



The Care Act 2014 – Delay to implement funding reforms - Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why has part two of the Care Act been delayed?

The Government has decided to delay part two of the Care Act (funding reforms). The funding and financial reforms will now come into force **in April 2020** instead of April 2016. The government is still committed to delivering these reforms but states that the delay was necessary to allow Local Authorities to have more time to introduce and embed a new system that will support the implementation of the funding reforms.

2. What aspects have been delayed?

- The Cap on Care Costs (to April 2020)
- The extension to the Means Test Thresholds (to April 2020)
- The Appeals system (pending the Comprehensive Spending review).
- Cap for working age adults (to April 2020)
- Zero cap for young people under the age of 25 (to April 2020)
- Daily living allowance of £230 per weeks (to April 2020)
- First party top-ups (to April 2020)
- Minimum income disregard for younger adults and pensioners (to April 2020)

3. Why has the appeals system for care and support been delayed?

The government decided to reconsider the implementation on the new appeals system following the Spending Review in the autumn. On Tuesday 21 July the Chancellor outlined the timetable for the Spending Review and indicated that the Review will be published on 25th November. After this date the government will announce the timetable for implementing the new appeals system. In the meantime, people can continue to make use of existing complaints systems as well as the Local Government Ombudsman.

4. What about the proposals to introduce direct payments in residential care?

The Direct Payments in Residential Care trailblazer programme runs until October 2015 and the final evaluation report is expected in Summer 2016. The Department of Health has decided to wait for the final evaluation before making a decision about whether this will be rolled out to all local authorities.

5. Will the level of funding available for adult social care be sourced from money recycled as requested by the LGA?

This will be determined by the forthcoming Spending Review.

6. Why was it necessary to have the additional time?


The additional time will be used to ensure that everyone with a role in implementation is ready to introduce the new system in April 2020. The time will also be used to ensure that people can understand what it will mean for them and look at what more can be done to support people with the costs of care.

7. What is the future of the Care and Support Reform Programme?

On the 11th August The Care and Support Reform Board is meeting to discuss the impact of the government decision.

8. Will the stocktakes continue?

This will be confirmed on the 11th August but are likely to continue and will focus on embedding phase one of the Care Act.



9. What will happen to the money that has been set aside for implementation?

As a result of the announcement to delay the reforms the Department of Health will shortly advise local authorities on what will occur with the implementation funding.

10. Will the response to the consultation on stage 2 of the Act still be published as originally intended?

The response to the consultation will be published in the Autumn.

11. Where can I find more information about these proposed changes?

- To read the written statement visit <http://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-vote-office/July%202015/20%20July/9-Health-Cap-Health-Costs.pdf>
- To read the official FAQs [Briefing for all local authorities](#)
- To view our website visit: <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/adult-care/care-act/care-act.aspx>
- To send us any comments or ask us how this will be rolled out locally you can email care.act@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
- To speak with us you can call us on 0300 300 8301