

**Care Services Efficiency Delivery
Programme**

Homecare Re-ablement

**Outline of Proposed Direction for
2008/09**

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HEMOCARE RE-ABLEMENT – PROPOSED WORK BY CSED FOR 2008/09

Building on the work completed during the last comprehensive spending review to support councils with development of their homecare re-ablement services, the Care Services Efficiency Delivery Programme (CSED) have identified four projects that it will be undertaking during 2008/09 and beyond. This document seeks to provide you with an outline of these four projects and we will be contacting councils with social service responsibility (CSSRs) specifically about each as we commence work.

1. Continued Support for CSSRs:

CSED will continue to promote the outputs from the Discussion Document and Retrospective Longitudinal Study to assist those in the early planning or implementation stages. In addition, we will work on four areas to help those establishing or developing services. They are:

- The CSSR Homecare Re-ablement Scheme directory has been of assistance to many and so we will be publishing an update later this month. It will also include information on FACS levels supported, when these are applied and whether the service is subject to charge. These points have been a regular source of enquiry by CSSRs and so they have been incorporated within the update.
- Many CSSRs wish to understand the extent to which homecare re-ablement is beneficial and so we will seek to bring together further evidence through case studies and supporting information on the order of benefits experienced across a range of schemes.
- A number of CSSRs that wish to establish a homecare re-ablement service do not have any existing in-house service from which to build. Therefore, they are immediately faced with either recruiting staff or seeking to place the service with external providers. We will seek to provide evidence through case studies and supporting information of outsourced services to support these CSSRs.
- Most homecare re-ablement services support clients from a range of groups in addition to older adults. Some schemes work more extensively with clients with mental health, physical, sensory and learning disability needs than others and are able to provide significant benefits for clients. We will seek to provide evidence through case studies and supporting information of the benefits of homecare re-ablement for groups other than older adults so that CSSRs can develop their services where appropriate.

2. Prospective Longitudinal Study

Building on the work undertaken in the Retrospective longitudinal study, and published in November 2007, we are seeking funding to complete a prospective study with comparison groups. This study will seek to identify those factors that will enable homecare re-ablement services to improve both outcome benefit and duration of benefit for clients.

The aims of the proposed prospective study are:

- To provide robust research evidence on the immediate and longer-term benefits of home care re-ablement, including:
 - User-level benefits (e.g. improved independence, quality of life, mental well-being).
 - Service-level benefits (e.g. reduced demand for services, use of less expensive services).
- To identify the factors that affect the level and duration of benefits for service users of a period of re-ablement (e.g. features of the re-ablement service; type and level of services used after re-ablement).
- To identify any impact on and savings in the use of social care and other services, that can be set against the costs of re-ablement services.
- To describe the content and costs of home care re-ablement services.

A decision on funding is expected shortly following which we will distribute further information about the features sought within the intervention and comparison groups and invite expressions of interest from CSSRs.

3. Homecare Re-ablement for those on 'maintenance' packages.

Most CSSRs establish a homecare re-ablement service by offering the service to new clients and do not routinely bring those on existing homecare packages into the service.

Building on outputs from the retrospective study we will seek to provide evidence through case studies and supporting information of the benefits of homecare re-ablement for those who have been in receipt of a maintenance homecare package.

4. Post initial phase homecare re-ablement

Linked to the project outlined above, many CSSRs are starting to consider how they may extend the benefits of the initial homecare re-ablement phase as client's needs start to increase over time.

Building on outputs from the retrospective study we will seek to provide evidence through case studies and supporting information of the benefits of additional phases of homecare re-ablement for those whose needs increase at subsequent reviews following an initial phase of homecare re-ablement.

I hope that this update has provided you with an outline of our proposed areas of work during 2008/09 and beyond in support of CSSRs as they work to improve independence for clients and to deliver their efficiency targets.

We will contact CSSRs to seek participants as we start work on each of these projects, but if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

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