www.ccps-big-ideas.org/commissioning-procurement-resources) for CCPS and [Promoting Variety](https://www.sharedcarescotland.org.uk/resources/tools/promoting-variety/) for Shared Care Scotland/iHub.

Dr Sally Witcher is a freelance consultant, and a disabled person who uses social care support. Former roles include CEO of Inclusion Scotland and Child Poverty Action Group. She is campaigning for a safe, inclusive new normal for people at high risk from C19.

**Research information**

This event is part of a research project, led by Emma Miller and Gillian MacIntyre at the University of Strathclyde. The researchers are gathering information from previous research on eligibility criteria, as well as new information through this event and some follow up events. They want to **produce a written report** to help to inform decision-making about access to social care support in Scotland. They will **note-take during discussions in the breakout rooms** and will then type up notes to help with writing a report. They will not use anyone’s names in writing this up, instead they will report on key themes emerging from across the discussions; the confidentiality of participants will be protected at all times. If you want to say anything in discussions but do not want it to be recorded in the notes or report, please just say so. There is a consent form for all participants at the end of this information sheet. If you do not want your views to be included at all, please email in advance and/or tell your facilitator this at the start of the breakout room discussion and they will exclude your views. Any queries or concerns, please contact Emma or Gillian: e.miller@strath.ac.uk or gillian.macintyre@strath.ac.uk

Please sign and return the consent sheet below to e.miller@strath.ac.uk or gillian.macintyre@strath.ac.uk

**Consent sheet**

**Consent Form for Use of Information in Write Up of Alternatives to Eligibility Event**

* I confirm that I have read and understood the Information Sheet for the above project and have had the opportunity to ask the researchers questions.
* I confirm that I understand how my personal information will be used and what will happen to it (i.e. how it will be stored and for how long).
* I understand that my participation is voluntary.
* I understand that I can request the withdrawal from the study of some personal information and that whenever possible researchers will comply with my request. This includes the following personal data:
	+ my personal information from transcripts.
* I understand that anonymised data (i.e. data that do not identify me personally) cannot be withdrawn once they have been included in the study.
* I understand that any information recorded in the research will remain confidential and no information that identifies me will be made publicly available.
* I consent to being a participant in the project.
* I consent to being audio recorded as part of the project

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