

Homecare Re-ablement Toolkit

Care Services Efficiency Delivery (CSED) has put together a toolkit to help councils looking to introduce a new homecare re-ablement service or extend or improve an existing service.

It has been developed as a practical project support to councils and builds on extensive work done by CSED in:

- compiling a body of evidence on how homecare re-ablement services are helping to appropriately reduce the level of ongoing homecare support required
- working actively with councils to identify successful approaches, learning points and best practice

The toolkit is organised into eight main sections:

- Setting the vision for a re-ablement service
- Building a business case for re-ablement

- The high level pathway - designing the optimum customer route through social care services
- Applying process design to homecare re-ablement services
- Developing the team and skills
- Establishing an effective performance management system to track and measure the service (including performance indicators and targets)
- System and form design
- Implementing the new service - change and project management

The eight sections follow a logical sequence from setting the initial vision through to project managing the implementation. Users of the toolkit can choose to follow the sections in sequence or access individual

Care Services Efficiency Delivery (CSED)

CSED helps councils to identify and develop more efficient ways of delivering adult social care. The programme is focused on efficiency solutions that support the transformation of adult social care, set out in Putting People First, and help deliver sustainable transformation with maximum benefit to service users. <http://www.csed.dh.gov.uk/>

sections as required. Each section includes cross-references and links to other content where appropriate.

<http://www.csed.dh.gov.uk/homeCareReablement/Toolkit>

Public Health Guidance: Promoting the Quality of Life of Looked-after Children and Young People: *Please also see the commentary on page 13.*

This joint guidance from NICE and the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) is for all those who have a role in promoting the quality of life (that is, the physical health, and social, educational and emotional wellbeing) of looked-after children and young people.

The recommendations cover local strategy and commissioning, multi-agency working, care planning and placements, and timely access to appropriate health and mental health services and include:

- The need for health, education and social care professionals to collaborate more effectively to collect, monitor and share information and ensure that all of the information follows the child if they move.
- The need to develop and deliver services based on accurate, early assessment and intervention including referrals to specialist help.

- Universal and specialist training for professionals, primary carers (improved entry level and advanced training), social workers and independent reviewing officers (improved specialist training to support educational stability and achievement).

Issues for research

The report points out that despite some high-quality observational and qualitative UK research, there is a lack of robust, adequately controlled, studies completed to a high standard. Consequently, the UK evidence base does not serve the needs

of looked-after children and young people as well as it might.

To begin to address the lack of effectiveness evidence, a re-assessment of how research is quality assured and controlled is urgently required and the report goes on to make a series of recommendations on how this might be achieved and by whom. The full report can be accessed via the links:

<http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/guides/guide38/index.asp>

<http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/PH28>