

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) – Part 1

Policy title and purpose (brief outline):	Assessment under part 3 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014
Branch :	Eligibility, Assessment & Care Planning Branch
Department:	Department for Health and Social Services
Date:	10 June 2015

1. Please provide a brief description of the policy/decision.

This Equality Impact Assessment is about assessment under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. Sections 19, 21 and 24 of the Act, as passed, requires local authorities to introduce changes to the way in which assessments are provided for all individuals and families; and the way in which assessments are provided for the support of carers.

The overall effect of the policy is to provide greater clarity, consistency and quality of care and support for individuals and carers. The aim is that the assessment process will be more proportionately applied so that it is appropriate to the needs of the individual and considers the person's circumstances. The process will be simplified by introducing a single process of assessment for all people and by simplifying the process itself.

2. We have a legal duty to engage with people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 (please refer to Annex A of the EIA guidance) identified as being relevant to the policy. What steps have you taken to engage with stakeholders, both internally and externally?

The policy, regulations and code of practice in relation to Assessment have been co-designed with citizens in Wales. The whole process has been an engaged one – fully engaging diverse people and organisations in the whole development process as well as proactively engaging them in consultation. Engagement has reached as many individuals as possible to ensure that Welsh Government equality commitments have been inbuilt into the development of the policy from the outset. This has improved the understanding of barriers that exist in different equality groups.

Engagement was targeted towards specific groups who would have traditionally had less of a voice. The Welsh Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) previously provided over 4,000 contacts from diverse groups, through their 'I Matter We Matter' campaign. These contacts were used to engage individuals with a broad range of protected characteristics.

Welsh Government worked with Disability Wales and other partners to produce guidance used by all Technical Groups, Towards an Enabling Wales. This set out clearly how to ensure that the social model of disability is taken forward.

To ensure a strong voice for service users and carers at a leadership level, Welsh Government worked with the Welsh Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) and Children in Wales to establish the National Social Services Citizen Panel. The Panel is made up of service users and carers who are worked to ensure that a citizen voice was a key part of implementing the Act. Children and Young People are involved in the panel's work. The Panel offered advice on the assessment process.

Welsh Government continue to strengthen the involvement of service users and carers and are working with Children in Wales and Voices from Care to develop an innovative programme of involvement of children and young people.

An Assessment and Care Planning Technical Group was established by the former Deputy Minister for Social Services to advise the Welsh Government on producing a suite of regulations and code of practice on the determination of assessment, care planning and review under the Act. The membership of the group comprised of approximately 35 representatives and practitioner from across the public, private and voluntary health and care sectors in Wales. The group advised Welsh Government on developing the draft regulations and the associated code of practice on assessment. Specifically the group were asked to consider making recommendations in assessments, plans and reviews. The group met on four occasions in June 2014. A draft report which summarises the areas covered by the group has been prepared by the group. The report was informed through the Technical Group meetings and drafted by officials.

An all-Wales Engagement event was held on 11 September 2014 which brought together representatives from the local authorities, NHS partners, third sector and independent sector, which looked at how the various Parts of the Act work together to deliver sustainable social services.

During the course of this event representatives identified gaps, issues and dependencies. The event included members from each of the seven technical groups relating to the Act, and relevant Welsh Government leads. The purpose of the event was to further inform the detail of the draft regulations in preparation for the 12 week formal consultation.

Officials attended the social care and disability group in September 2014, to update them on the progress of the Act.

In November 2014 the Families First National Learning Event focused one of their workshops on sharing ideas about the new model for assessment.

A formal 12 week consultation was held on the proposals for regulations and codes of practice in relation to Part 3 of the Act, on Assessing the Needs of Individuals, and Part 4 of the Act, on Meeting Needs, including care and support planning and direct payments. The consultation period ran from 6 November 2014 to 2 February 2015.

As well as being made available to the wider public via the Welsh Government internet pages, the consultation was distributed to:

Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA)
The Childrens Commissioner
The Older Persons Commissioner
Social Services Improvement Agency (SSIA)
Local Government representatives
Third Sector Organisations
Local Authorities

Care Council for Wales

Key contacts were encouraged to disseminate the consultation documents amongst their networks. To support wider engagement, Easy Read and children and young-people friendly versions were also produced and disseminated.

Two consultation events were held as part of the overall consultation process for the Act the purpose of which were to:

- Promote engagement with the consultation
- Provide a base level of understanding to key stakeholder groups on what areas we were consulting on.

Attendees were asked to participate in discussions on the implementation of the regulations and to share information from the events with their wider networks to provoke wider take-up of consultation responses.

The events were split to capture a wide range of stakeholders from across the country. The first event was held on the 26 November 2014 in the Liberty Stadium, Swansea. The second was held on the 9 December 2014 in Venue Cymru, Llandudno.

Overall the uptake of spaces for the events was positive with capacity reached at both. There were approximately 170 attendees at the event in South Wales and 90 attendees in the North Wales. The range of stakeholders included representation from:

- Age Alliance Wales
- British Deaf Association
- Cardiff Metropolitan University
- Care Council for Wales
- Carers Trust Wales
- Cartrefi Cymru
- Children in Wales
- College of Occupational Therapists
- CSSIW
- Disability Wales
- Estyn Llaw
- G4S Custodial & Detention Service
- Hafal
- Headway
- HMP Swansea
- Learning Disability Wales
- Local Authorities
- Local Health Boards
- Ministry of Justice
- National Probation Service – Wales
- NOMS in Wales
- North Wales Police
- North Wales Social Services Improvement Collaborative
- Office of the Older People's Commissioner

- Public Health Wales
- The Rowan Organisation
- RNIB Cymru
- Safeguarding Advisory Board
- Shine Cymru
- South Wales Police
- UK Home Care Association
- Wales Alliance for Citizen Directed Support
- Wales Community Rehabilitation Company
- Welsh Ambulance Service
- WLGA
- Youth Justice Board Cymru

Workshops were held at the events on each of the parts that were out to consultation. The content of these workshops was varied and tailored to suit the subject matter, but at the core of each was a presentation from officials and group discussions and activities.

The workshop on Parts 3 and 4 included a presentation on the proposals for Eligibility, Assessment and Care & Support Planning.

Welsh Government carried out an intense programme of wider engagement around the consultation period, this included presentations, workshops and focus groups with carers and service users supported by partners. Annex A provides the detail of the engagement activities which were undertaken, for example, with Carers Wales, Voices from Care, Sense Cymru. Welsh Government also worked with prisoners and their families and older people and NOMS in Wales supported this work further with a number of secondary engagement exercises at HMP Swansea, HMP Cardiff and HMP Usk and Prescoed.

All of these engagement activities enabled the voices of a broad range of people, and groups representing those with more specialist needs i.e. SENSE Cymru to be heard and their views on how to make the new assessment process as appropriate and equitable to all as possible.

A presentation on the proposed new assessment process was given to the All Wales Heads of Childrens' Services (AWHCS) Quarterly Meeting in December 2014, which also provided an opportunity for AWHCS to provide a steer on the development of the policy in relation to children.

Additional engagement in January 2015, included attendance at two Carers Wales Focus Groups and attendance at a Sense Cymru engagement event to Group who provided detail on the key issues for individuals with protected characteristics.

A small task and finish group on Assessment was established to integrate the key requirements for the *Childrens Framework for assessing Children in Need and their families* with the new assessment process. This group included representation from The Association of Directors of Social Services (ADSS), All Wales Heads of Children's Services (AWHOCS), Barnardos Cymru and The

3. Your decisions must be based on robust evidence. What evidence base have you used? Please list the source of this evidence e.g. National Survey for Wales. Do you consider the evidence to be strong, satisfactory or weak and are there any gaps in evidence?

A consultation was held on the proposals for regulations and codes of practice in relation to Part 3 of the Act, on assessing the needs of Individuals.

There was general support for the proposed system change to an outcomes-based approach with a simplified assessment and care planning process and the greater integration of services. In particular, there was clear support from our statutory partners. ADSS Cymru and WLGA have commented that: "There needs to be absolute clarity about the future use of the eligibility framework to enable people to hold conversations about what will make a difference to their lives, rather than focus on whether they are eligible for care and support."

The Welsh Government response on the consultation exercise can be found at: <http://gov.wales/consultations/healthsocialcare/part-3-and-4/?status=closed&lang=en>

The policy, regulations and code of practice have gone through extensive development stages, reviews and consultation. Engagement has been undertaken at every stage and in a way that has actively sought to reach as many groups and individuals as possible, in order that people likely to be affected by the new introduction of the new system, can be heard.

Assembly members, stakeholders, service professionals, the voluntary and independent sectors and more importantly, those using care and support services, and carers, have all contributed to the development of the regulations, and the development of the code practice.

The approach within the new assessment process is that it will be proportionately applied so that it is appropriate to the needs of the individual. Therefore there is strong evidence that the new approach to assessment provides a single process for all people that is clear and simple to understand and apply.

It is important to note any opportunities you have identified that could advance or promote equality.

Impact

Age	Positive	Negative	None / Negligible	Reasons for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?
<p>The Act provides the statutory framework to deliver the Welsh Government's commitment to integrate social services. The integrated model for is based on processes and services being as commonly designed as possible to support people of all ages, and support people as part of families and communities.</p> <p>At the core of the process is promoting independence and development by maximising people's control over their day to day lives and helping address difficulties or problems which are stopping them doing this</p>				
<p>Younger people <i>(Children and young people, up to 18)</i></p>	<p>Positive</p>			<p>Children and young people will have an automatic right to an assessment where it appears to that authority that the child may have needs for care and support in addition to, or instead of the care and support provided by the child's family.</p> <p>The approach for assessment must be child centred and fully consider the outcomes that the child / young person wish to achieve.</p> <p>The approach was developed using the direct input of younger people. This secured their voices and identified specific issues relating to children and young people i.e. young people are more likely to want to be able to use electronic media before seeking direct contact : advice/assessment and this has been highlighted in the appropriate codes of practice.</p>

				<p>The Technical Group included representatives from local authorities Head of Children's Services, the Looked After Children's Network, NSPCC Cymru and Families First all of which represented the voice of the child.</p> <p>Children and young people within the secure estate will also be entitled to have an assessment of the care and support needs, just as they would if they were living in the community.</p>
People 18- 50	Positive			<p>An adult will have an automatic right to an assessment where it appears to that authority that the adult may have needs for care and support.</p> <p>Local authorities must assess whether an adult does have needs for care and support and if so, what those needs are.</p> <p>The Act removes the requirement that the carer must be providing "a substantial amount of care on a regular basis". This will mean more carers are able to access an assessment, and that the duty is comparable to that for the people they support.</p> <p>The approach was developed with individuals aged over 18.</p> <p>The Technical Group included representatives</p>



				<p>from local authority Head of Adult Services, Age Alliance Wales and Age Cymru all of which represented the voice of adults receiving local authority social care services.</p> <p>Those people within the secure estate will also be entitled to have an assessment of the care and support needs, just as they would if they were living in the community.</p>
Older people (50+)	Positive			As above – for younger adults.

4.2 Because they are disabled?

Impairment	Positive	Negative	None / Negligible	Reason for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?
Visual impairment	Positive			<p>In line with the Mental Capacity Act 2005, the assessment must take account of an individual's capacity to engage in the assessment process.</p> <p>The local authority must make necessary arrangements to ensure that where this is impairment, the individual's needs and wishes are understood and taken into account.</p> <p>The assessment process should be accessible to all, with</p>
Hearing impairment	Positive			
Physically disabled	Positive			
Learning disability	Positive			
Mental health problem	Positive			
Other impairments issues	Positive			

			<p>documentation in easy read or other format as appropriate to the needs of the individual whose needs are being assessed.</p> <p>In the case of an adult who lacks the capacity to decide who to involve, any person authorised to make decisions about the individual under the Mental Capacity Act 2005; or any other person who the local authority considers to have sufficient involvement in the care or support arrangements for the person.</p> <p>Personal well-being outcomes must be identified through the process of proportionate assessment, this includes physical and mental health and emotional well-being.</p> <p>The assessment process was developed with the input from individuals with different disabilities and with organisations who represented those with disabilities.</p> <p>The Technical Group included representatives from Care Forum Wales, Mind Cymru, Care Forum Wales and Learning Disability Wales; all of which represented the voice of</p>
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				<p>those with disabilities.</p> <p>Additionally, the formal consultation included responses from disabled individuals and organisations which represented disabled individuals (such as Learning disability advisory group, Carers Wales, SENSE Cymru, Arfon Access Group, Parkinson's UK Cymru, Guide Dogs Cymru and Blind Children UK Cymru, National Autistic Society Cymru, RNIB CYMRU, Alzheimer's Society, Learning Disability Wales, The Disabilities Trust). The responses have been used to refine the regulations and code of practice.</p>
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4.3 Because of their gender (man or woman)?

Gender	Positive	Negative	None / Negligible	Reason for your decision (including evidence)/ How might it impact?
Male			Negligible	The new assessment process will support everyone equally within a local authority area.
Female			Negligible	Welsh Government has worked with men and women to develop the policy, regulations and code of practice to identify what matters to them.

4.4 Because they are transgender?

Transgender	Positive	Negative	None / Negligible	Reason for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?
			Negligible	The new assessment process will support everyone equally within a local authority area.

4.5 Because of their marriage or civil partnership?

Marriage and Civil Partnership	Positive	Negative	None / Negligible	Reason for your decision (including evidence)/ How might it impact?
Marriage			Negligible	Welsh Government did not approach individuals based on their marital status.
Civil Partnership			Negligible	<p>The new assessment process will support everyone equality within a local authority area.</p> <p>However it is recognised those in a marriage and civil partnerships may have caring responsibilities.</p> <p>The Act removes the requirement that the carer must be providing “a substantial amount of care on a regular basis”. This will mean more carers are able to access an assessment, and that the duty is comparable to that for the people they support.</p>

4.6 Because of their pregnancy or maternity?

Pregnancy and Maternity	Positive	Negative	None / Negligible	Reason for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?
Pregnancy			Negligible	<p>Although not specifically addressed, it is recognised that there may be a need to provide local authority social care and support as an individual's circumstances change during and post pregnancy.</p> <p>The Act introduces an automatic right to an assessment where it appears to that authority that the adult may have needs for care and support, and for that authority to review the assessment if circumstances change and it is believed that this change will impact on those care and support needs.</p>
Maternity (the period after birth)			Negligible	

4.7 Because of their race?

Race	Positive	Negative	None / Negligible	Reason for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?
Ethnic minority people e.g. Asian, Black,			Negligible	<p>The new assessment process will support everyone equally within a local authority area.</p> <p>The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act sets out those persons exercising functions under the act must have regard to the</p>
National Origin (e.g. Welsh, English)			Negligible	

				<p>characteristics, culture and beliefs of the individual.</p> <p>The wide ranging engagement and consultation events captured many views, which included responses from Diverse Cymru and the Equality and Human Rights Commission.</p> <p>During the assessment process, an individual should be able to fully participate by being able to express themselves through their preferred language and means of communication.</p>
Asylum Seeker and Refugees			Negligible	<p>The new assessment process will support everyone equally within a local authority area.</p> <p>The duty applies in relation to all adults that are ordinarily resident in the area and to other adults in the area, regardless of the level of need for care and support.</p> <p>The wide ranging engagement and consultation events captured many views, which included responses from Diverse Cymru and the Equality and Rights Commission.</p>
Gypsies and Travellers			Negligible	
Migrants			Negligible	
Others				NA



4.8 Because of their religion and belief or non-belief?

Religion and belief or non – belief	Positive	Negative	None / Negligible	Reason for your decision (including evidence)/ How might it impact?
Different religious groups including Muslims, Jews, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Hindus, Others (please specify)			Negligible	The new assessment process will support everyone equally within a local authority area. The Act sets out those persons exercising functions under the act must have regard to the characteristics, culture and beliefs of the individual.
Belief e.g. Humanists			Negligible	The regulations take individual circumstances, and this was developed through consultation with organisations such as Faith Communities Forums
Non-belief			Negligible	

4.9 Because of their sexual orientation?

Sexual Orientation	Positive	Negative	None / Negligible	Reason for your decision (including evidence)/ How might it impact?
Gay men			Negligible	The new assessment process will support everyone equally within a local authority area.
Lesbians			Negligible	The regulations take account of people's circumstances, which was developed through significant consultation with organisations such as LGBT Excellence
Bi-sexual			Negligible	

				<p>Centre and Stonewall Cymru.</p> <p>Feedback from the consultation stated that individuals who are gay, lesbian or transgender may face discrimination in accessing social support. The new model for assessment will ensure that everyone will have the same right to an assessment where it appears to the local authority that they may have needs for care and support.</p>
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4.10 Do you think that this policy will have a positive or negative impact on people’s human rights? Please refer to point 1.4 of the EIA Annex A - Guidance for further information about Human Rights.

Human Rights	Positive	Negative	None / Negligible	Reason for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?
Human Rights including Human Rights Act and UN Conventions			Negligible	<p>The wide ranging engagement and consultation captured many views from differing backgrounds.</p> <p>The new assessment process has been developed to support everyone equally within a local authority area.</p> <p>The implementation of the new assessment process expected to support people’s human rights as everyone will have the same right to an assessment where it appears to the local authority that they may have needs for care and support.</p>



Equality Impact Assessment – Part 2

1. Building on the evidence you gathered and considered in Part 1, please consider the following:

1.1 How could, or does, the policy help advance / promote equality of opportunity?

The Act provides the statutory framework to deliver the Welsh Government's commitment to integrate social services to support people of all ages, and support people as part of families and communities. A clear and unequivocal commitment to an inclusive approach is set out within the Regulations and the statutory Code of Practice.

The Act transforms the way social services are delivered, primarily through promoting people's independence to give them stronger voice and control. Integration and simplification of the law will also provide greater consistency and clarity to people who use social services, their carers, local authority staff and their partner organisations, the courts and the judiciary. The Act promotes equality, improvements in the quality of services and the provision of information people receive, and a shared focus on prevention and early intervention

The model of assessment requires the process to look at what resources an individual has within themselves, and from their family, friends and local community. The process aims to build on that to help individuals to reach their personal well-being outcomes. It recognises that needs can be met not only through the provision of services but through active support and assistance to enable people to meet their own needs. For example, by assisting people to access local services themselves or supporting people to develop the skills and confidence they need.

Welsh Government has worked with protected characteristic groups to develop these policies to ensure that all circumstances have been considered.

1.2 How could / does the policy / decision help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation?

The Act promotes equality, improvements in the quality of services and the provision of information people receive. To promote consistent practice across Wales a national assessment and eligibility tool has been devised to ensure that individuals can rely on their local agencies to have a common baseline of information collected in all assessments across the country. This will mean that practitioners in local areas will, subject to the individual's consent, be able to share this with other agencies, and ensure that services are better integrated and co-ordinated for the individual.

Local authorities will need to deliver the same model of assessment to individuals of all ages, and support people as part of families and communities. Those in the secure estate (adults and children/young people) will have the same opportunity to have assessment of their care and support needs just as they would if they were living in the community.

The local authority must clearly communicate this new approach to all individuals so that they can understand how to access an assessment, what is involved in an assessment, how it will be undertaken, who will be involved and what it means for them. Practitioners will work with all individuals to identify what matters to them, and identify the contribution people themselves and communities can make to their own well-being.

1.3 How could/does the policy impact on advancing / promoting good relations and wider community cohesion?

Through direct engagement and consultation with different service users and equality groups, Welsh Government gained an understanding of individuals own personal barriers and rights that needed to be overcome. On a reciprocal basis, many of the groups involved in the development of the new assessment process have also gained knowledge and understanding about policy development and through a snowballing approach were able to bring more stakeholders into the process; enabling Welsh Government to broaden its Well-being is everyone's right and everyone's responsibility. Welsh Government supports individuals to achieve well-being by recognising and valuing people's strengths, people's families, friends and communities. Local authorities will work with all individuals to identify what matters to them, and identify the contribution people themselves and communities can make to their own well-being. This may include assisting individuals to seek support or assistance within the local community, such as community based third sector services or social care enterprises. This includes whether a person feels as though they belong, whether they engage and participate and feel valued in society, which is especially important for people who may feel particularly vulnerable.

The local authority must clearly communicate the approach to all individuals so that they can understand how to access an assessment, what is involved in an assessment, how it will be undertaken, who will be involved and what it means for them.

2. Strengthening the policy

2.1 If the policy is likely to have a negative effect ('adverse impact') on any of the protected groups or good relations, what are the reasons for this?

What practical changes/actions could help reduce or remove any negative impacts identified in Part 1?

There are no negative impacts noted for any specific protected groups.

2.2 If no action is to be taken to remove or mitigate negative / adverse impact, please justify why.

NA

3. Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing

How will you monitor the impact and effectiveness of the policy?

List details of any follow-up work that will be undertaken in relation to the policy (e.g. consultations, specific monitoring etc).

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 contains provisions to allow for Ministers to monitor functions of the Act carried out by local authorities and other bodies. Ministers may require these bodies to report on their duties in implementing these regulations.

The Welsh Government will continue to work with the National Partnership Forum, the Leadership Group and Citizens Panel to ensure that people who use services remain at the heart of the programme for change.

The Welsh Government intends to commission an evaluation to enable the impact of the new national model of assessment and eligibility to be considered.

Additionally, the Welsh Government will continue to monitor the impact of the regulation on areas such as the Welsh language, the UN rights of the child and Older People and Equality.

The results of all impact assessments where the impact is significant will be published on the Welsh Government's website.

Declaration

The policy does not have a significant impact upon equality issues

Official completing the EIA
Name:
Lisa Griffiths
Department:
Department of Health and Social Services
Date:
April 2015
Head of Division (Sign-off)
Name:
Margaret Provis
Job title and department:
Deputy Director, Social Services Leadership and Improvement
Date:
10 June 2015
Review Date:
October 2016 (six months post implementation of the Act).

Annex A: detail of the engagement activities

Event	Mile stone	Task
Families First National Learning Event	10-Nov-2014	Policy Officials attended the Families First National Learning Event, to hold a workshop to introduce the Act in the context of the Families First model. Attendees were invited to share ideas of how the new model for assessment will work in practice.
Older People's Independence WELSH AUDIT OFFICE Study	19-Nov-2014	Policy Officials met with the WAO to discuss the proposals as set out in the Act, in relation to supporting older people to live independently.
"Getting in on the Act"- Care Council for Wales event	19-Nov-2014	Policy Officials attended the event to publicise the proposals as set out in the Act and the consultation exercise.
Prisoners Accommodation resettlement Working Group	21-Nov-2014	Officials attended the Working Group to publicise the public consultation at meeting on Prisoner Social Care, and to encourage members to respond.
Workshops at South Wales consultation event.	26-Nov-2014	<p>Workshops were held at the events on each of the parts that were out to consultation. The content of these workshops was varied and tailored to suit the subject matter, but at the core of each was a presentation from officials and group discussions and activities.</p> <p>The workshop on Parts 3 and 4 included a presentation on the proposals for Eligibility, Assessment and Care & Support Planning.</p>
All Wales Heads of Childrens' Services - Presentation at Quarterly Meeting on Core Processes	04-Dec-2014	Policy Officials provided an update on the provision of the Act as a whole. Links to consultation provided and encouraged members to respond.
Workshops at North Wales consultation events	09-Dec-2014	<p>Workshops were held at the events on each of the parts that were out to consultation. The content of these workshops was varied and tailored to suit the subject matter, but at the core of each was a presentation from officials and group discussions and activities.</p> <p>The workshop on Parts 3 and 4 included a presentation on the proposals for Eligibility, Assessment and Care & Support</p>

		Planning.
Meeting with Sense Cymru	10-Dec-2014	Policy Officials met with Sense Cymru to discuss the implications of the Act and the key issues for the deafblind community.
Sense Cymru engagement event	17-Dec-2014	Policy Officials met with of individuals from deafblind community to discuss the implications of the Act and the key issues for the deafblind community
Carers Wales Focus Group 1	15-Jan-2015	Policy Officials attended a focus group in Swansea to lead a discussion on the consultation event with Carer Wales
Families Focus Group - HMP Parc Prison	20-Jan-2015	Policy Officials attended to focus group to discuss the implications of the Act for families of those in the secure estate.
Voices From Care Focus Group 1	21-Jan-2015	Policy Officials met with young people to engage them with the implementation of the Act and to ensure that they were able to contribute to the formal consultation.
Cymru Older Persons alliance (COPA)	22-Jan-2015	Policy Officials attended a meeting with COPA to discuss the proposed eligibility criteria.
Carers Wales Focus Group 2	22-Jan-2015	Policy Officials attended a focus group in Wrexham to lead a discussion on the consultation event with Carer Wales
Voices From Care Focus Group 1	27-Jan-2015	Policy Officials met with young people to engage them with the implementation of the Act and to ensure that they were able to contribute to the formal consultation.