

National Care Service Bill

Principles, Charter and Connected Functions

Section 1 of the Bill defines the principles that will underpin the National Care Service (NCS). Read them here.

Scottish Ministers will be required to run the NCS in a way that best reflects these principles. The strategies developed by care boards and Scottish Ministers to deliver care and support must also reflect them.

Sections 11 and 12 of the Bill make provision for the Scottish Ministers to prepare and publish a National Care Service charter to be co-designed with those with lived or living experience and reviewed on a five-yearly basis.

The Charter "will set out what people can expect from the NCS and provide a clear pathway to recourse should the rights in the Charter not be met".

The first and subsequent versions of the charter must be subject to public consultation and a copy must be laid before the Scottish Parliament.

Chapter 5 of the Bill establishes certain functions for Scottish Ministers and care boards connected to the provision of care.

- Conduct, assist in conducting or fund research relevant to NCS activities.
- Provide or fund training for the workforce.
- Compulsorily purchase and dispose of land or premises to deliver NCS services.
- Provide financial and other assistance to voluntary organisations or others involved in social care.
- Ability to appoint someone else to take over a service if it is failing and there is a risk of harm to people.