

Adult Social Work – Pre-workshop exercise

Individual ranking of questions for the workshop on 20th July 2018

This is a list of 21 questions for future adult social work research. They have come from a survey of people with support needs who have had contact with social workers, their carers, and social workers themselves. The questions have been checked against current research to make sure they have not already been fully answered by researchers.

Please spend some time before the workshop reading this list of questions. We would like you to rank them from 1–21, 1 being the most important in your opinion and 21 being the least important, for research to answer.

If you find it too difficult to rank all of the questions, please just choose 3 questions that are the most important to you and 3 questions that the least important to you.

Make a note of any comments in the right hand column. **Please bring this with you to the workshop.** You will not be asked to hand it in. Everyone will discuss their choices in small groups.

Ref	Question	Your ranking (1-21)	Notes
A	What difference does it make if social workers are the first point of contact, rather than receiving referrals via a triage system?		
B	How could communication between adult social workers and people using services be improved, especially with those people who have difficulty with communication (e.g. use of new media, better communication skills, working with other professionals)?		
C	How can adult social workers develop whole family approaches that enable all family members to be involved in decision-making? Which models work best (e.g. family group conferencing or open dialogue models)?		
D	How is availability of funding impacting on (a) adult social workers' practice and (b) the decisions made?		
E	How can adult social workers work more effectively with people using services to involve them in decisions about their own care?		

F	How can adult social workers use their professional judgement to produce flexible and creative care plans that (a) meet individual's needs, and (b) anticipate and respond to changes in people's circumstances?		
G	Does partnership working between adult social workers and other health and social care professionals result in better outcomes for people using services?		
H	What impact is the Care Act having on (a) adult social work practice and (b) the outcomes for people using services and their carers, particularly their well-being and safety?		
I	How can the health and wellbeing of adult social workers best be maintained (e.g. through working conditions, support and supervision)?		
J	Does regular contact with an adult social worker and / or a long-term professional relationship with an adult social worker improve outcomes for people using services?		
K	What are the most effective ways for adult social workers to work with people who self-neglect?		

L	How is 'wellbeing' understood and incorporated into adult social work practice? How can we assess whether adult social workers impact on the well-being of people using services?		
M	What are the most effective ways for adult social workers to work with individuals who are transitioning between child and adult services?		
N	How well do adult social workers support person-centred decisions and ensure holistic support? How well do they take into account a person's physical and mental health problems?		
O	What are the most effective approaches to building relationships with people using services and their families? What working conditions enable adult social workers to use such approaches?		
P	What are the most effective ways for adult social workers to work with people with acquired brain injury? What knowledge and skills do adult social workers need to work with this group?		
Q	Would the use of therapy-based skills (e.g. counselling) benefit adult social workers' practice?		

R	What model of management and supervision provides the best support for adult social workers and ensures quality control of their work?		
S	How are eligibility criteria applied to people with different types of needs and are the thresholds appropriate? What impact does this have on the care and support offered and / or early prevention?		
T	Has the Mental Capacity Act 2005 been embedded into practice and what are the impacts on people using services and their carers?		
U	What are the most effective ways for adult social workers to work with people with learning disabilities and their families?		