
Postmen and women help provide preventative support with Call and Check service We're not carers but we care

The postie knocks at the door, has a brief chat to ask how the person is, whether they have taken medication, need medication or even require an additional services such as a lift to the shops or someone to drop in for a cup of tea. If additional support is required, this information is passed on to appropriate organisations to action, such as their doctor or a local voluntary organisation. The postie can also deliver repeat prescription, collect post on the individual's behalf, assist with reminders, such as hospital appointments, or supply information on important Health and Social Services or Parish matters. Postal workers undergo enhanced police checks and receive basic first aid awareness training before taking part in the scheme, so that they are able to recognise and pass on any worries or concerns to the individual's contacts, support network or, in cases of emergency, call emergency services. This is all done with the consent of the person concerned.

Improving how community and hospital based staff work together

Practical guidance on implementing NICE's guideline on transition between inpatient hospital settings and community or care home settings for adults with social care needs. A workshop in Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation trust helped to develop this guidance. Examples include the use of "Bridge workers" in Totness and Dartmouth as well as from other parts of the country.

Who's in charge of what in Social Care and Public Health at the Department of Health

Very wisely the Department of Health seems to have aligned itself with Devon County Council's new leadership structure. Following the appointment of new Under Secretary of State for Community Health and Care David Mowat within the Department of Health Nicola Blackwood MP for Oxford West has been made Under Secretary for Public Health and Innovation. While Jeremy Hunt as Secretary of State for Health has the lead for all aspects of mental health, the Under Secretary for Public Health and Innovation will have a lead for mental health services. The lead for dementia and for veterans comes under Community Health and Care. [The attached interactive PDF document provides more detail of new structures](#), areas of responsibility, and appointments in the DoH.

What Devon County Council and other LAs in the South West are saying to the Government about challenges, strategies and innovations in Adult Social Care.

The Communities and Local Government Parliamentary Select Committee is undertaking a national [Enquiry into adult social care](#). The [response from DCC and other LAs in the south west is in the attached as a PDF](#).

Circulation

Please forward to anyone who may find this ASC Policy and Planning Briefing useful.

Feedback on the ASC Policy and Planning Briefings

What did you find useful ?

How could it be improved ?

Do you want to contribute to future editions

please email paul.grimsey@devon.gov.uk; **and** james.martin@devon.gov.uk;

Sources of information include:

- Care Knowledge
- Community Care
- Community Care Inform
- Care Management Matters
- National Health Executive
- NHS Networks
- ADASS
- CQC
- Other national news media

Adult Social Care Policy Team

DCC Adult Social Care Policy - [the policy page](#)

DCC Adult Social Care Guidance - <http://staff.devon.gov.uk/social-care-commissioning/pbsupport.htm>

Safeguarding Adults Policy and Guidance - <https://new.devon.gov.uk/devonsafeguarding>