



Care and support in prisons, approved premises and bail accommodation

The Care Act 2014

As of April 2015, the local council has a responsibility for an assessment and ensuring any eligible needs are met for prisoners in the local area. The Council has a duty to work with healthcare and prisons to provide information and advice, give you help and support if you are eligible for social care and help you stay well.

Care and support assessment

If you are a prisoner, living in approved premises or in bail accommodation and you have a long term illness or disability which has a substantial and negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities, you may benefit from a care and support assessment. You can request an assessment if you are having problems with things such as washing and dressing, using the toilet, getting around the property and taking part in daily life.

An assessor from Nottinghamshire County Council will visit you to discuss your needs. Together you will review your strengths, the things you enjoy and areas of your life that may be difficult for you. They will also look at any support you are currently getting and what else could help. The assessor will write this information in to a care and support assessment and will use this to decide whether or not you are eligible for care and support. You will be given a copy of this assessment, including the decision on whether you are eligible.

If you experience substantial difficulty understanding information or making decisions about the support you might need, then the council can arrange a person to support you when you have your social care assessment. This can be a family member, friend or volunteer that you trust. If there is no appropriate person available to support you, the Local Authority will arrange for you to have an Independent Advocate. This is a free service. The advocate does not work for the Council. If someone is making a referral for an assessment on your behalf they can request an advocate for you if you have substantial difficulty understanding information or making decisions.

Care and support plan

If you are eligible for care and support through the local Council, the assessor will write a care and support plan with you. This will identify how your assessed eligible needs will be met. The plan will look at the help you already receive, the support you need, what you are able to do for yourself and the things you need to do.

Your care and support plan is private but can be shared with others with your permission. This will help to ensure you receive the support you need.

We will review your care and support plan each year or when your situation changes but you can request a review at any time if your needs change.

Provision of equipment

If you need specialised equipment to help you as a result of your social care needs you will require an Occupational Therapy assessment. Nottinghamshire County Council, the local healthcare authority and the prison establishment have a duty to provide aids and adaptations to you if you are eligible.

Paying for your care

You may be asked to contribute towards the cost of your care and support depending on your savings, pensions, property and investments. You may be asked to show your bank statements. Any money earned from work within the prison will not be taken in to account. Pay will be based on a financial assessment, taking into account any money you receive

If you own a property, the value of this will not be taken into account. If you have less than £23,250 in savings you may be entitled to financial support from Nottinghamshire County Council.

Once the financial assessment is complete, you will be notified of how much you will be expected to contribute towards your care and support. We will not ask you to pay more than you can afford.

If you refuse to have a financial assessment you will have to pay the full cost of your care and support.

Care and support when you move

If you move to another prison, into approved premises or back into the community, the local Council in your area will arrange for you to have another assessment. They may also need to do another financial assessment if it is a new area. Both Councils will work together to ensure there is no break in services to you.

Contact information:

Phone: 0300 500 80 80 to make a referral for an assessment

Email: enquiries@nottscc.gov.uk

Website: www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk

Minicom: 01623 869598

Calls cost 3p/min from BT landlines. Mobile costs may vary.

Emergency Duty Team: 0300 456 4546

Mon – Thurs: 5pm – 8.30am

Operates 24 hours at weekends from 4.30pm on Fridays to 8.30am on Mondays.

Operates 24 hours during all public holidays.

Phone 0300 500 80 80 if you need the information in a different language or format.