NICE Social Care External Network

Terms of Reference and Membership

Terms of Reference

The functions of the Network are to:

1. Make suggestions for topics for the library of social care guidance and quality standards, using criteria agreed with the Department of Health.
2. Provide advice on the needs and expectations of the social care sector in respect of social care guidance and quality standards.
3. Provide advice on the most effective means of presenting, disseminating and ensuring effective use and adoption of social care guidance and quality standards in practice.
4. Provide advice on integration of social care guidance and quality standards into sector-led improvement and other quality initiatives, in consideration of the strategic landscape in place.
5. Use their organisational networks to support and encourage uptake of the social care quality standards.
6. Provide advice on how NICE can support development of a culture of using evidence across social care.
7. Provide advice to the NICE Collaborating Centre for Social Care to support the delivery of their contracted activities.

Membership

1. Below is a list of the organisations included as virtual members of the NICE Social Care External Network. Organisations will be invited to attend the meetings depending on the topic under discussion:

   Action for Children
   Afiya Trust
   Age UK
   Association for Real Change
   Association of Directors of Adult Social Services
   Association of Directors of Children’s Services
   Barnardo’s
   Beth Johnson Foundation
   Care Providers Alliance
   Care Quality Commission
   Carers Trust
   Carers UK
   Ceretas
   Children England
   College of Occupational Therapists
   College of Social Work
   Disability Rights UK
English Community Care Association
Local Government Association
Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership
Healthwatch
Mental Health Providers Forum
National Care Association
National Care Forum
National Children’s Bureau
National Skills Academy for Social Care
National Voices
Ofsted
POhWER
Registered Nursing Home Association
Research in practice for adults
Royal College of General Practitioners
Social Care Institute for Excellence
Shaping Our Lives
Shared Lives Plus
Skills for Care
Think Local Act Personal
United Kingdom Homecare Association
Voice
Voluntary Organisations Disability Group

Administration

1. The Network will be established as a virtual network, for a period of 12 months, after which the membership of the Network will take a view on its continuing value and make a recommendation to NICE accordingly. The decision as to the continuation of the Network will be made by NICE.

2. The virtual network, including the NICE Social Care Fellows, will be asked to provide online feedback on key issues and will be overseen by the Director of Health and Social Care at NICE and administered by senior staff from NICE.

3. In addition to the virtual exchanges, face-to-face meetings may take place in London or Manchester on a topic-by-topic basis 2-3 times per year.

4. A schedule of discussion themes for the meetings will operate and organisations will be invited to attend where the focus of discussion is relevant to their area of interest.