**Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016**

**Frequently asked questions about
regulation of the social care workforce**

1. **Who will need to register with Social Care Wales?**

Prior to the Act’s implementation, domiciliary care workers and adult care home workers could choose to register, but it wasn’t compulsory, whereas:

* Social workers
* Social work students
* Residential child care workers and managers, and
* Adult care home and home care managers

all had to register with the Care Council for Wales.

Voluntary registration will be removed from April 2017. Individuals currently registered on a voluntary basis and their employers are being contacted.

Registration with [Social Care Wales](http://www.ccwales.org.uk/edrms/157962/) will be mandatory for social workers, social work students and residential child care workers, as well as all managers of [regulated care and support services](http://www.ccwales.org.uk/edrms/157961/). The current requirement for managers to also register with the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) will no longer apply. Over time, domiciliary care workers and adult care home workers will also have to be registered.

Other new staff groups may have to register in future. Staff who provide advocacy and early years staff are examples of such groups. This gives flexibility to respond to changes in the sector.

1. **How will the move to a fully-registered workforce be made?**

The Register will open for domiciliary care workers in 2018 and they will have to register by 2020.

The Register will open for adult residential care home workers in 2020, and they will have to register by 2022.

Social Care Wales will work closely with the care sector and the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) to ensure the process for registering the workforce is understood by employers and care workers, and that the timetable is appropriate for all concerned.

1. **Will the change mean that managers become accountable to Social Care Wales and not the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) in 2017/18? If so, how will this be implemented?**

Managers are already registered with the Care Council and this will continue under Social Care Wales, but the requirement to also register with CSSIW will no longer apply.

Social Care Wales will continue the relationship with managers that has been developed through forum events and resources to support them and the staff they manage.

1. **Will Social Care Wales be reviewing the qualification required to register as an adult care home manager? If so, what qualification(s) will be required in future?**

As a result of UK-wide changes, Social Care Wales will need to review all social care qualifications. Employers and managers will continue to be involved in developing new qualifications. These are likely to be introduced, in collaboration with Qualifications Wales, from 2019. However, existing qualifications held by managers will continue to be recognised.

1. **Will there be changes to the regulation of workforce training?**

Social Care Wales will build on the work that the Care Council has done in partnership with the workforce. In addition, the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 provides Social Care Wales with the powers to regulate social care training.

1. **Where can I find out more about the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016?**

These FAQs are part of a suite of awareness-raising materials about the Act. [Additional resources can be found here](http://www.ccwales.org.uk/risc-act-learning-resources/).