



Excellent Social Work with Older People

Development of Capabilities Statement and Professional Development Pathway for Social Workers in England

The British Association of Social Workers (BASW) is leading the development of a **Capabilities Statement** and **Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Pathway** for social workers, who work with older people.

- Social workers need to work well with older people.
- The CPD Pathway will set out the roles that older people's social workers can have at different stages of their career. It will outline how social workers can develop expertise, and how they will demonstrate this as they move from qualification through their career.

The Statement and Pathway will be co-produced with stakeholders, including social workers and older people, those who support them as informal carers and family members, and relevant organisations. They will build on existing frameworks, evidence and good practice.

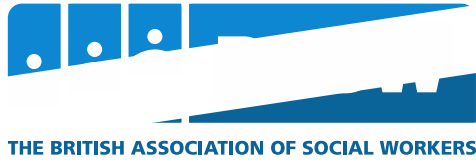
The final products will be owned by the social work profession, through BASW, endorsed by the Department of Health and implemented by the sector. They will provide a national practice excellence framework for social work with older people.

The Capabilities and Pathway will:

- Increase recognition of the crucial professional role of social work with older people
- Strengthen social work capabilities and confidence in this field
- Develop the role of social work with carers and families of older people as partners in care and support, and recipients of support in their own right
- Support social work to work well with other professions and agencies, including to reduce pressure on high demand services like community health services and hospitals.

BASW is the representative organisation of social work in England and across the United Kingdom. We aim to produce the Capabilities Statement for May 2017 and the CPD Pathway for Autumn 2017.

We welcome your thoughts – however brief. Do feel free to respond based on your experience or views. You do not need to answer all of the questions if you feel that any are not relevant to you.



Questions for service user / carers to consider:

Question 1. What will be the benefit of having a Capabilities Statement? How should it be used?

Question 2. What knowledge do you think social workers need to work well with older people?

Question 3. What skills do you think social workers need to work well with older people?

Question 4. What values or ethics do you think social workers need to work well with older people?

Question 5. How do you think social workers with older people should learn and develop? (for example, doing a university qualification, having a mentor).

Please return to

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