

This section provides details of the eligibility and assessment process for adults.

## Eligibility Criteria in Lambeth - Adults

In order to receive community care services, either through Direct Payments or services organised by your social worker/care co-ordinator you will be assessed as to whether you are eligible.

This decision is based upon a national policy called the Fair Access to Care implemented in 2003 by the Department of Health. The intention is to ensure that there is equity across the country in the decisions and criteria as to who receives community care services.

There are four bands of risk under this policy:

- Critical
- Substantial
- Moderate
- Low

In Lambeth only adults who are assessed as falling into either the “critical” or “substantial” risk bands will be offered community care services.

### Critical Risk

(Lambeth wording – examples of critical risk)

#### Safety

Your circumstances or actions are causing critical concerns about your immediate safety or that of others. Life is, or is likely to be, under serious and immediate threat. You need adult social care support and no one is willing or able to meet your needs.

### Health

You have major physical or mental health problems, or these are likely to develop in the immediate future. (Mental health problems include severe and enduring mental illness, regular episodes of severe mental illness, acute mental breakdown, life threatening or serious chronic substance misuse.) This is causing, or likely to cause in the immediate future, major harm or critical risks to your independence. You need adult social care support and no one is able or willing to meet your needs.

### Choice and control

You have lost control and choice over vital aspects of your immediate home environment. This is causing, or likely to cause in the immediate future, major harm to you or others or poses a critical risk to your independence. You need adult social care support and no one is able or willing to meet your needs.

### Abuse/neglect

Serious abuse or neglect has occurred, is strongly suspected or is likely to occur in the immediate future. (For example physical violence, significant and systematic emotional abuse/discrimination, significant theft of money by carer(s)/staff/trusted people.)

Protective intervention is needed from Adult's and Community Services.

### Personal care and domestic routines

You need help with the vital activities of daily living (for example moving transferring from bed to chair, eating, drinking, toileting, and no one is able or willing to meet your needs. This is causing, or likely to cause in the immediate future, major harm or critical risks to your independence.

### Employment, education, learning

A crisis is seriously threatening your involvement in work, education or learning. This is causing or likely to cause in the immediate future a critical risk to your independence. You need adult social care support and no one is able or willing to meet your needs.

### Support networks and relationships

Your physical health or mental health or your independence is at critical risk because:

- Your vital support networks and relationships have broken down or are very likely to breakdown in the immediate future.
- You have no social support systems, no relationships and no social interaction.

### Family and social roles and responsibilities

You are unable to carry out critical family and social responsibilities or are unlikely to be able to do so in the immediate future. This is causing or is likely to cause in the immediate future, major harm, major distress or critical risks to your independence or that of your dependents. You need adult social care support and no one is able or willing to meet your needs.

### Care and support arrangements

Critical care or support arrangements have broken down or are likely to in the immediate future. This is causing major harm or critical risks to your independence or is likely to do in the immediate future.

### Risks that your needs will escalate

There is likely to be a rapid escalation of your needs. As a result, admission to hospital, nursing or residential care or significantly increased level of community care services will be needed in the immediate future.

## **Substantial Risk**

(Lambeth wording – examples of substantial risk)

### Safety

Your circumstances or actions are causing substantial concerns. Your safety or that of others will not be maintained in the near future. (For example, if there is an unmet need for monitoring throughout the day to maintain safety or you are very likely to need emergency help, but are unable to summon it.) You need adult social care support and no one is able or willing to meet your needs.

### Health

You have substantial physical or mental health problems, or these are likely to develop in the near future. (Mental health problems include severe and enduring mental illness, regular episodes of severe mental illness, acute mental breakdown.) Adult social care support is needed, which no one else is able or willing to provide, to avoid or reduce substantial risks to your safety, or that of others.

### Choice and control

You have lost control and choice over substantial aspects of your immediate home environment. This is causing, or is likely to cause in the near future, substantial harm or major distress to you or others, or a substantial risk to

your independence. You need adult social care and no one else is able or willing to meet your needs.

### Abuse/neglect

You face a substantial risk of significant abuse, neglect or exploitation. Protective intervention is needed from Adult's and Community Services.

### Personal care and domestic routines

You need help with basic activities of daily living (e.g. moving/transferring from bed to chair, eating, drinking, toileting, changing clothes, washing), and no one else is able or willing to meet your needs. This is causing, or likely to cause in the near future, substantial harm or substantial risks to your independence.

### Employment, education, learning

You are unable to sustain your involvement in work, education or learning. This is causing or is likely to cause in the near future, a substantial risk to your independence. You need adult social care support and no one is able or willing to meet your needs.

### Support networks and relationships

Your physical or mental health or your independence is substantially at risk because:

- Important support networks and relationships have broken down or are likely to break down in the near future
- You have no social support systems, no relationships or no social interaction

### Family and social roles and responsibilities

You are unable to carry out important family and social responsibilities or are unlikely to be able to do so in the near future. This is causing, or very likely to cause in the near future, major harm or substantial risks to your independence or that of your dependents. You need adult social care support and no one is able or willing to meet your needs.

### Care and support arrangements

Your care or support arrangements have broken down or are under great pressure and likely to break down in the near future. This is causing substantial risks to your independence, or is likely to do so in the near future.

### Preventing dependence

Focused social care support for a limited period following a crisis, accident or hospital admission will clearly prevent you from becoming dependent on social care services in the medium term.