



Adult Social Care and Health

Framework for Specialist Residential Care and Nursing Homes

Version 1

Version: 1 FOI Status: Public	Derbyshire County Council Adult Social Care and Health Framework for Specialist Residential Care and Nursing Homes	Issued: April 2024 Review Due: April 2026 Author: Louise Cope
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If you would like to make any comments, amendments, additions etc. please email ASCH.AdultCare.Policy@derbyshire.gov.uk

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1. Support from Contracting and Market Management

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the people listed below for advice about using the Framework.

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2. Introducing the Framework

The Framework for Specialist Residential Care and Nursing Homes replaced spot contracting arrangements for specialist placements for working age adults from 1 April 2024.

From this date spot contracting ended and the Framework must be used to identify all new working age adult specialist placements for:

- new clients
- Young People Transitioning from Children's Services
- a person with changing needs who requires a move to residential/nursing care.
- a person requiring an urgent placement
- respite care and support

It should be noted that existing placements are unaffected.

The new Framework has been introduced as it will deliver the following benefits:

- will promote quality and value for money
- will provide competition, improving value for money, transparency
- will increase choice (Size of Derbyshire and Care Homes outside of Local Area Teams Knowledge)
- deliver time efficiencies – will free up social work time currently spent approaching multiple care homes
- make it easier to make changes to levels of support
- ensure the department is complying with procurement legislation and the Councils Financial regulations

Key features of the Framework are listed below:

- Framework providers have committed to achieving a range of minimum standards, covering matters such as staff training, DBS checks, relevant experience, minimum CQC rating etc.
- this Framework encompasses 3 categories, these are:

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- standard placements
- respite placements
- emergency placements
- the Framework includes support for the following client groups:
 - mental health
 - learning disabilities
 - autism
 - physical disabilities
 - sensory impairment
 - acquired brain injury
 - behaviour that challenges
- the Framework commenced on 1 April 2024 and will potentially remain in place for up to 10 years
- the operation of the Framework will be subject to annual formal review by the Council. This will offer an opportunity to assess the performance of the providers and put remedies in place if this is judged to be unsatisfactory. In an extreme situation this could include a provider being suspended or removed from the Framework

3. How to use the Framework

Respite Placements

- workers can access a directory of care homes on Connect who have identified that they provide respite care and will be able to approach them directly to see if they have any places available
- the directory includes the agreed core fee and hourly rate for additional support
- Contracting and Market Management need to be notified when a respite placement has been agreed so that a Specialist Placement Order Form ([Appendix B](#)) can be issued

Standard Placements (Not Respite or Emergency) - Mini-Competition

- a mini-competition must take place where a standard placement is required
- before any mini-competition can be issued, it must be clearly evidenced as to why supported living is not appropriate and approval for a residential placement in principal should have been obtained through Section 117/Joint Funding Panel/Specialist Placement Review
- complete the Invitation to Tender form (see [Appendix A](#)). The information on this form should be anonymised and include details of the required placement. **(Please consider the guidance notes in red when completing)**. The questions in this document each carry a weighted score. Providers will be advised of the closing date of the mini-competition. There is no legally required period which you must allow providers to respond, but

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clearly you should allow a timescale which seems 'reasonable', which is usually a minimum of two weeks. When completed, the Invitation to Tender form should be sent to Contracting and Market Management directly (as detailed on page 2) who will in turn make the necessary arrangements with the Brokerage team to send out to providers

- all bids received will be scored based on quality and price, the highest scoring bid and those within 5% of the highest score will be offered to person/nominated representative/social worker to choose their preferred option. All providers who have submitted an application will be advised of the outcome of the mini-competition. Staff from the Contracting and Market Management section will lead and have overall responsibility within this process
- where the selected service is either newly registered and awaiting their first inspection or out of county, Contracting and Market Management will need to complete some additional checks before the placement can proceed
- once the provider has been out to assess the person and confirmed that the placement can proceed, Contracting and Market Management will issue a Specialist Placement Order form

Emergency Placements

- this will only apply where a placement is required in less than 24 hours and will be in exceptional circumstances only. Workers will need to gain group manager approval that an emergency placement is authorised and notify the Contracting and Market Management directly (as detailed on page 2)
- once group manager agreement has been sought, workers can access the emergency placements list on Connect
- the worker involved should continue to update Contracting and Market Management team throughout

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Appendix

[Appendix A – Invitation to Tender Form](#)

[Appendix B – Specialist Placement Order Form](#)

Author History

Approval and Authorisation History

Name	Job Title	Date
Authored by Louise Cope	Service Manager	April 2024
Approved by Quality Assurance Group		April 2024

Change History

Version	Date	Name	Reason
Version 1	April 2024	Louise Cope	New Guidance