

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

**County Council
22nd February 2018**

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Stephen Hayes, Portfolio Holder for Adult Services

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor David Meredith

Is the Council undertaking appropriate assessments to ensure the right social care packages are in place for residents returning home after hospital stays?

Response

Adult Social Care undertakes assessments with individuals who may have a need which could be met by social services, according to the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

Social Workers, occupational therapists or sensory impairment specialist workers will visit individuals and through conversation, observation and functional assessments (including activity analysis) will try to find out *what matters* to the individual. Having reached an agreement with the individual as to *what matters*, the practitioners provide information on options and their associated benefits and risks in order to enable the individual to make an informed decision on what needs to change in order to achieve what matters to them.

The worker will then provide a Care and Support Plan to the individual which records agreed actions and will arrange, if appropriate, for the individual to access community facilities, to be supported to do so, for adaptations or equipment provision in the home, or for care to be provided if required.

Individuals who are in hospital are often assessed during their hospital stay, or immediately following their return home, and care provided as soon as possible if this is required. On returning home, most individuals who require care will receive a reablement service which aims to reduce people's dependency and to enable them to be as independent as possible. These individuals then may be able to live without support, or they may need to be supported by domiciliary care which is, in the vast majority of cases, procured from private agencies.

I can confirm that individuals, therefore, do receive appropriate assessments as described above. However, winter pressures where a large number of older people are in hospital and need to return home, coupled with recruitment challenges have led to some assessments being delayed over the past few months. I am hopeful that

increased staffing capacity being supported by the Council will enable swifter response times going forward.