

Social care for adults is changing

Leaflet 1 - Older People
Winter 2010



This leaflet is aimed at anyone who receives a service or who has an interest in social care services in Gwynedd. This is the first of a series of leaflets. The purpose of this leaflet is to explain how social care services will be developing in order to support those who need help to live independently and safely.

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Why change?

Change is needed in order to ensure appropriate services now and for the future. There are many reasons for this:

- In response to what the people of Gwynedd have told us:
 - Want to stay at home for as long as possible
 - Want more support to live independently
- Ageing population
- Financial situation - delivering services with less money.



What will happen?

Gwynedd Council and its partners are looking at how services have been traditionally provided and are looking at new ways to support people to live independently:

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Telecare

- System and equipment within the home which gives a warning if a person is in danger, sick or has a fall
- Alerts to problems such as smoke, floods and gas, and reminds the person to take medication
- Boosts confidence, helps people to live at home safely and gives assurance that assistance is available if required
- Support and peace of mind for the individual, carers and families.



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Enablement Service

- Support to re-learn skills and boosts confidence to live independently
- Short term service in the home by a team of care workers
- Care, support and therapy to improve the individual's ability
- Help to stay at home or return home from hospital or residential home.



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Housing with support and care

- Flat or bungalow to buy or rent, with support, if required by the person
- Allows people to live independently and safely in their own homes, for as long as possible
- Each home with its own front door, ensuring privacy
- Choice of facilities and social activities on the site, with 24 hour access to care when required.



*“I
want to live
without help for as
long as possible.”*

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What does this mean?

The need for change means that present services must be transformed to ensure:

- More choice of suitable and flexible services
- Supporting people to live at home independently, for as long as possible
- Helping people to be less dependant on services
- Better co-operation between partners.



“Services should not make you dependant – we can help ourselves and we should be given help to enable us to do this.”

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Who is taking part?

Ensuring suitable services for the future means working together with a number of partners including:

- Service users
- Families
- The public
- Agencies such as the Health Service
- Other departments within the Council
- Social care providers
- Voluntary and community sector.



“Independence is so important - we all want to keep our independence”

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Any questions, ideas or comments?

We welcome any questions, comments or ideas that you may have. You can contact us by letter, phone or e-mail:



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* The quotes are real and come from consultation sessions with Gwynedd communities. The full report "First Hand – Community Engagement" (June 2010) is available via the Council's website.

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