

If needs identified are at moderate or low level, information and advice about alternatives to social services provision will be given.

Where the assessment has identified that the person is within the Leeds Eligibility Criteria, the person who undertakes the assessment will:

- Consider alternatives to social services provision such as contributions from family, wider community, voluntary sector or other agencies.
- Arrange help on a short term basis wherever possible to enable people to maintain their independence.
- Arrange for a periodic review as the needs may alter over time.

Further information

For further information please see the **Leeds Long Term Care Charter 2005** (Better Care, Higher Standards). This is available:

- On the Leeds City Council website - go to www.leeds.gov.uk/socialcare and select 'social care and health publications'
- By telephoning 0845 125 4113
- From One Stop Shops and Social Services offices

If you have an enquiry about eligibility, please call 0113 247 8237.



Eligibility for Social Care Services for People in Leeds

September 2006

This leaflet is also available in large print, Braille, audio-tape and in minority community languages.

If you need more copies of this leaflet call Social Services Stationery Store on 0113 247 8924.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SOCIAL CARE SERVICES

Background

In common with all other Local Authorities, Leeds City Council has to ensure that everyone has fair access to social care services. Leeds City Council is required to focus its available social care resources on those people with the greatest need.

How is eligibility established?

Eligibility for social care services is established through an assessment. If you are eligible for social care services a care plan will be created and reviewed periodically to ensure that your needs are being met in the most appropriate way possible.

As part of your assessment we look at whether your needs are critical, substantial, moderate or low. If you receive social care services we will also do this at review. A notification of your eligibility will be provided to you.

Who will Leeds City Council provide social care services to?

Leeds City Council will provide social care services only to those people with critical and substantial needs.

What are the levels of need?

These 'levels of need' and how they are defined have been decided by the government for all social services departments. These levels of need are defined as:

Critical:	The risk of major harm / danger to a person or major risks to independence.
Substantial:	The risk of significant impairment to the health and well being of a person or significant risk to independence.
Moderate:	The risk of some impairment to the health and well being of a person or some risk to independence.
Low:	Promoting a person's quality of life or low risk to independence.

How will the criteria be applied?

The assessment will identify all a person's needs and risks including: -

- how one thing affects another,
- the individual's views and attitudes towards these risks
- how likely things are to get better or worse in the near or foreseeable future.

This will inform decision making about eligibility and the risks to independence and the risk of harm or danger.