

# **National Care Service Consultation**

## **Media Pack**



**Scottish Government**  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
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# News Release

**Please find an adapted news release that can be used by your organisations. This includes statements from the Minister for Social Care and the Social Covenant Steering Group.**

The Scottish Government wants you to have your say on a National Care Service that will transform Scotland's social care.

The Scottish Government has launched consultation to seek your views ahead of the creation of a National Care Service.

The new National Care Service will ensure everyone who needs it can expect the same standards of care, wherever they live in Scotland. It will deliver person-centred care that supports people in a way that suits their needs, providing real benefits for those who are being cared for and the people who care for them. It will introduce ethical commissioning, based on fair work principles, for the benefit of everyone involved.

The consultation sets out some of the options for delivering social care in a way which changes the system from one that supports people to survive to one that empowers them to thrive.

In order to deliver these recommendations there will continue to be strong local accountability. The consultation proposes the creation of Community Health and Social Care Boards to strengthen the voice of the local population, with people with lived experience and local elected members sitting alongside professionals.

At a minimum the new National Care Service will cover adult social care services. However, the consultation document also recognises that if we want to build a comprehensive community health and social care system, we should consider extending its scope to other groups such as children and young people, community justice, alcohol and drug services, and social work.

## **Statement from Mr Kevin Stewart, Minister for Social Care**

“The importance of our social care services has never been clearer. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to our nation's carers, paid and unpaid, for the commitment and compassion we have seen throughout the pandemic.

“The Scottish Government commissioned the Independent Review of Adult Social Care during the pandemic, because it was clear we needed to do things better in future.

“We have already made significant improvements, with reforms such as the integration of health and social care, and implementation of the Real Living Wage Policy for Adult Social Care workers and this year the Scottish Government pledged £64.5m to fully fund the pay increase. But we can go further. What we are now proposing is the biggest public sector reform for decades, since the creation of the National Health Service.

“I am committed to implementing the recommendations of the Independent Review and staying true to the spirit of that report by building a system with human rights at the heart of it.

“The Review recommended the creation of a National Care Service, with Scottish Ministers being accountable for adult social care support. I believe however that it is right for this consultation to look beyond simply the creation of a national service for adult social care. The ambition of this government is to go much further, and to create a comprehensive community health and social care service that supports people of all ages. We are also committed to ensuring there is strong local accountability in the system.

“Absolutely vital to this is ensuring that our invaluable social care workforce feel happy, respected and fulfilled in their role.

“We are at the beginning of a journey to improve social care in Scotland. We will only get this right with your support. I want to hear from as many people and organisations as possible over the next couple of months, so we can build a better system together.”

**Statement from the Social Covenant Steering Group which will advise on the creation of a National Care Service:**

“Most of us have waited many years to see plans for major improvements in the way social care support is delivered and we welcome the publication of this consultation.

“Many people may feel they have been consulted before and are keen to see some action. But this time it is an important legal step, in order that a bill can be put to Parliament.

“So, it is important that as many people as possible, including current users of social care support, unpaid carers, the workforce and everyone else who cares about this

vital support will take this opportunity to express their views on the kind of system we need to enable everyone to reach their potential.”

**Background:**

[Consultation on a National Care Service for Scotland.](#)

A number of consultation events will be held throughout late August, September and October.

As part of a rights-based approach to care, the Scottish Government has committed to strengthen residents rights in adult residential settings. This will include delivering ‘Anne’s Law’ – ensuring that care home residents have the right to contact with their families and friends to support their overall health and wellbeing at all times.

**The full Scottish Government News Release can be found here:**

[Consultation launched ahead of ‘biggest public sector reform for decades’ - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

# Suggested Tweets and Social Media Posts

We have created the below suggested tweets for you to use. You can change and edit them to suit your organisation, service users or target audience.

It may be worth highlighting that your stakeholders do not need to fill out the whole consultation document – here is some suggested wording you may want to add in/include: *We know that different people will be interested in different issues, so you don't have to answer the questions for every section, unless you choose to.*

## Handy Hints & Tips

### Twitter

You may want to create a 'thread' by replying to your original tweet. In the follow up tweet you may want to include contact details for your organisations point person, and the closing date of the consultation, such as

*The consultation closes on the 2nd November. If you need more information please contact [name@nameoforg.com](mailto:name@nameoforg.com)*

### Facebook

You may want to include a picture on your Facebook post, and you can add any supplementary information to the original post, such as closing date and contact details.

### Instagram

Instagram is a visual social media for sharing pictures, as such you cannot share links directly on a post in Instagram as they do not hyperlink. If you did wish to raise awareness to the consultation via Instagram you can include a link to the consultation in your bio. At the end of the post, change the link to 'Have your say via the link in bio'

## Suggested Posts

### Tweet 1:

The Scottish Government is planning to create a National Care Service. They are looking for views from people who use and provide care services on how to create a better system to ensure the delivery of consistent, high standards of care for everyone across Scotland.

Have your say: [A National Care Service for Scotland - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](https://www.scotland.gov.uk/consultations/national-care-service)

### Tweet 2:

The Scottish Government is looking for the views of as many people as possible as it consults on the future of social care. This includes those who use social care,

unpaid carers, the workforce and everyone else who cares about this vital support. Have your say: [A National Care Service for Scotland - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](https://consult.gov.scot)

**Tweet 3:**

The Scottish Government wants to hear your views on the future of social care. From those who use social care, unpaid carers, the workforce and everyone else who cares about this vital support, they want to hear from you. Have your say: [A National Care Service for Scotland - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](https://consult.gov.scot)

**Tweet 4:**

Do you use or provide social care? Are you a carer? The Scottish Government wants to hear from you about their plans to create a National Care Service. We know that different people will be interested in different issues, so you don't have to answer the questions for every section, unless you choose to.

Have your say: [A National Care Service for Scotland - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](https://consult.gov.scot)

**Tweet 5:**

The Scottish Government wants to hear your views on the future of social care. We know that different people will be interested in different issues, so you don't have to answer the questions for every section, unless you choose to. Have your say: [A National Care Service for Scotland - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](https://consult.gov.scot)

**Social Media Post for Middle of October**

The consultation for a National Care Service in Scotland closes on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November. There is still time to give the Scottish Government your views. We know that different people will be interested in different issues, so you don't have to answer the questions for every section, unless you choose to.

Have your say: [A National Care Service for Scotland - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](https://consult.gov.scot)

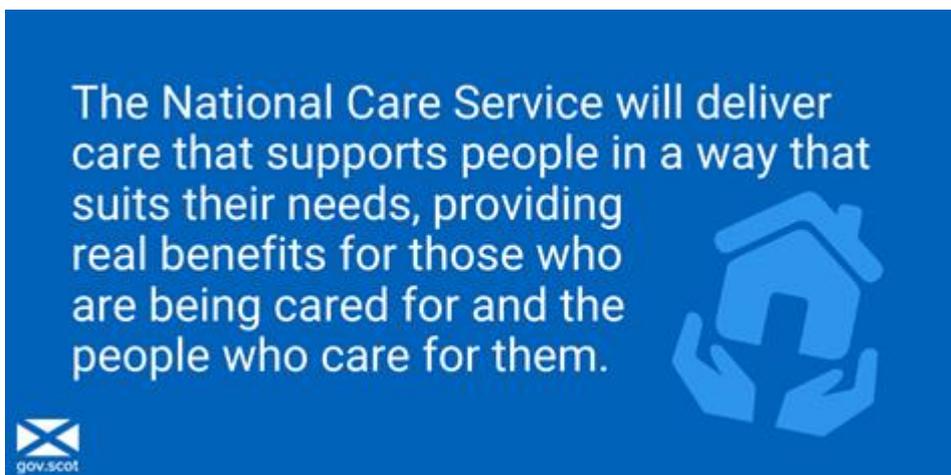
**Scottish Government tweets will be as per the below. You can share these via retweet if this is easier.**

**Tweet 1:**

The National Care Service is an opportunity to build a system which helps people to thrive, not just to survive and ensure consistent high quality care services, wherever you live. You can help shape it, through our consultation. Read more: [A National Care Service for Scotland - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](https://consult.gov.scot/a-national-care-service-for-scotland)



The independent review of adult social care recommended we create a new adult social care service. But we want to go further than that so we are consulting on the creation of a new service which will support people of all ages whatever their needs may be. Read more: [A National Care Service for Scotland - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](https://consult.gov.scot/a-national-care-service-for-scotland)



# National Care Service Q & A

## What is the National Care Service consultation?

The consultation is the Scottish Government's way of setting out its proposals to improve the way we deliver social care in Scotland.

## Why are you consulting?

The pandemic has shone a spotlight on the importance of social care services. Last year, the Scottish Government commissioned an independent review of adult social care to identify ways of consistently delivering high quality services for everyone who needs them.

The review recommended the creation of a new National Care Service, with Scottish Ministers being accountable for adult social care support. However, we want to go further than that, so we are seeking your views on creating a community health and social care service that supports people of all ages, whatever their needs may be.

## When does it start?

The consultation launched on 9 August. You can read more about it here: [A National Care Service for Scotland - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](#)

## When does it close?

The consultation period ends on 2 November 2021. During that period we will seek the views of as many individuals, groups and organisations as possible to make sure everyone has an opportunity to have their say.

## Who can respond?

Social care includes support for a wide range of people; for example, people with physical disabilities, learning disabilities or mental health conditions, older people, people recovering from drug or alcohol addictions, homeless people, children and families, or children who are unable to live with their families.

We want to hear the views of those people, their families, carers and people who work in the care sector. We want to hear your views if you have used the care system in the past but no longer have a need to use it now. And we want to hear the views of people who may need to use social care services in the future – and that means everyone.

## How can I respond?

You can respond online at [A National Care Service for Scotland - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](#) or, if you prefer, you can complete the hard copy Respondent Information Form and return it by email to [ncsconsultation@gov.scot](mailto:ncsconsultation@gov.scot), or by post to:

National Care Service Team  
Scottish Government  
Area GE-15  
St Andrews House  
Regent Road  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

We know that different people will be interested in different issues, so you don't have to answer the questions for every section, unless you choose to.

### **What happens after the consultation period has ended?**

Following the closing date, all responses will be analysed and considered along with any other available evidence to help us. Responses will be published where we have been given permission to do so. An analysis report will also be made available.

Responses will be analysed and used as part of the decision making process on the National Care Service, along with a range of other available information and evidence.

New legislation will be introduced to the Scottish Parliament in summer of 2022. The legislation is likely to be extensive and complex and is likely to take at least a year to be scrutinised by Parliament. After that we need to set up the organisation and put legislation into effect. We intend the National Care Service to be fully functioning by the end of this Parliamentary term.

### **Who can I contact for more information on the consultation?**

Please contact the Scottish Government at [ncsconsultation@gov.scot](mailto:ncsconsultation@gov.scot) or write to us at the address given above.

## **Communications Team Contacts**

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