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Scottish Government



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Eligibility Criteria - where are we now?

Eligibility Criteria were set out in the *National Standard Eligibility Criteria and Waiting Times for the Personal and Nursing Care of Older People – Guidance* in September 2009.

Scottish Government/COSLA 2009



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This document said that councils should look at a number of things when creating their **Eligibility Criteria** such as:

- the overall level of resources available to meet need
- the cost of service provision
- ensuring fairness in their decisions

It also said that Eligibility Criteria are meant to target those in greatest need.



The Independent Review of Adult Social Care (IRASC) found that Eligibility Criteria were described as one of the main barriers to accessing social care.

- People told the review that the level to access support is too high.
- Support is only available when people are very unwell or in crisis at the moment.



The vision

“... overhaul of the current mechanism of eligibility criteria to ensure an approach to adult social care support that is based on human rights and needs”.

Joint Statement of Intent, Scottish Government/COSLA 2021

What are we doing – policy development?

- Evidence review
- Research commission
- Listening to people with lived experience
- Listening to people who work in social care
- Engaging with stakeholders
- NCS co-design

Leading to:

- Development of policy options
- Testing of preferred option
- Implementation

