



# FACILITATORS' PACK: LGA SOCIAL CARE GREEN PAPER CONSULTATION

## Overview for group discussions

### What is adult social care and support?

Adult social care provides frail older people and working age adults with mental or physical conditions and their family and unpaid carers with care and support to live their lives with independence, dignity and control. This personal and practice care and support can be delivered in people's homes, in community settings or in residential care homes. It also helps them maintain connections with their communities, families and support networks to help them maintain their health, wellbeing and independence and prevents their health and care needs escalating.

### Why are we discussing adult social care?

Adult social care and support matters. More than 15 million people, about 30 per cent of the UK's population, live with one or more long term condition, and a further 4 million of these will also have mental health problems.

We are all likely to be touched by social care at some point in our lives, whether for ourselves or for a family member or friend, so it is important that everyone has a say in what the future of social care looks like.

After many years of underfunding and inaction by successive national government our adult social care system is in crisis:

- Under the current system it is estimated that approximately 1.4 million people are not having their needs fully met.
- There is a heavy reliance on the work of unpaid carers, often family members. It is estimated that around 72 per cent of carers in England have experienced mental ill health as a result of caring.
- Just to be able to continue delivering the current level of services to their residents, it is estimated that councils need to spend an extra £3.5 billion on adult social care in their annual budgets by 2025.
- Councils are having to spend an increasing proportion of their budgets on adult social care, meaning that other services, like children's centres, libraries, parks and rubbish collection, get cut.

### Format for this discussion

We will be focussing on some key themes related to adult social care and wellbeing. These are: the role of adult social care, the role of councils to improve health and wellbeing, how changes to council funding have affected you, your thoughts on the future of adult social care, how social care should be funded, and how social care and the NHS should work together.

This session is expected to take approximately 2 hours.