

**Health and Social Care Committee**

**HSC(4)-04-11 paper 3**

**Inquiry into Residential Care for Older People - Agreement of terms of reference**

**Please find attached draft terms of reference for the inquiry into residential care for older people as an annex to this paper.**

**Committee Service**



# Health and Social Care Committee

## Residential Care for Older People

### Draft terms of reference for an inquiry into residential care for older people in Wales

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Date of meeting:

28 September 2011

This paper has been produced by the Research Service for use by the Health and Social Care Committee.

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## Introduction

The Committee agreed to undertake an inquiry into residential care in Wales at its meeting on 13 July 2011, and considered a scoping paper at its meeting on 22 September 2011. This paper sets out draft terms of reference for such an inquiry following discussion of the scope of the inquiry. Once agreed by the Committee the draft terms of reference will be the subject of a 2-week consultation with key stakeholders.

## Background

Committee Members attended a briefing session on residential care with Welsh Government officials on 28 July 2011. A background briefing paper<sup>1</sup> was provided by the Welsh Government prior to the meeting.

Earlier this year the Welsh Government published a policy paper<sup>2</sup> setting out its intentions for social care for the next ten years, which include the publication of a Social Care Bill in the Fourth Assembly. The paper includes proposals for a national framework contract for residential care; the development of a new National Outcomes Framework to promote service improvement; and reforms to the regulation and inspection of social care providers, who will require a 'licence to operate'.

The Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services is setting up a Task and Finish Group to examine issues around the care and accommodation needs of older people. Its membership is to be announced in autumn 2011.

## Suggested terms of reference

**To examine the provision of residential care in Wales and the ways in which it can meet the current and future needs of older people, including:**

- **the capacity of the residential care sector to meet the demand for services from older people in terms of staffing resources and the number of places and facilities.**
- **the quality of residential care services and the experiences of service users and their families; the effectiveness of services at meeting the diversity of need amongst older people; and the management of care home closures.**
- **the effectiveness of the regulation and inspection arrangements for residential care, including the scope for increased scrutiny of service providers' financial viability.**
- **new and emerging models of care provision**

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<sup>1</sup> Welsh Government *Residential care: a briefing paper for the health and social care scrutiny committee meeting 28 July 2011* [accessed 2 September 2011].

<sup>2</sup> Welsh Government *Sustainable Social Services for Wales: A Framework for Action* (2011) [accessed 5 September 2011]



- **alternative funding and ownership models such as those offered by the cooperative and mutual sector**