These notes refer to the Care Bill [HL] as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013 [HL Bill 1]

CARE BILL [HL]

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1. These explanatory notes relate to the Care Bill [HL] as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013. They have been prepared by the Department of Health in order to assist the reader of the Bill and help inform debate on it. They do not form part of the Bill and have not been endorsed by Parliament.

2. These notes need to be read in conjunction with the Bill. They are not, and are not meant to be, a comprehensive description of the Bill. Therefore, where a clause or part of a clause does not seem to require any explanation or comment, none is given.

3. A glossary of terms and abbreviations used in these explanatory notes is provided at the end of these notes.

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

4. The Bill contains provisions relating to adult care and support, care standards, health education and research.

5. The Bill is intended to give effect to the policies requiring primary legislation that were set out in the White Paper Caring for our future: reforming care and support (Cm 8378, July 2012)\(^1\), to implement the changes put forward by the Commission on the Funding of Care and Support, chaired by Andrew Dilnot, and to meet the recommendations of the Law Commission in its report on Adult Social Care (Law Com 326, HC 941, May 2011) to consolidate and modernise existing care and support law. The Bill also gives effect to elements of the Government’s initial response to the Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust Public Inquiry that require primary legislation. Patients First and Foremost – The initial

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Government Response to the Report of The Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust Public Inquiry (Cm 8576) is available at gov.uk².

6. Additionally, it takes forward the necessary legislative measures for the proposals outlined in Liberating the NHS: Developing the Healthcare workforce - From Design to Delivery³, the establishment of Health Education England as a non-departmental public body; and those in relation to health research that were set out in the Government’s Plan for Growth⁴, the establishment of the Health Research Authority as a non-departmental public body.

7. Most of the clauses now contained in Parts 1 (Care and Support) and 3 (Health) of the Bill were published in draft form in July 2012 (as the Draft Care and Support Bill) for consultation and pre-legislative scrutiny. A document has been published alongside the Bill (The Care Bill explained - Including a response to consultation and pre-legislative scrutiny on the Draft Care and Support Bill, Cm 8627, available at gov.uk⁵) that describes the changes and additions to those provisions made since the publication of the draft Bill, including those made in response to the recommendations made by the House of Lords and House of Commons Joint Committee that scrutinised the Draft Care and Support Bill⁶. The clauses in Part 2 of the Bill (Care Standards) were not included in the draft Bill.

OVERVIEW OF THE STRUCTURE

8. The Bill contains four Parts and eight Schedules.

Part 1 – Care and Support


10. Clauses 1 to 7 set out the general responsibilities of local authorities. They describe local authorities’ broader care and support role towards the local community, including services provided more generally, for instance those with the aim of reducing needs.

11. Clauses 8 to 40 (and clauses 64 to 66) provide for a person’s journey through the care and support system. These provisions map out the process of assessments, charging, establishing entitlements, care planning, and the provision of care and support. They include provision to create a cap on the costs of care and for local authorities to enter into deferred payment agreements.

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³www.gov.uk/government/publications/developing-the-healthcare-workforce-from-design-to-delivery
⁴www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/ukecon_growth_index.htm
⁶The Joint Committee’s report (HL Paper 143, HC 822) can be found at http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/jt201213/jtselect/jtcare/143/143.pdf
12. Clauses 41 to 46 outline the responsibilities of local authorities and other partners in relation to the safeguarding of adults, including a new requirement to establish Safeguarding Adults Boards in every area.

13. Clauses 47 to 54 provide for the oversight of registered care and support providers by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), and set out local authorities’ responsibilities for ensuring continuity of care where a provider sustains business failure and ceases to provide a service.

14. Clauses 55 to 63 will support the transition for young people between children’s and adult care by giving local authorities powers to assess children, young carers and parent carers.

15. Clauses 67 to 72 set out miscellaneous further provisions, including restating the law relating to delayed discharges.

**Part 2 – Care Standards**

16. Part 2 of the Bill deals with a number of the aspects of the Government’s response to the findings of the Report of the Mid-Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust Public Inquiry, led by Robert Francis QC.

17. Clauses 74 to 77 provide for an extended failure regime for NHS (National Health Service) healthcare providers which encompasses quality as well as finance by: enabling the CQC to issue warning notices to NHS trusts and NHS foundation trusts where the services provided by them require significant improvement; extending Monitor’s powers to be able to impose additional licence conditions on foundation trusts; and enabling Monitor to make an order authorising the appointment of a trust special administrator for foundation trusts on quality grounds.

18. Clause 78 prevents registered providers from applying for a change to their conditions of registration where the CQC has commenced proceedings to make the same change and clause 79 amends provisions relating to the membership of the CQC.

19. Clause 80 requires the CQC to conduct periodic reviews, assess performance and publish assessment reports in respect of regulated activities and registered service providers. This is to allow for meaningful comparison of services.

20. Finally, clauses 81 and 82 provide for a new offence for care providers who supply, publish or otherwise make available information that is false or misleading, with associated criminal sanctions.

**Part 3 – Health**

21. Chapter 1 establishes Health Education England (HEE) as a non-departmental public body.
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22. Chapter 2 establishes the Health Research Authority (HRA) as a non-departmental public body.

23. Chapter 3 deals with transfer orders and interpretation provisions in relation to HEE and HRA.

**Part 4 – General**

24. Part 4 deals with various technical matters such as consequential amendments, orders and regulations, commencement, extent and the short title of the Bill.

**TERRITORIAL EXTENT AND APPLICATION**

25. The Bill extends to England and Wales save where specified otherwise. Part 1 (Care and Support) in general, extends to England and Wales but applies to local authorities in England only. This is because social care is a devolved matter for Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. However, the provisions in relation to cross-border placements (clause 38(6) and Schedule 1) extend to the whole of the United Kingdom and the provision in clause 48 and 49 (provider failure) apply to local authorities in Wales. The Law Commission’s report on adult social care makes recommendations in relation to both England and Wales, but the Welsh Government has produced its own legislative proposals, the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Bill.7

26. Part 2 (Care Standards) also extends to England and Wales but applies to England only. This Part amends provisions in the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (the 2008 Act) relating to the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and provisions in the National Health Service Act 2006 (the 2006 Act) relating to regulation of NHS foundation trusts. The CQC’s functions only apply in England by virtue of the fact that the "regulated activities" which it regulates must involve, or be connected with, the provision of health or social care in, or in relation to, England: section 8(2)(a) of the 2008 Act. NHS foundation trusts are established under section 30 of the 2006 Act to provide goods and services for the purposes of the health service in England only.

27. In Part 3 (Health), the majority of provisions relating to Health Education England (HEE) extend to England and Wales and those relating to the Health Research Authority (HRA) extend to the whole of the United Kingdom. The functions of HEE only affect England, by virtue of the fact that they are derived from the Secretary of State’s functions to do with the planning and delivery of education and training for persons connected with the provision of health services in England (section 1F of the 2006 Act). However, while neither HEE nor the HRA will take on any devolved functions, there are some implications for the devolved

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administrations in relation to the establishment of these bodies as non-departmental public bodies.

28. HEE will have a power to exercise any of its education and training functions on behalf of a devolved authority, but only when it is asked to do so: paragraph 17 of Schedule 5.

29. The Bill places the HRA and each of the devolved administrations under a duty to co-operate with one another with a view to co-ordinating and standardising the regulation of health and social care research in the UK: clause 98(4). The HRA and certain specified bodies which carry out some devolved functions in relation to health and social care research will also be under a duty to co-operate with each other with a view to co-ordinating and promoting regulatory practice: clause 98(1). In relation to Scotland and Wales, this is the Human Tissue Authority. In relation to Northern Ireland, this is the Human Tissue Authority, the licensing authority for the purposes of the Medicines Act 1968 and the Administration of Radioactive Substances Advisory Committee. The HRA will also be able to take on research related functions from any of the devolved administrations where the parties agree: paragraph 14 of Schedule 7. Steps will also be taken to harmonise the legislation relating to ethics committees across the UK.

30. Westminster will not normally legislate with regard to devolved matters in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland without the consent of the respective devolved administration. Insofar as some of these provisions relate to matters that are devolved in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, the consent of the Scottish Parliament, National Assembly for Wales and Northern Ireland Assembly is subject to the tabling and agreement of legislative consent motions. Agreement to support legislative consent motions has been sought from Ministers in each devolved administration.

COMMENTARY ON CLAUSES

Part 1 – Care and Support

General responsibilities of local authorities

Clause 1 – Promoting individual well-being

31. This clause provides for a set of legal principles, which govern how local authorities are to carry out their care and support functions for adults under this Bill.

32. Subsection (1) establishes the overarching principle that local authorities must promote the well-being of the adult when carrying out functions under the Bill in relation to that adult. This duty applies both in relation to adults who use services, and to carers. It also applies to children, in relation to the functions set out in clauses 55 to 63.
33. The “well-being principle” applies to local authorities (and their officers) when they exercise a function in the case of an adult. It is not intended to be directly enforceable as an individual right, but to carry indirect legal weight, where a local authority’s failure to follow the principle may be challenged through judicial review.

34. “Well-being” is not defined precisely. However, subsection (2) provides guidance on the interpretation of the general duty in subsection (1). It lists outcomes or areas of activity, which develop the concept of well-being. The outcomes are not a series of requirements, but serve as a description to aid understanding.

35. The final element of the statutory principles is provided in subsection (3). This is a list of factors, which local authorities must consider when exercising any function, such as making a decision, about an adult, under Part 1 of the Bill.

36. The factors in subsection (3) direct local authorities on a number of issues that they must consider in complying with the general well-being principle. The list of factors is not in order of importance, and the weight afforded to each will differ according to the circumstances of the individual case. Moreover, it is not exhaustive. There may be other factors not listed which are relevant to the well-being of an individual, and which should be considered by decision-makers.

**Clause 2 - Preventing needs for care and support**

37. This clause requires local authorities to take steps, including providing and arranging for services (“arranging for” may include commissioning from others), which are intended to prevent, reduce or delay needs for care and support for all local people including adults and carers.

38. Subsection (2) requires local authorities to have regard to how it could make the best use of community facilities to prevent, delay and reduce needs for care and support; and to have regard to identifying adults and carers in their area who have unmet needs for care and support, when providing or arranging for preventative services under this clause.

39. This clause is intended to require steps that prevent, reduce and delay needs for care and support. This clause relates to other local authority functions in Part 1 of the Bill, including duties under clauses 4 and 5. Local authorities must give information about services that can delay, prevent and reduce needs for care and support in their area under clause 4, and must shape the market with regards to such services under clause 5.

40. Subsections (3) and (4) allow for regulations to specify where a local authority may charge for taking steps to prevent, reduce or delay needs for care and support. Any charge made under these regulations can cover only the cost to the local authority of providing or arranging the service. Subsection (3)(b) allows regulations to prohibit charging where subsection (3)(a) would otherwise allow this. This is to allow for local authorities to continue to charge for
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some preventative services as they do now (for example subsidised leisure services or monthly fees for telecare), and to enable local authorities to broaden access to services that can prevent, delay or reduce needs for care and support, that may fall outside of traditional models of care and support, to a wider range of adults and carers in their area. Regulations under clause 14 will be used to continue current entitlements to free intermediate care for a specified period and minor aids and adaptations up to a certain cost.

41. **Subsection (6)** acknowledges that a local authority may take steps to prevent, reduce or delay needs for care and support together with one or more other local authorities.

**Clause 3 – Promoting integration of care and support within health services etc.**

42. This clause places a duty on local authorities to carry out their care and support responsibilities (including carer’s support and prevention services) with the aim of joining-up services with those provided by the NHS and other health-related services (for example, housing services). The duty will apply where the local authority considers that integration of services would either promote the wellbeing of adults with care and support needs (including carers), contribute to the prevention or delay of developing care needs, or improve the quality of care in the local authority’s area.

43. This clause is intended to reflect the similar duty placed on clinical commissioning groups by section 14Z1 of the National Health Service Act 2006.

**Clause 4 – Providing information and advice**

44. This clause replaces and expands duties in Section 1 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970, by requiring local authorities to provide an information and advice service in relation to care and support for adults, and support for carers.

45. The service will be available to all people in the local authority’s area regardless of whether or not they have eligible care needs. The information and advice service should, where it is reasonable, also cover care and support services that, while physically provided outside the authority’s area, are usually available to its local population.

46. **Subsection (2)** sets out the high-level requirements for an information and advice service. This includes an explanation of how care and support operates in the authority’s area, how to access it, what services and providers are available, how to access independent financial advice and how to raise concerns about the safety or well-being of a person with care needs. Subject to subsections (3) and (4) it will be for local authorities to determine the precise scope and manner of the information and advice they will offer.

47. Subsection (3) states that local authorities must provide sufficient information and advice to enable adults to consider the financial aspects of meeting their care and support needs and to make plans for how they might meet any future needs for care and support. For example, it should cover what people are likely to pay towards their care and support needs, alert them to
potential benefits and financial entitlements, and other options to help them pay for care and support, such as deferred payment arrangements. This supports subsection (2) and the need to include information on how to access independent financial advice.

48. Subsection (4) states that information and advice should be accessible to all and provided in a proportionate manner to meet individual circumstances and needs. For example, an information leaflet may be sufficient for some people, for others it may be face-to-face discussion and advice, while at the other end of the spectrum long-term concentrated access to advocacy may be required.

Clause 5 – Promoting diversity and quality in provision of services

49. This clause places a duty on local authorities to promote a diverse and high quality market of care and support services (including prevention services) for people in their local area. In particular, local authorities must act with a view to ensuring that there is a range of different services and providers to choose from.

50. Subsection (2) lists certain factors a local authority must consider when exercising this duty. These include the importance of ensuring the sustainability of the market and supporting continuous improvement in the quality of services; making available information about the services available to people in its area; the current and future demand for services in its area, and how this demand can be met by providers; and the importance of carers and service users being able to undertake work, education and training.

51. Subsection (3) requires local authorities, when considering current and future local demand and how this might be met by providers, to consider the need for there to be sufficient services to meet the needs of people in their area.

52. Subsection (4) requires that the local authority must have regard to the duty when either providing or arranging services to meet the care and support needs of adults with care needs and carers. This is because local authorities’ commissioning practices affect the local market of providers.

53. Subsection (5) acknowledges that local authorities might work together to exercise this duty. Local authorities might want, for example, to consider the sustainability and diversity of provision across their borders, in order to promote a flexible and responsive market for their local communities.

Clause 6 – Co-operating generally

54. This clause requires local authorities and their “relevant partners” (listed in subsection (6)) to cooperate with each other in the exercise of their respective care and support functions, including those relating to carers and transition for children with needs to adult care and support. This duty does not confer any new functions but relates to co-operation in the
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exercise of the respective partners’ pre-existing functions relevant to adults with care and support needs and support for carers.

55. *Subsection (2)* extends the duty of the local authority to cooperate with its partners to any other person or body who the authority considers appropriate. However subsection (2) does not require this person or body to cooperate in return.

56. *Subsection (3)* requires the local authority to ensure internal cooperation between its officers: those responsible for adult care and support, housing, public health, and children’s services. These officers are employees of the local authority, and are not therefore included in the list of external partners in subsection (6).

57. *Subsection (5)* sets out five aims of cooperation between partners. These are promoting the well-being of adults needing care and support and their carers, improving the quality of care and support for adults and support for carers provided, and protecting adults with safeguarding concerns, whether they are currently experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect or to investigate past cases of serious abuse or neglect for the purposes of identifying and applying lessons to be learnt. However, the purposes of co-operation are not limited to these matters alone.

58. This clause does not require the local authority to take any specific steps to cooperate with relevant external partners, but there are a number of other powers which local authorities may use to promote joint working. For example, local authorities may share information with other partners, or provide staff, services or other resources to partners to improve cooperation. Under section 75 of the NHS Act 2006, a local authority may also contribute to a “pooled budget” with an NHS body – a shared fund out of which payments can be made to meet agreed priorities.

Clause 7 – Co-operating in specific cases

59. This clause supplements the general duty to cooperate in clause 6 with a specific duty. This duty is intended to be used by local authorities or partners where cooperation is needed in the case of an individual who has needs for care and support. The duty is not limited to specific circumstances, but could be used, for example, when a child is preparing to move from children’s to adult services; in adult safeguarding enquiries; when an adult requires an assessment for NHS continuing healthcare; or, when an adult is moving between areas and requires a new needs assessment.

60. *Subsection (1)* states that a local authority may request cooperation from a relevant partner in relation to the case of an individual adult or carer, and the relevant partner must cooperate as requested, unless doing so would be incompatible with the relevant partner’s own functions or duties. *Subsection (2)* creates the same duty but in reverse, with the request made by the relevant partner to the local authority.
61. If either the local authority, or the relevant partner, decide not to cooperate after receiving a request, then subsection (3) requires them to write to the other person setting out their reasons for not doing so. Local authorities and their relevant partners must respond to requests to cooperate under their general public law duties to act reasonably, and failure to respond within a reasonable time frame could be subject to judicial review.

Meeting needs for care etc.

Clause 8 – How to meet needs

62. The needs which adults have for care and support will be specific to that individual, and there are many ways in which local authorities can meet such needs. This clause is intended to provide some indication of the range of what a local authority can do to meet an adult’s needs.

63. Subsection (1) lists some general examples of the types of care and support that could be arranged or provided to meet the needs of both adults needing care and carers. This is not intended to be a definition of care and support or an exhaustive list, but to give a partial description for clarity. Local authorities may arrange or provide for any combination or type of service to meet needs, other than those services which they are prohibited from providing because they fall their outside their care and support functions (see clauses 22 and 23). The examples in subsection (1) are applicable both to carers and to adults needing care.

64. In meeting any adult’s needs, a local authority may provide a service itself or arrange for a service to be provided by another organisation. The local authority may also make a direct payment in lieu of a service (as detailed in clauses 31 and 32), or undertake any combination of these approaches.

Assessing needs

Clause 9 – Assessment of an adult’s needs for care and support

65. This clause requires a local authority to carry out an assessment, which is referred to as a “needs assessment”, where it appears that an adult may have needs for care and support. The objective of the needs assessment is to determine whether the adult has care and support needs and what those needs may be. It is the mechanism by which local authorities assess whether a person is eligible to receive ongoing care and support services. Whether or not a person has eligible needs, they will receive information on the universal services available.

66. Subsection (3) makes it clear that the local authority must carry out the assessment wherever it appears that an adult may have needs for care and support, whether or not it thinks the adult has eligible needs, and regardless of the adult’s financial resources.

67. Subsection (4) stipulates that the assessment must be focused on how the person’s needs impact on their well-being and the outcomes that an individual wishes to achieve in day-to-day life: for example, being able to live at home and feed themselves, and whether care and support can help them to meet those outcomes. It also requires the assessment to consider the
individual’s own capabilities and what support is available from family, friends or within the community to help them reach the outcomes they want to achieve.

68. Subsection (5) requires the local authority to involve the adult, any carer they may have, and anyone else the adult may ask to be involved in the needs assessment. Where a person lacks capacity the local authority must also involve any person who appears to be interested in the individual’s welfare. The intention is to allow the adult to set the outcomes they wish to achieve and to be fully involved throughout the assessment process.

69. The clause brings together a number of existing powers and duties to create a single legal basis for assessment, including section 2 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970; section 4 of the Disabled Persons (Services, Consultation and Representation) Act 1986 and section 47(1) of the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990.

**Clause 10 – Assessment of a carer’s needs for support**

70. This clause creates a single duty to assess carers. It requires a local authority to carry out an assessment, known as a “carer’s assessment”, where it appears that a carer may have needs for support at that time, or in the future. The aim of the assessment is to determine whether a carer has support needs either currently or, possibly, in the future and what those needs may be.

71. The duty to assess a carer replaces existing duties in relation to the assessment of adult carers in section 1(1) of the Carers (Recognition and Services) Act 1995 and section 1 of the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000.

72. A carer is defined as an adult who provides or intends to provide care for another adult. The clause makes clear care includes the provision of practical or emotional support. This definition is subject to the proviso that those who care on a contractual or volunteering basis are not considered to be carers for the purposes of this Part. However, if the local authority thinks it is appropriate for such an individual (even if there is a contractual or volunteering element to the relationship) to be treated as a carer, then it may do so.

73. The duty to assess applies regardless of any views the local authority may have about the level of a carer’s needs for support or the financial resources of either the person needing care or the carer. The local authority must involve a carer and any other person nominated by the carer, when carrying out a carer’s assessment.

74. A carer’s assessment must consider certain important factors. These include the carer’s ability and willingness to provide care and support, both now and in the future; the impact of caring on the carer’s wellbeing; and the outcomes that the carer wishes to achieve in day to day life. In carrying out the assessment the local authority must also have regard to whether a carer works or wishes to work, or participates in, or would like to participate in, education, training or recreation.
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Clause 11 – Refusal of assessment

75. This clause sets out what is to happen where an adult or a carer refuses to have a needs or carer’s assessment.

76. Normally if an adult refuses a needs assessment or a carer’s assessment, the local authority need not carry it out.

77. However, the clause specifies that there are two situations in which the local authority must carry out a needs assessment even if the adult refuses an assessment:

   a) if the adult lacks the capacity to agree to an assessment but the local authority is satisfied that an assessment would be in their best interests; and
   b) if the adult is at risk of harm or financial abuse.

78. Where a person has refused a needs assessment or carer’s assessment and the local authority thinks the circumstances have changed, the duty to carry out an assessment applies, unless the person continues to refuse.

Clause 12 – Assessments under sections 9 and 10: further provision

79. This clause requires the Secretary of State to make regulations about how a needs assessment or a carer’s assessment is carried out, to ensure consistent practice in the key elements of the assessment process.

80. The regulations may in particular make provision about matters that a local authority must consider when carrying out an assessment, and about the assessment process, to ensure that it is carried out in an appropriate and proportionate manner. The local authority may be required to have regard to the family needs of the person being assessed, for instance the need to ensure that a child is not undertaking an inappropriate caring role. Regulations may specify who may carry out an assessment, including allowing for self-assessment, joint assessments, and for a third party to carry out the assessment on behalf of the local authority. They may also specify when a local authority should refer a person for assessment by the NHS when they believe that the person has NHS continuing healthcare needs.

Clause 13 – The eligibility criteria

81. Having carried out a needs assessment or a carer’s assessment, this clause requires local authorities to determine whether a person’s needs are “eligible” needs. In other words, whether they meet the eligibility criteria which are to be set out in regulations. “Eligible” needs are those needs of a level or nature which the local authority may be under a duty to meet. The use of the word “eligible” here refers only to the person’s needs, not to their financial resources or other circumstances.

82. As subsection (1) sets out, provided that a local authority is satisfied on the basis of an assessment that an individual has any needs, of whatever level, the first requirement following
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an assessment is for the local authority to establish whether those are needs which the local authority must meet. Everyone will receive a written record of that decision, whether their needs are eligible or not. If the person or carer does have eligible needs, subsection (2) requires the local authority to consider the support (of whatever form) that is required to meet those needs. Subsection (2)(b) also requires local authorities to consider what other services that might be available in the community to improve the person’s well-being. This provision replaces section 47(1)(b) of the NHS and Community Care Act 1990.

83. **Subsection (3)(b)** requires the local authority to ascertain whether the adult wants to have their needs met by the local authority. This allows individuals who do not want the local authority to meet their needs to take an independent personal budget (as set out at clause 28) and start their care account. This duty is not replicated for carers in subsection (4), as they are not eligible for a cap on costs.

84. Where the individual or carer’s needs do not meet the eligibility criteria, subsection (5) requires the local authority to provide them with advice on what services are available in the community to meet the needs they do have and to prevent or delay their need for care and support. This will ensure people are helped to access local services, which may be provided by the local authority or by another organisation.

85. **Subsection (6)** requires the Secretary of State to set out the eligibility framework in regulations. The regulations will set out how a local authority must go about determining whether an adult’s needs meet the eligibility criteria. It provides the power for Secretary of State to set out which needs are “eligible” needs, to enable local authorities to make the determination required in subsection (1).

86. **Subsection (7)** specifies that a person’s needs will meet the eligibility criteria if they are of a description specified in the regulations. The regulations will prescribe the minimum level of needs which local authorities must meet, subject to the conditions set out in clause 18. Local authorities can decide to arrange services to meet needs at a lower level.

87. These powers will enable regulations to provide that people in specific circumstances may be treated as meeting the eligibility criteria, when their level of need otherwise might not do so. For example, this might apply in the case of a person who lacks accommodation, and currently has care and support needs which do not meet the eligibility criteria, but whose condition will continue to deteriorate unless appropriate care and support is provided. In such circumstances, the local authority may have to provide care and support including accommodation if it is not otherwise available to the person. The intention is that the power will enable the eligibility regulations to replicate the effect of provisions currently are set out in section 21(1)(a) National Assistance Act 1948.
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**Imposing charges and assessing financial resources**

**Clause 14 – Power of local authority to charge**

88. This clause gives local authorities a general power to charge for certain types of care and support, at their discretion.

89. If it does exercise this power, **subsection (4)** stipulates that a local authority may not charge a person more than what it costs it to provide or arrange the care and support. This general power replaces the existing duty on local authorities to charge for care home accommodation set out in section 22(1) of the National Assistance Act 1948, and powers to charge for other types of care and support (including those under section 17 of the Health and Social Services and Social Security Adjudications Act 1983, and section 8 of the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000).

90. **Subsection (2)** provides that the power to charge is subject to clause 15. Clause 15(1) stipulates that the local authority cannot charge an adult for meeting needs if the adult has reached the cap on care costs; however clause 15(7) makes clear that a local authority can still charge for daily living costs. Therefore, even when someone has reached the cap, they still can be charged if their care includes daily living costs.

91. **Subsection (3)** stipulates that where a local authority makes a charge under subsection (1) for meeting a carer’s needs by providing care and support to an adult needing care it may not charge the carer.

92. The power to charge extends to all types of care and support, unless regulations state that the specific service must be provided free. Certain services or activities cannot be charged for: for example, needs assessments or carer’s assessments. **Subsection (6)** gives examples of how regulations might define the provision of care and support to be provided free of charge. These regulations will replace those made under section 15 of the Community Care (Delayed Discharges etc) Act 2003.

93. **Subsection (7)** ensures that a person’s income does not fall below a certain amount as a result of charging. This could be achieved by setting a personal expenses allowance for care home residents, for instance, or specifying the amount below which the income of a person receiving care and support in their home may not fall.

94. When a person has care and support needs but does not qualify for financial support from the local authority, they are still able to request that the local authority arrange the care and support that they require on their behalf. Where the local authority arranges the care and support necessary for that individual, **subsection (1)(b)** gives the local authority a power to charge a fee to cover the costs of arranging that care and support. However, the local authority may not charge such fees in relation to any types of care and support specified in the regulations under **subsection (6)**.
Clause 15 – Cap on care costs

95. This clause establishes a limit on the amount that adults can be required to pay towards eligible care costs over their lifetime. Eligible care costs are the costs of meeting eligible needs that a local authority would meet under clause 18. These costs are either specified in a personal budget (under clause 26) where the local authority is meeting the person’s needs, or in an independent personal budget (under clause 28) where the person has decided that they do not want the local authority to meet their needs. Subsection (1) restricts local authorities from charging for eligible care costs once the amount of a person’s accrued care costs reach the level of the cap.

96. Subsection (2) defines what is meant by the costs accrued in meeting eligible needs as being those costs that the local authority would incur if it, or another local authority were to meet the person’s needs itself, or, in the case of a person who has an independent personal budget under clause 28, what the cost to the local authority of meeting the person’s needs would be. Subsection (3) defines eligible needs as those that meet the eligibility criteria and are not being met by a carer. Adults must also be ordinary resident, or present in the local authority area to have eligible needs.

97. Subsection (4) provides for the level of the cap to be set in regulations, and includes power to set the cap at different amounts for people of different ages. This will allow the cap to be set at different levels for working age adults, and includes the possibility of setting the cap at zero for specified categories of person, for example people who have eligible needs for care and support when they turn 18.

98. When a person receives care and support in a care home, daily living costs such as food and lighting should not count towards an adult’s accrued costs; subsection (6) ensures that where the costs of meeting a person’s needs includes such daily living costs, these will be disregarded when measuring progress towards the cap. Subsection (7) allows a local authority to continue to charge for the daily living costs once the adult has reached the cap.

99. Subsection (8) provides a regulation making power to set the amount that will be considered as representing an adult’s daily living costs.

100. The funding provisions are expected to be commenced in April 2016, and eligible care costs will only start counting towards the cap from the date of commencement of the clauses.

Clause 16 - Cap on care costs: annual adjustment

101. This clause requires annual adjustments in order to ensure that the level of the cap and an adult’s accrued costs keep pace with inflation.

102. Subsection (2) ensures that an adult’s accrued costs are adjusted by the same measure as the cap, so that if someone was previously 50% of the way towards the cap, then they will remain so after adjustment. Subsection (3) specifies the meaning of “average earnings” for the
purposes of this clause and subsection (4) requires adjustment to be considered annually following commencement of the clause.

103. Subsection (5) makes it clear that the power to set the level of the costs cap in clause 15 is not restricted by the annual adjustment.

**Clause 17 – Assessment of financial resources**

104. This clause requires a local authority to carry out a financial assessment if they have chosen to charge for a particular service under the power in clause 14. This is in order to determine the individual’s contribution towards the cost of the care and support that they require. The rules about how a financial assessment is conducted ensure that such assessments are carried out on a consistent basis.

105. Subsections (7) to (12) allow regulations to set rules in relation to financial assessment, including setting the amount of financial resource, under which a local authority may contribute towards an individual’s care and support costs, and daily living costs. These provisions replace those in section 22 of the National Assistance Act 1948.

**Duties and powers to meet needs**

**Clause 18 – Duty to meet needs for care and support**

106. This clause sets out the circumstances when a local authority is obliged to meet an adult’s eligible needs for care and support and is the principal individual entitlement to care and support for adults with needs for care and support (the equivalent for carers is provided for in clause 20). This replaces a number of duties to provide particular care and support services to adults: sections 21(1), 21(2) and 29(1) of the National Assistance Act 1948, section 2(1) of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970, and section 45(1) of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968.

107. Subsections (1) and (2) set out the circumstances in which an adult is entitled to care and support to meet their needs where the adult has been assessed by the local authority and has been determined to have “eligible” needs for care and support (this would be decided using the eligibility framework set out in regulations made under clause 13).

108. Subsection (1) sets out the preconditions that trigger the local authority’s duty to meet an adult’s eligible needs for care and support in a case where the adult’s accrued costs do not exceed the cap on care costs (see clause 15). These are:

- that the adult is ordinarily resident in the local authority area (or has no settled residence in any area, but is living in the local authority area at that time), (provision about ordinary residence is made in clause 38); and either:
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a) that the local authority has either decided not to charge for a particular type of
care and support, or is not able to charge. The circumstances in which the local
authority does not or may not charge are set out in subsection (6); or
b) if it is not such a case, one of the following three conditions is met.

109. Subsections (2) to (4) set out the three conditions that trigger the duty to meet eligible needs:

- The first condition is that the adult’s financial resources are assessed as being at or
below the financial limit set in regulations under clause 17. In other words, the adult
does not have sufficient financial resources to be able to pay the charge which is
assessed as due, although they may be required to make a contribution. The amount of
resources required will depend on the type of care and support, and will be calculated
following a financial assessment carried out by the local authority (under clause 17).
- However, the second condition provides that the adult may request that the local
authority meet their needs, even if their resources are assessed as above the financial
limit, so that they have to pay for their care in full. That request would trigger the duty
on the local authority to meet their needs. Where the adult lacks capacity to make the
request, it may be made by someone else acting on their behalf.
- The third condition is that the adult lacks the mental capacity to arrange care and
support, and there is no other person willing or able to arrange that care and support on
their behalf. In these circumstances, the duty applies, regardless of other factors such
as finances.

110. Subsection (5) provides that the local authority is under a duty to meet an adult’s needs for
care and support which meet the eligibility criteria where the adult’s accrued costs exceed the
cap on care costs (see clause 15) if the adult is ordinarily resident in the local authority area
(or has no settled residence in any area, but is living in the local authority area at that time).

111. Subsection (6) sets out the circumstances in which there may be no charge for particular types
of care and support, for the purposes of subsection (1)(c). These are that:

- regulations prohibit the local authority from charging for the type of care and support
being provided by the local authority; or
- the local authority decides not to charge for the care and support being provided.

112. Subsection (7) provides that the local authority is not under a duty to meet any of the adult's
eligible needs which are being met at that time by a carer. When conducting the needs
assessment and the eligibility determination, the local authority will assess the totality of the
adult's needs, regardless of whether a carer is currently meeting any of them. This is
sometimes referred to as the assessment being "carer-sighted".

113. However, the local authority is not under a duty to meet any eligible needs which are being
met by a carer, because the carer is already doing so. If a carer were to cease providing care
and to stop meeting any eligible needs, this would trigger a review of the adult's care and
support plan, and may mean that the local authority is required to meet the needs. If the carer has needs for support, they should be entitled to an assessment in their own right, under clause 11, and may receive support to meet their eligible needs.

Clause 19 – Power to meet needs for care and support

114. This clause provides broad powers to enable local authorities to meet the needs of adults whose needs they are not otherwise required to meet, for instance because the adult is not ordinarily resident, or does not have needs for care and support which meet the eligibility criteria. The local authority must have carried out an assessment in these cases to determine what needs the adult does have, if any.

115. In addition, subsection (3) gives a power for local authorities to meet needs in urgent cases, without having first carried out the required assessments. Sometimes, it will be necessary to put in place care and support urgently and there may not be time to undertake a full assessment. In such cases, the local authority must still carry out the assessments, but can do so in due course so as to not delay care and support being put in place.

Clause 20 – Duty and power to meet a carer’s needs for support

116. This clause sets out the core duty of the local authority to meet a carer’s eligible needs for support. This duty replaces the power to provide services to carers in section 2 of the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000, in respect of those carers who are adults and are providing care for another adult.

117. Subsections (1) to (5) set out the different circumstances that may trigger the local authority’s duty to meet a carer’s needs for support which meet the eligibility criteria. The common requirements are that the adult needing care is ordinarily resident in the local authority’s area (or has no settled residence, but is living in the local authority’s area at that time); and, that the carer has been assessed by the local authority and has been determined to have eligible needs for support.

118. The application of the remaining “trigger” conditions depend on whether or not the local authority charges for the support or care and support to be provided. The local authority has the power under clause 14 to make a charge (unless prohibited by regulations made under that clause from making such a charge). However, a local authority may decide (as is usually the case under the current law, in respect of carer’s needs) not to exercise that power to make a charge.

119. If a local authority has decided not to charge for support (and, where the care and support is to be provided in the form of care and support to the adult needing care, the adult agrees to its provision), then there are no further conditions, and the duty to meet the carer’s eligible needs for support will arise on the basis of the common requirements set out above only.
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120. If the local authority does choose to charge for the support to be provided, then one of four additional conditions set out in the clause must be met in order for the carer to be entitled to support.

121. These conditions are in turn linked to the question of whether meeting the carer’s needs involves the provision of support direct to the carer or whether it involves the provision of care and support direct to the adult needing care. A carer’s needs for support may be met by direct provision of support to the carer. Alternatively, as subsection (7) acknowledges, a carer’s need for support may be met by providing care and support direct to the adult for whom they are caring, for example by providing replacement care to allow the carer to have a break from caring. It does not matter that there may be no duty to meet that adult’s needs in their own right. Clause 14 makes clear that where the needs are met by providing care and support direct to the adult needing care, the charge may not be imposed on the carer.

122. Where (i) the two common requirements as set out above are met; (ii) there is a charge for meeting the needs; and (iii) one of the relevant conditions, as set out below, is fulfilled, then the duty to meet the carer’s eligible needs for support will arise.

123. The first and second conditions both apply where meeting the carer’s needs involves the provision of support to the carer. The first condition is that the carer does not have sufficient financial resources to be able to pay any charge which is assessed as due. The second condition is that the carer has sufficient financial resources to pay any charge but nevertheless requests that the local authority meet their needs.

124. The third and fourth conditions both apply where meeting the carer’s needs involves the provision of care and support to the adult needing care. The third condition is that the adult needing care does not have sufficient financial resources to be able to pay any charge which is assessed as due, and that the adult concerned agrees to receive such support. The fourth condition is that adult needing care has sufficient financial resources to pay any charge but nevertheless requests the local authority to meet the needs by providing care and support to them.

125. This clause also provides a broad power to enable local authorities to meet the needs of carers who are not otherwise eligible, including the provision of care and support to the person needing care, as long as that person agrees. It also acknowledges the situation where a local authority might consider the best way of meeting a carer’s needs for support is by providing care and support to the adult needing care but it is not possible to do so (for example, if that adult does not agree to such provision). This clause requires the local authority, as far as it is feasible, to identify some other way of supporting the carer.

Clause 21 – Exception for persons subject to immigration control

126. This clause applies in relation to adults who are subject to immigration control within the meaning of section 115 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. As a result, a local authority may not meet the care and support needs of such an adult which arise solely because
the adult is destitute, or because of the physical effects or anticipated physical effects, of being destitute. It replaces existing exclusions set out in: for example, sections 21(1A) and (1B) of the National Assistance Act 1948, section 45(4A) Health Services and Public Health Act 1968.

Clause 22 – Exception for provision of healthcare services

127. In meeting an adult’s needs for care and support, or a carer’s needs for support, a local authority may not provide healthcare services which are the responsibility of the NHS. This clause sets out the limits on what a local authority may provide by way of healthcare and so, in effect, sets the boundary between the responsibilities of local authorities for the provision of care and support, and those of the NHS for the provision of health care. This replaces provisions in sections 21(8) and 29(6) of the National Assistance Act 1948 and section 49 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001.

128. Subsection (1) stipulates that a local authority cannot meet care and support needs by providing services of a type which is required to be provided under the NHS Act 2006. This includes all healthcare services which the NHS is required to provide, for instance primary medical, dental and ophthalmic services, by clinical commissioning groups, the NHS Commissioning Board, or any other NHS body.

129. However, subsection (1) provides that a local authority may provide some healthcare services in certain circumstances, that is, where the service provided is minor and accompanies some other care and support service which the local authority is permitted to provide and is of a nature that a local authority would be expected to provide. This reflects what has become known as the “quantity and quality test”, arising out of the case of R v North and East Devon Health Authority ex parte Coughlan [2001] QB 213 (“Coughlan”).

130. In the Coughlan case, which related particularly to the provision of nursing services, the court considered the effect of the prohibition, in section 21(8) of the National Assistance Act 1948, on a local authority providing health services. As part of its consideration of the question of where the line between local authority services and health services was to be drawn (a line the court concluded was difficult to draw precisely) the court suggested that, as a very general indication, if the nursing services were (i) merely incidental or ancillary to the provision of the service the local authority was under a duty to provide, and (ii) of a nature which a local authority might be expected to provide, then such nursing services could be provided by the local authority. This test, looking at (i) the quantity of the service provided and (ii) the quality of the service provided, has been adopted and developed by the courts as a helpful indicator of the distinction between health and social care provision and it continues to form a fundamental part of the current policy framework underpinning the provision of NHS continuing healthcare.

131. Subsection (2) confers power to make provision in regulations about the types of services which may, or may not, be provided by local authorities, and in which circumstances.
132. Subsection (3) provides a further restriction, which is that a local authority cannot provide or arrange the provision of nursing care by a registered nurse. This kind of nursing care is something that may only be provided by the NHS.

133. However, subsections (4) and (5) provide that the local authority may arrange the provision of accommodation which includes the provision of nursing care by a registered nurse (a term that is defined in subsection (8)), provided it has first obtained the agreement of the relevant NHS body (being the body that would be responsible for meeting the cost of that nursing element) or, where it has to arrange the provision of such accommodation as a matter of urgency, provided it obtains the agreement of the relevant NHS body as soon as possible afterwards. The relevant body will usually be a clinical commissioning group. However, as subsection (9) acknowledges, it may in certain circumstances be the NHS Commissioning Board.

134. Subsection (6) sets out other matters which may be provided for in regulations. These include detailing the steps which the local authority must take to contribute to an assessment as to whether an adult requires healthcare services and requiring the establishment of a process for dealing with disputes between local authorities and NHS bodies, should there be a disagreement over the responsibility for providing a particular service in an individual case.

135. As this clause makes clear, local authorities generally may not provide healthcare services (which are for the NHS to provide under the NHS Act 2006). However, subsection (7) clarifies that this clause does not prohibit local authorities from doing anything that they, as local authorities, have the power to do under the NHS Act 2006. This includes, in particular, entering into partnership arrangements with NHS bodies under section 75 of the NHS Act 2006.

136. The restrictions imposed by this clause also apply where a local authority is doing anything in discharge of its duty under clause 2 aimed at preventing, delaying or reducing needs.

**Clause 23 - Exception for provision of housing etc.**

137. This clause sets out the boundary in law between local authorities’ care and support functions, and their housing functions. Together with clause 22 it replaces provision in section 21(8) of the National Assistance Act 1948.

138. This clause prevents local authorities from meeting needs for care and support by doing anything which they or another local authority are required to do under the Housing Act 1996 (to generally provide housing), or under any other enactment added in regulations.

139. This clause does not prevent local authorities in their care and support role from providing more specific services (such as housing adaptations), or from working jointly with housing authorities.
Next steps after assessments

Clause 24 – The steps for the local authority to take

140. This clause sets out the steps local authorities must take after carrying out the needs assessment or carer’s assessment (and the financial assessment where relevant).

141. Subsection (1) requires a local authority which has a duty under clause 18 or clause 20 or has exercised its discretion under clause 19 or clause 20 to meet needs for care and support to do the following:

- Prepare a care and support plan for an adult with needs for care and support, or a support plan for a carer (as specified in clause 25).
- Inform the adult which of their needs it will meet and where direct payments may be used to meet needs.
- Help the adult in deciding how to have the needs met.

142. Subsection (2) requires the local authority to provide those whose needs it is not required to meet, and has decided not to meet, with the following:

- A written explanation of the reasons why it is not going to meet the needs (eg; this could be the adult is ordinarily resident elsewhere, or their needs are being met by a carer).
- Information and advice in writing on how the adult can meet or reduce their needs independently, including information on how the adult can prevent or delay their needs (unless the adult or carer has received such advice already as required by clause 13).

143. Subsection (3) applies where the adult has eligible needs for care and support, but the local authority does not have a duty to meet these needs (because the adult does not want to have their needs met by the local authority). It requires the local authority to prepare an independent personal budget (as required by clause 28).

Clause 25 – Care and support plan, support plan

144. This clause sets out the information and details which must be specified in the care and support plan (or in the case of a carer, the support plan) provided under clause 24.

145. Subsection (1) provides that the needs identified in the needs or carers assessment must be specified in the plan and also whether and if so the extent to which the needs meet the eligibility criteria. It requires the plan to specify the needs the local authority will meet and to state how it will meet them, and to specify to which of the various relevant matters covered in the assessment, including the outcomes which the person wishes to achieve in day to day life. It must also include the personal budget for the adult and information and advice about how to prevent, delay or reduce the adult’s needs for care and support or the carer’s need for support.
If the individual’s needs are met by a direct payment, subsection (2) requires that the plan must specify the needs that will be met by the direct payment, and the amount and frequency of the direct payment.

The purpose of subsections (3) and (4) is to ensure that all relevant people are involved in the preparation of and agreement to the plan. Subsection (3) requires the local authority to involve the adult, any carer they may have, and anyone else the adult may ask to be involved in the development of the care and support plan. Where a person lacks capacity the local authority must also involve any person who appears to be interested in the individual’s welfare.

Subsection (4) requires the local authority to involve the carer, the adult receiving care, and anyone else the adult may ask to be involved in the development of the support plan.

Subsection (5) requires the local authority to take all reasonable steps to reach agreement with the person for whom the plan is being prepared about how the local authority is going to meet their needs.

Subsection (6) provides for this by requiring the local authority to have regard to various matters covered by the assessment such as the outcomes of the adult or the carer wishes to achieve.

Subsection (7) allows the local authority to jointly prepare the plan with another person, including the adult or carer who the plan is being prepared for. Subsection (8) requires the local authority to facilitate the development of the plan by providing such a person with information, resources and access to facilities.

Where the adult needing care has a carer, subsection (11) allows the local authority to combine the care and support plan with the support plan, where the adult and the carer agree. This would allow for combined care and support plan, for instance to reflect the needs of a family more holistically.

Subsection (12) allows regulations to specify circumstances where elements of subsections (1) and (2) do not apply.

Clause 26 – Personal budget

This clause defines a personal budget as a statement and set out the financial information which must be included in the statement.

Subsection (1) makes clear that the total amount which it costs the local authority to meet the needs which it must or has decided to meet must be set out in a statement and broken down so that the adult can see from the statement the amount if any which the adult must pay towards that cost and the amount if any which the local authority must pay. The amount the adult must pay is calculated on the basis of the financial assessment carried out under clause 17.
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156. Subsection (2) requires the total cost to the local authority of meeting eligible needs which it is required to meet under clause 18 to be broken down so that the adult can see from the statement how much of that is attributable to daily living costs. This is because daily living costs do not count for the purposes of working out whether costs accrued in meeting adult’s eligible needs have exceeded the cap on care costs, and where they have, this will allow the adult and local authority to distinguish what the adult must pay for their daily living costs and what the local authority must pay to meet the care costs.

157. Subsection (3) provides that the personal budget may specify other amounts of public money that are available to the person for spending on matters including those relating to housing, healthcare or welfare.

Clause 27 – Review of care and support plan, support plan

158. This clause requires the local authority to ensure the care and support plan (or support plan) remains an accurate, up-to-date reflection of the person’s needs and the outcomes they wish to achieve and the services arranged to meet these needs and outcomes. This clause applies to care and support plans for adults needing care and support, and support plans for carers. The local authority must review the plan on a reasonable request by the adult to whom it relates.

159. Subsection (2) states that the local authority may revise the care and support plan, and when doing so must have regard to the outcomes the individual identified in the assessment and other relevant matters identified in the assessment and listed in clause 9(4). When revising the plan the local authority must involve the adult, any carer they may have, and anyone else the adult may ask to be involved. Where a person lacks capacity the local authority must also involve any person who appears to be interested in the individual’s welfare. Subsection (3) places similar requirements on the local authority when reviewing a carer’s support plan.

160. Subsection (4) states that where the local authority is satisfied that the person’s circumstances, for example their needs or finances, have changed in a way that affects their care and support plan or support plan, the local authority must, where it thinks appropriate, carry out a new needs or carers assessment, and a new financial assessment (or both) and consider whether the person’s needs meet the eligibility criteria. The local authority must then revise the care and support plan or support plan as appropriate. This will ensure that the individual’s care and support package, and the level to which the local authority contributes to it are up-to-date and in line with the outcomes of the care and support plan review.

161. Subsection (5) states that, as with the care and support plan in clause 24, the local authority must involve the user of care services and carer and take all reasonable steps to reach agreement with the person for whom the plan is being prepared if there is to be a change in how the person’s needs are met.
Clause 28 – Independent personal budget

162. This clause establishes the concept of independent personal budgets for adults who have eligible needs, and who choose not to have these needs met by their local authority. Such persons will not have personal budgets under clause 26 because the local authority is not under a duty to prepare a care and support plan for them, so a separate mechanism is needed to record their care costs for the purposes of measuring progress towards the costs cap.

163. The independent budget is a statement recording how much of the adult’s spending on care will count towards the cap. This amount will be equivalent to what it would cost the local authority to purchase care and support that meets their eligible needs.

164. Subsection (1) defines the independent personal budget as a statement that shows the amount that it would cost the local authority to meet the adult’s eligible needs. The independent personal budget is equivalent to what it would cost the local authority to purchase the care for the individual, if it were doing so under clause 18.

165. Subsection (2) requires the independent personal budget to specify how much of the total represents daily living costs (see clause 15) and the remaining amount of the independent personal budget that is for care costs and therefore contributes towards someone’s progress towards the cap. Local authorities are required to keep the independent personal budget under review, and if the person asks for it to be reviewed, must do so if the request is reasonable (subsection (4)).

166. If the local authority considers the adult’s circumstances to have changed in a way that might affect the independent personal budget, then they must, if appropriate, carry out a new needs assessment and revise the independent personal budget (subsection (6)).

167. If an adult refuses a reasonable request to be re-assessed, then their independent personal budget will cease counting towards their accrued costs and the local authority will not have to keep their care account up to date (subsection (7)).

168. Following a review, the local authority must notify the adult of the outcome and if the independent personal budget has changed, must explain why (subsection (8)).

Clause 29 – Care account

169. This clause requires local authorities to keep a care account for adults whose care costs are counted towards the costs cap. The purpose of the account is to maintain a record of the adult’s total accrued care costs, and progress towards the costs cap.

170. Subsection (1) requires the local authority to keep a record of the accrued costs of an adult. It also requires the local authority to inform the adult if the level of accrued costs in their care account reaches the cap.
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171. If an adult moves to another local authority’s area, the local authority from which the adult is moving must retain the record of their care account up to the point they left for either 99 years, or until they are notified that the person has died (subsection (2)).

172. Where the care account includes daily living costs, these must be specified separately (subsection (3)).

173. Subsection (4) provides a regulation making power that will require the local authority to provide adults with a regular statement of their care account. We anticipate that this will be an annual requirement and will show the adult how they are progressing towards the cap.

Clause 30 – Cases where adult expresses preference for particular accommodation

174. This clause provides powers regarding the choice of accommodation, and other matters. It sets out some further factors to be considered when it has been determined that an individual’s needs would be best met through the provision of care and support in a care home or other type of accommodation.

175. As subsection (1) sets out, regulations may require a local authority to meet an individual’s preference for specific accommodation. For example, an individual may want to be in a care home close to a relative in another local authority area. Conditions may be imposed in the regulations, for example, that the local authority is satisfied that the preferred care home is able to provide appropriate care and support to meet the person’s needs.

176. In some instances, the local authority may incur additional costs when making arrangements with the preferred care home or other accommodation. An individual, for example, may wish to be placed in a care home that costs more than the amount specified as the cost of meeting the needs in the personal budget. Subsection (2) sets out that the regulations may allow the individual, or someone acting on their behalf, to make an additional payment to the local authority to cover the difference between the cost of their preferred accommodation, and the amount specified in the personal budget.

Direct payments

Clause 31 – Adults with capacity to request direct payments

177. As clause 8 sets out, a direct payment is one of the ways in which needs may be met. A direct payment is a payment that a local authority can make to an adult to enable that person to arrange care and support to meet assessed eligible needs. This clause specifies conditions which must be met to receive a direct payment. It relates to adults who have the capacity to request a direct payment.

178. Subsection (1) makes clear that a direct payment may not be made unless the local authority is required to contribute towards the costs of meeting the adult’s needs and the adult requests a
direct payment to be made to the adult or to someone who is nominated by the adult to receive the direct payment.

179. **Subsection (2)** states that the local authority must agree to the request for and make a direct payment if the four conditions specified in **subsections (4) to (7)** are met (unless provisions in regulations made under clause 33 provide otherwise). The four conditions are:

- in **subsection (4)** that the adult must have capacity to make the request for a direct payment, and that any person nominated to receive a direct payment of their behalf must agree to doing so;
- in **subsection (5)** that the local authority is not prohibited by regulations made under clause 33 from meeting the adult’s needs by making direct payments to the adult (or person nominated). For example, these regulations may specify that some people will not be able to receive a direct payment, such as those undergoing some types of drug treatment;
- in **subsection (6)** that the local authority must be satisfied that the adult (or anyone nominated on their behalf) is capable of managing a direct payment, either on their own or with whatever help is available to them (for instance from family members); and,
- in **subsection (7)** that the local authority is satisfied that making direct payments (either to the adult or someone nominated) is an appropriate way of meeting the needs for care and support.

**Clause 32 – Adults without capacity to request direct payments**

180. This clause sets out provisions in relation to adults who lack the capacity to request the local authority to meet some or all of their needs by making a direct payment. The clause provides for the local authority to meet the needs of the adult by making direct payments to the authorised person.

181. **Subsection (1)** makes clear that a direct payment may not be made unless the local authority is required to contribute towards the costs of meeting the adult’s needs and an authorised person requests the local authority to meet some or all of the adult’s needs by making a direct payment to the authorised person.

182. **By subsection (2)** the local authority must make payments to an authorised person (defined in **subsection (4)**, subject to any regulations specified under clause 33 and provided that the five conditions (set out in **subsections (5) to (9)**) are all met.

183. **Subsection (4)** sets out who is an “authorised person” for these purposes. An authorised person is either: someone who is authorised under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 to make decisions about the adult’s needs for care and support; or a person who the local authority and a person who is so authorised agree is a suitable person to receive the direct payments or; if there is no person authorised under the Mental Capacity Act to make decisions about the
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adult’s needs for care and support, a person who the local authority considers is a suitable person to whom to make the payment.

184. Subsections (5) to (8) set out the conditions which must be met. They include that the local authority: is not prohibited by regulations from making direct payments to the authorised person; is satisfied that the authorised person will use the direct payment in the best interests of the adult to meet their care and support needs; is satisfied that the authorised person is able to manage the direct payment by themselves, or with whatever help they may have available to them; and, is satisfied that making a direct payment to the authorised person is an appropriate way of meeting the adult’s needs for care and support.

Clause 33 – Direct payments: further provision

185. This clause makes further provisions about direct payments.

186. Subsections (1) and (2) require the Secretary of State to make regulations, which may specify a number of further matters in relation to direct payments.

187. Subsection (3) makes clear that that a direct payment must only be used for the purpose of meeting the needs specified in the care and support plan.

188. Subsection (4) provides that the local authority must stop making direct payments if any of the conditions in clauses 31 or 32 are no longer met.

189. Subsection (5) allows the local authority to stop making direct payments and to require repayment of direct payments it has already made if there is a breach of any condition imposed by the local authority as permitted by regulations made under subsections (2)(b) and (3) or if the direct payment is not used to pay for the needs specified in the care and support plan.

Deferred payment agreements

Clause 34 – Deferred payment agreements and loans

190. This clause provides for deferred payments agreements and loans. A deferred payment is usually made when a local authority is in a position to charge someone for care and support or related services under Part 1 but may also be made to help an adult (for example a person who makes their own care arrangements) to obtain care and support services which are not provided by a local authority under Part 1. In a deferred payment agreement the charges or loan advanced is repaid by the adult or from their estate at a later specified date, or on the happening of a specified event, such as the sale of property. The debt is normally secured against the person’s property to ensure repayment. Deferring payment can help people delay the need to sell their home or possessions.
Subsection (1) provides that regulations may specify when an authority may or must offer someone a deferred payment or loan.

Subsection (2) makes clear that a deferred payment agreement is an agreement where the sum or part of the sum owed to the local authority does not have to be repaid until a specified time.

Subsection (3) provides that a deferred payment agreement may include services that are not necessary to meet someone’s needs, for example preventive or extra services which may be in addition to the care and support the authority is providing.

Subsection (4) and (5) allows regulations to be made as to whether a local authority must have, and if so what will constitute security for the deferred payment. Adequate security may include a charge on the individual’s property or a guarantee from a third party.

Subsection (6) makes clear that a “deferred amount” is the amount which the adult does not have to repay until the time specified or determined in accordance with regulations.

Subsection (8) makes clear that the clause applies to loan other than a deferred payment agreement which a local authority agrees to make to an adult to assist the adult to obtain care and support. It makes clear that the loan may be for care and support other than that which the authority considers is necessary for the purposes of meeting needs, for example preventive or extra services.

Clause 35 – Deferred payment agreements: further provision

The Clause contains further provisions concerning conditions associated with deferred payments, including interest and administration charges, which may be imposed by regulations made under subsection (1) of clause 34.

Subsection (1) enables regulations to be made to require or allow authorities to charge interest upon a deferred sum, an amount to cover their administrative costs and interest on those costs.

Subsection (2) enables regulations to be made to specify what costs are administration costs – for example the cost to a local authority of registering a charge at the Land Registry.

Subsection (3) enables regulations to be made to allow or require a local authority to add any interest or administrative costs to the charges or loan and obtain and specify what will constitute adequate security for the same.

Subsection (4) makes clear that a local authority may not charge interest at a rate which is higher than any rate specified in regulations.
202. *Subsection (5)* requires regulations to be made so that the adult is permitted to terminate the agreement before the date or occurrence of the event specified in the agreement by giving notice and repaying the sum in full to the authority.

203. *Subsection (6)* allows regulations to make other provision about the duration or termination of the agreement.

204. *Subsection (7)* allows for regulations to be made to address what may happen in a situation where somebody sells or otherwise disposes of property. For example in a case where the agreement provides that it must be repaid when an adult sells their home, regulations might allow the deferred payment agreement to continue rather than to be repaid in cases where a property is sold in order that a new property can be bought as a home for the adult or the adult’s partner and that new home can be used as security for the agreement.

205. *Subsection (8)* allows regulations to be made to require authorities to include terms and conditions of a specified type in a deferred payment agreement, to allow local authorities to include such terms and conditions and others which they think are appropriate and to require statements relating to specified matters or in a specified form to be included in the agreement. Regulations under this subsection may provide, for example, that the agreement must contain a term which entitles the adult to receive an annual statement showing the amount they owe under the agreement.

206. *Subsection (9)* allows regulations to be made to enable a local authority to protect or enforce the security it has obtained for the payment of the deferred amount or loan, and for this purpose to make necessary and appropriate amendments to legislation.

207. *Subsection (10)* makes clear that this section also applies to loan agreements.

*Continuity of care and support when adult moves*

**Clause 36 – Notification, assessment, etc.**

208. This clause sets out the duties that local authorities are under when an individual, and potentially their carer, notifies them that they intend to move from one local authority area to another. It seeks to ensure that a person who moves local authority area does so with no interruption to their care.

209. *Subsection (1)* stipulates that the duties on the “first authority” and the “second authority” are triggered when they are notified by an adult who is receiving care and support that he or she wishes to move local authority area, and the “second authority” is satisfied that their intention to move is genuine.
210. Subsection (2) states that these duties also apply to local authorities where the “first authority” is keeping a care account on behalf of an individual who is funding their own care. This will allow for the person’s care account to be transferred to the “second authority”.

211. Subsection (3) applies where a person has their care and support arranged by the “first authority” and is residing in a care home in the “second authority’s” area. If that person decides to leave the care home but remain resident in the “second authority’s” area the continuity of care duties apply.

212. Subsection (5) sets out the information the “first authority” must provide to the “second authority”. This includes the person’s care and support plan, and where the individual’s carer is moving, their support plan.

213. Subsection (6) states that when the “receiving authority” is satisfied of an individual’s intention to move they are under a duty to carry out an assessment of the needs of that individual, and potentially their carer. This assessment should be carried out before the individual moves. This is the same duty as set out in clause 9. Subsection (7) requires the “second authority” to take into account the “first authority’s” care and support plan when carrying out their assessment.

214. Subsection (9) requires the “second authority” to give the individual a written explanation where it has assessed the person as having different needs compared with the original care and support plan. Subsection (11) places a similar requirement on the “second authority” where the carer’s needs are assessed as different.

215. Subsection (10) requires the “second authority” to give an explanation where the cost of providing the care is different.

Clause 37 - Case where assessments not complete on day of move

216. This clause applies when the second authority has not carried out the assessment required under clause 36(6) before the person moves into its area, or has done so, but has not taken the other steps required to meet the adult’s needs. Subsection (1) sets out that the “second authority” must meet the needs which the first authority had been meeting, from the day of the adult’s arrival in this area. This will ensure there is continuity of care when an individual, and potentially their carer, move. It is also required to continue to update the person’s care account by the amount set by the “first authority”. Where the first authority has not been meeting the adult’s needs under section 18, but has provided an independent personal budget, the second authority must only continue the adult’s care account. Subsection (2) stipulates that the “second authority” must continue to meet the person’s, and potentially their carer’s, needs until they have carried out its own assessment.
217. **Subsection (7)** provides a power for the “second authority” to recover the costs of care from the “first authority” if it is deemed that the individual moving remains ordinarily resident in the area of the “first authority”.

**Establishing where a person lives, etc.**

**Clause 38 – Where a person’s ordinary residence is**

218. The clause defines where a person, who is being provided with accommodation to meet their care and support needs, is considered to be “ordinarily resident”. This is to help identify where responsibility lies for funding and/or provision of care.

219. For example, where a person who resides in the area of local authority A (and local authority A funds their care and support) enters a care home or NHS accommodation in the area of local authority B, their ordinary residence will remain with local authority A. Local authority A therefore retains responsibility for funding their care. They are considered “ordinarily resident” in the area of local authority A during their stay in the care home or NHS accommodation in Local Authority B.

220. The types of accommodation to which this provision applies will be set out in regulations. Detailed guidance will be made available to assist local authorities in deciding where a person is ordinarily resident in complex circumstances.

**Schedule 1 – Cross-border placements**

221. Schedule 1 makes provision for a person ordinarily resident in England, who has care and support needs and requires residential accommodation to meet those needs, to be provided with that accommodation in another part of the UK. It also allows for such placements to be made in England for people who are ordinarily resident in Wales, or whose care and support is provided under the relevant Scottish or Northern Irish legislation. It also makes similar arrangements for cross border placements not involving England i.e. Wales-Scotland, Scotland-Northern Ireland and Northern Ireland-Wales.

222. This means that people who wish to move into residential accommodation across borders within the UK can choose to do so.

223. The types of accommodation to which this provision applies may differ for each administration depending on the legislation of each jurisdiction. Regulations and guidance, setting out how the process will work for each administration, will be made available.

224. If a local authority which has made a cross border placement falls into dispute with the authority where that person is placed, and cannot resolve the question locally, the local authorities involved may request a determination of ordinary residence to be made. Such determinations will need to be made by the Secretary of State (or a person appointed by the Secretary of State) or the relevant authority in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland, depending
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on the circumstances. Details specifying the dispute resolution process will be set out in regulations and guidance.

**Clause 39 – Disputes about ordinary residence or continuity of care**

225. If two or more local authorities fall into dispute about where a person is ordinarily resident, and cannot resolve the question locally, the local authorities involved may request a determination of ordinary residence to be made by the Secretary of State or a person appointed by the Secretary of State. Details specifying the dispute resolution process will be set out in regulations and guidance.

226. Local authorities may request a review within three months of the original determination being made.

**Clause 40 – Financial adjustments between local authorities**

227. Following a dispute under clause 39, or by some other process, it may become apparent that a local authority has been funding a person’s care and support when that person is not in fact ordinarily resident in their area.

228. In such circumstances, clause 40 allows for that local authority to reclaim the costs they have paid for that person’s care and support from the local authority where they are or were ordinarily resident.

229. This clause does not apply where the local authority has chosen to meet the person’s needs in the knowledge they are ordinarily resident elsewhere.

**Safeguarding adults at risk of abuse or neglect**

**Clause 41 – Enquiry by local authority**

230. This clause places a duty on local authorities to make enquiries, or to ask others to make enquiries, where they reasonably suspect that an adult in its area is at risk of neglect or abuse, including financial abuse. The purpose of the enquiry is to establish with the individual and/or their representatives, what, if any, action is required in relation to the situation; and to establish who should take such action. It supplements the existing obligations on other organisations to look after the people in their care effectively, or, in the case of the police, to prevent and respond to criminal activity.

231. **Subsection (1)** provides that the local authorities’ enquiry duty applies to adults who have care and support needs (regardless of whether they are currently receiving support, from the local authority or indeed anyone); and who are either at risk of or experiencing neglect or abuse, including financial abuse; but are unable to protect themselves. The eligibility criteria that the local authority sets for services and support are not relevant in relation to safeguarding. Safeguarding enquiries should be made on the understanding of the risk of neglect or abuse, irrespective whether the individual would meet the criteria for the provision of services.
232. The local authority has a responsibility to make enquiries if the adult is currently in its geographical area of responsibility (whether or not the person is ordinarily resident there).

**Clause 42 – Safeguarding Adult Boards**

233. This clause requires a local authority to establish a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB), which aims to help and protect individuals who it believes to have care and support needs and who are at risk of neglect and abuse and unable to protect themselves, and to promote their wellbeing.

234. *Subsection (3)* sets out how the SAB should seek to achieve its objective, through the co-ordination of members’ activities in relation to safeguarding and ensuring the effectiveness of what those members do for safeguarding purposes. A SAB may undertake any lawful activity which may help it achieve their objective. The functions which an SAB can exercise in pursuit of its objective are those of its members.

235. *Subsection (6)* acknowledges that two or more local authorities may establish a SAB for their combined geographical area of responsibility.

236. Further details about SABs are set out in Schedule 2 (see below).

**Schedule 2 – Safeguarding Adult Boards**

*Membership, etc.*

237. *Paragraph 1* specifies that the core members of the SAB must include the local authority, an appointed representative from each clinical commissioning group (CCG), and the chief officer of police for the SAB’s area. The SAB may include other members that the local authority considers appropriate, after the local authority has consulted the core members of the SAB, as sub-paragraph (2) sets out. The Secretary of State may prescribe other core members of the SAB through regulations.

238. The appointed representative for the CCG or the police may represent more than one CCG or chief officer of police where there is more than one within that SAB’s area. The individual nominated to represent the member on the SAB must be a person whom the member considers to have the required skills and experience. Nominated representatives are required to attend SAB meetings. The local authority must also appoint a chair for the SAB with reasonable skills and experience after consulting the other SAB members.

239. Other than this, there are no particular governance procedures which an SAB must follow, and the SAB can regulate its own procedure.

240. Sub-paragraph (6) sets out that the local authority must act under the guidance issued by the Secretary of State whilst other SAB members must have regard to such guidance.
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**Funding and other resources**

241. Paragraph 2 enables the SAB members to contribute financially to the cost of running the SAB. It allows for money from those members to be pooled in a single fund. It also makes clear that members can provide non-pecuniary resources (such as staff, goods, services or accommodation) in support of the activities of the SAB.

**Strategic plan**

242. Paragraph 3 specifies that an SAB must publish for each financial year a strategic plan that sets how it will meet its main objective and what each SAB member will do to achieve that objective.

243. This plan should, so far as feasible, be developed involving the local community, and the SAB must consult the Local Healthwatch organisation in the development of the plan.

**Annual report**

244. This paragraph requires that the annual report be published to account for success against the strategic plan described in paragraph 3.

245. Sub-paragraph (1) requires the report to describe what the SAB has done during the year to achieve its main objective and its strategy, and how each member of the SAB has helped to contribute to the strategy. The findings of Safeguarding Adults Reviews reported under clause 43 must be recorded as part of that review. The report must also record the number of ongoing reviews.

246. As well as being published, copies of the report must be sent to those people specified in sub-paragraph (2).

**Clause 43 – Safeguarding adults reviews**

247. This clause requires Safeguarding Adults Boards to conduct a Safeguarding Adults Review into certain cases in specific circumstances. The aim of a review is to ensure that lessons are learned from such cases, not to allocate blame but to improve future practice and partnership working, and to minimise the possibility of it happening again.

248. Subsections (1) to (3) stipulate that an SAB must arrange for a review where there is reasonable cause for concern about how the SAB, its members or some other person involved in the case worked together and either the adult has died and the SAB knows or suspects that the death resulted from abuse or neglect or the adult is still alive and the SAB knows or suspects that the adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect. This does not prevent the SAB carrying out a Safeguarding Adults Review in any other case where they feel it would be appropriate and this is set out in subsection (4).

249. Subsection (5) specifies that every member of the SAB must co-operate in and contribute to carrying out the review and applying the lessons learnt.
Clause 44 – Supply of information

250. This clause provides that, if certain conditions are met, a person or body must supply information to a SAB at its request.

251. Firstly, the information must be requested for the purpose of enabling or assisting the SAB to perform its functions.

252. Secondly, the person or body requested to supply the information must have functions or engage in activities such that the SAB considers it likely to have information relevant to a function of the SAB. This would potentially encompass, for instance, a GP who provided medical advice or treatment to an adult in respect of whom a SAB was carrying out a serious case review, or to a family member or carer of that adult. It would also potentially encompass a person carrying out voluntary work that brought him or her into contact with such an adult or with a family member or carer, or a minister of a church attended by such an adult or by a family member or carer.

253. Finally, either the condition set out in subsection (4) or that set out in subsection (5) of the clause must be met. Subsection (4) relates to the content of the information that may be requested. Subsection (5) effectively enables the onward transmission to a SAB of information that it has previously requested, under the clause, to be supplied to a third party, for instance to a NHS body, for collation and onward transmission to the SAB. (But an SAB may request that information be supplied to a third party for collation and onward transmission only if the third party itself is within subsection (3)).

254. Subsection (6) provides that an SAB may use information provided under this section only for the purposes of its functions.

Clause 45 - Abolition of local authority’s power to remove persons in need of care

255. This clause repeals the current power for local authorities to remove people from their homes under section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948.

Clause 46 – Protecting property of adults being cared for away from home

256. This clause restates the duty originally set out at section 48 of the National Assistance Act 1948, for local authorities to prevent or mitigate loss or damage to the property of adults who have been admitted to a hospital or to a residential care home, and are unable to protect it or deal with it themselves. This duty applies to any tangible, physical moveable property belonging to the adult in question. The clause also re-enacts an offence associated with this duty, found at section 55 of the National Assistance Act 1948, which sets out that any person who obstructs the local authority’s exercise of this duty is liable on summary conviction to pay a fine, and provides a defence of reasonable excuse.

257. Local authorities are able to recover from the adult any reasonable expenses incurred in protecting that adult’s property.
Provider failure

Clause 47 – Temporary duty on local authority

258. This clause places a duty on local authorities to ensure that adults’ needs for care and support continue to be met when service providers who are regulated by the Care Quality Commission fail. It applies in respect of adults and carers whose needs are being met by the provision of services in the area of a local authority and applies in relation to needs which the local authority is not already meeting at the point of the provider failure i.e. where people are themselves paying for services to meet their needs, or where another local authority is paying for services to meet their needs or are ordinarily resident in and having their needs met by another local authority. There is no need to apply the duty to needs which the local authority is already meeting at the time of provider failure because the local authority’s duty to meet those needs does not change simply because there is a business failure of the provider who is meeting the needs for and on behalf the local authority.

259. Subsection (2) provides that in such circumstances the local authority in whose area the care provider was providing a service must meet needs which were being met by the “failed” service provider immediately before it became unable to do so.

260. Subsection (4) excludes from the scope of the duty people who are ordinarily resident in Wales but are in England because they have been placed in accommodation there by a Welsh local authority. This is because those circumstances are dealt with in clause 48.

261. Subsection (5) clarifies that where a local authority would be required to meet the same needs under clause 48, its duty under this clause does not apply.

262. Subsection (6) makes clear that the local authority is not required to carry out any of the assessments referred to in clause 9, 10 or 17 or to determine whether any of the needs meet eligibility criteria. The effect of this is to suspend the provisions of clauses 9 – 20 for the temporary period during which the local authority is meeting needs under this section because a requirement to do so during this period will delay the provision of a substitute service.

263. Subsection (7) applies if the adult is ordinarily resident in another local authority. It requires the local authority with the temporary duty to consult with the placing local authority in respect of needs which were being met by the authority in which the adult is ordinarily resident and to recover from that authority the costs incurred in meeting the needs during the temporary period.

264. Subsection (8) applies the ordinary residence dispute resolution procedure in clause 38 to any disputes between local authorities about the application of this section (for example as to the duration of the temporary period for which there is a duty to meet needs).
Clause 48 – Temporary duty on local authority: placements to and from Wales

265. This clause applies where accommodation is provided by a care provider who is registered in Wales or England and sustains business failure. It places a duty on the local authority of the area in which the accommodation is situated to meet the needs of an adult who is in that accommodation by reason of the fact that a local authority in England (in the case of provider failure in Wales) or in Wales (in the case of a provider failure in England) made the arrangements for the accommodation. But for this section the duty to meet the needs would lie with the local authority who made the accommodation arrangements.

266. Subsection (1) makes clear that the section applies where:

- a person is in accommodation and receiving services from a care provider who is regulated in Wales, and
- is in that accommodation by reason of arrangements made by a local authority in England, and
- the care provider sustains a business failure.

267. Subsection (2) makes clear that the section applies where:

- a person is in accommodation and receiving services from a care provider who is regulated in England, and
- is in that accommodation by reason of arrangements made by a local authority in Wales, and
- the care provider sustains a business failure.

268. Subsection (3) makes clear that the local authority in which the accommodation is situated has a temporary duty to meet the needs which were being met by the failed accommodation provider.

269. Subsection (4) requires the local authority with the temporary duty to consult with the local authority in which the adult is ordinarily resident in respect of needs which were being met by that authority and to recover from that authority the costs incurred in meeting the needs during the temporary period. For needs which were not being met by the local authority in which the adult is ordinarily resident (if any) the local authority may recover costs from the adult.

270. Subsection (5) applies the dispute resolution procedure in Schedule 1 to any disputes between local authorities about the application of this clause.

Clause 49 – Sections 47 and 48: supplementary

271. This clause provides a number of clarifications in relation to the duty on local authorities set out in clauses 47 and 48.
272. **Subsection (2)** makes clear a local authority does not have to meet the needs in the same way as they were being met by the failed service provider but can meet them in any of the ways set out in clause 8.

273. **Subsection (3)** explains that the local authority must discuss how it will meet needs with the adult, their carer, and any person asked by the adult to act on their behalf, or, if the adult lacks capacity, any person whom the authority considers would be interested in the adult’s welfare. As with any public law duty this applies only to the extent that it is reasonable to do so.

274. **Subsection (4)** makes similar provision for carers.

275. **Subsection (6)** makes clear that local authorities do not have to meet needs which they are not permitted to meet under clauses 21 to 23.

276. **Subsection (7)** applies in cases where a failed provider in England is providing the adult with continuing healthcare which is commissioned by a clinical commissioning group which is not in the area of the local authority in which the care is being provided. It amends the definition of “relevant partner” in clauses 6 and 7 to make clear that for the purposes of the duty in clause 47 the co-operation provisions in those sections will apply in respect of the clinical commissioning group which commissioned the care, even though it is not in the area of the local authority.

277. **Subsections (9)** makes clear that the local authority may request from the failed provider, or such other person involved in the business, information that it must have in order to comply with the temporary duty.

**Market oversight**

**Clause 50 – Specifying criteria for application of market oversight regime**

278. This clause deals with the procedures for identifying those providers who are most difficult to replace, and will therefore be subject to central oversight.

279. **Subsection (1)** requires that regulations set out the criteria for entry into the central oversight regime.

280. **Subsection (2)** stipulates certain factors which may be regarded for the purposes of setting out the entry criteria. These are the provider’s size, its concentration in a particular area or areas, and its level of specialism.

281. **Subsection (3)** makes provision for the entry criteria to be kept under review and for the Secretary of State to publish information on how the size, concentration or specialism of a provider and on any other factors considered in setting out the criteria are to be measured.
Subsection (4) sets out that, by regulations, certain providers - who would otherwise, according to the criteria, be subject to central oversight - may be exempted from the oversight regime, or parts of the regime. The circumstances in which such regulations may be made include those in which the Secretary of State is satisfied that certain registered care providers are already subject to a regulatory regime comparable to the market oversight regime (subsection (6)).

Conversely, subsection (5) establishes that regulations may specify that the oversight regime, or parts of the regime, apply, or apply only to the extent specified, to certain providers who would otherwise not fall within the regime.

Clause 51 – Determining whether criteria apply to care provider

This clause sets out that it will be the responsibility of the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to identify which providers satisfy the criteria set out for entry into the regulatory regime (subsection (1)).

The market oversight regime will apply to those providers identified by the CQC as meeting the entry criteria (subsection (1)) and those providers who are required to comply with the oversight regime, or parts of the regime, by virtue of regulations made under clause 50(5). Subsection (2) clarifies that the oversight regime (or parts of the regime) do not apply to such providers identified by regulations made under clause 50(4).

Subsection (3) provides that the CQC must inform the providers that satisfy the entry criteria that they are now subject to the oversight regime. The CQC must also inform those providers who are subject to the oversight regime by virtue of regulations made under clause 50(5) of the same.

Clause 52 – Assessment of financial sustainability of care provider

This clause sets out the duty of the CQC to assess the financial sustainability of those providers which are subject to its regulatory regime with a view to identifying any threats that such providers may face to their financial sustainability. This clause also provides for the CQC’s response to situations where it is concerned that a provider’s financial sustainability is threatened.

Subsections (2)(a) and (3) set out that, where the CQC identifies a significant risk to financial sustainability, it can require the provider to develop a sustainability plan. This would set out the provider’s plans for mitigating or eliminating the risk. The CQC may require the provider, in developing the plan, to cooperate with it. The final plan may also be subject to the CQC’s approval.

Subsections (2)(b) and (4) allow the CQC, where it identifies a significant risk to financial sustainability, to organise, or require the provider to organise, an independent business
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review, and charge the costs of the review back to the provider. These costs do not include the
administrative costs that the CQC may incur in organising such a review.

290. Subsection (5) sets out that regulations may make provision for enabling the CQC to obtain,
from certain persons, information which may be helpful to the CQC in assessing the financial
sustainability of the provider. The type of information the CQC may need is likely to be
information which relates to the finances of the care provider or which relates to the financial
position of the particular entity - if the care provider is financially dependent on such entity.
The type of person that may be described in such regulations may include companies within
the same group as the provider, and companies that hold a significant ownership stake in the
provider.

291. Subsection (6) provides that regulations may be made about the making of the CQC’s
assessment of a provider’s financial sustainability.

292. Subsection (7) sets out that the CQC may consult on how to assess financial sustainability,
and will publish guidance on the methods it expects to apply in making its assessments.

Clause 53 – Informing local authorities where failure of care provider likely

293. This clause sets out that the CQC must inform the relevant local authorities that a registered
care provider (within the oversight regime) is likely to become unable to continue carrying on
the regulated activity in respect of which it is registered.

294. The CQC will be required to inform all English local authorities which it thinks will be
required to carry out the duty under clause 47(2) and 48(3) if the provider becomes unable to
continue carrying on the regulated activity in question (subsection (2)). The CQC is not
required to inform local authorities outside of England.

295. Subsection (3) sets out that the CQC may require from the service provider, and any other
person involved in the provider’s business, any information that is necessary in order to assist
local authorities in ensuring continuity of care. Subsection (4) requires the CQC to share with
local authorities any information it has that would assist them in ensuring continuity of care.

296. Subsection (5) allows for regulations to make provision as to the circumstances in which the
CQC may decide to inform local authorities about a provider.

297. Subsection (6) requires the CQC to consult on how it will assess a provider’s likelihood of
becoming unable to continue carrying on the regulated activity, and publish guidance on how
it will make this assessment.

Clause 54 - Sections 51 to 53: supplementary

298. Subsection (1) sets out that the CQC’s functions of identifying which providers satisfy the
entry criteria, and assessing the financial sustainability of care providers, are to be treated as
“regulatory functions” of the CQC for the purposes of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (the 2008 Act). This establishes that the CQC will be able to rely on its existing powers under the 2008 Act, such as requiring information and explanations from a provider (sections 64 and 65 of the 2008 Act). The CQC will also be able to rely on its enforcement powers, for instance under sections 64(4) and 65(4) of the 2008 Act.

299. Subsection (2) sets out that anything which the CQC may do to assist local authorities to ensure continuity of care is to be treated as one of the CQC’s “regulatory functions” for the purposes of the 2008 Act. This establishes that the CQC will be able to rely on its existing powers under the 2008 Act.

300. Subsection (3) establishes that the CQC may, when imposing requirements on providers as part of exercising the functions set out in clauses 51 to 53, rely on sections 17 and 18 of the 2008 Act which provide for the cancellation or suspension of a care provider’s registration.

301. Subsection (4) provides that the CQC must seek to minimise the burdens it may impose on a provider in exercising any of its functions under sections 51 to 53.

Transition for children to adult care and support, etc.

Clause 55 – Assessment of a child’s needs for care and support

302. This clause provides a power for local authorities to assess a child’s needs for care and support (as provided for by this Part), where it considers there is significant benefit in doing so. Children have existing rights to assessment and support under the Children Act 1989, and this provision does not affect those rights. However, it provides a right for a child, or a parent or carer acting on their behalf, to request an assessment in advance of their 18th birthday.

303. A child does not have to be receiving any specific service under children’s legislation in order to request this assessment. Similarly, there is no restriction on the age of child for whom the request may be made, or their proximity to their 18th birthday. The local authority must consider in all cases whether the child is likely to have needs for care and support after turning 18 and whether there would be “significant benefit” in undertaking the assessment, so that the authority is able to take all relevant circumstances into account in deciding whether to assess.

304. The purpose of this assessment would be to consider what needs for care and support the child may have at their 18th birthday, to support planning for transition to adult care and support. The local authority will therefore assess the child’s needs by reference to the adult care and support arrangements, and this power is not intended to be used to assess needs for children’s services.

305. Where an assessment is carried out, the information provided to the child or their parent/carer should include an indication of whether they are likely to have eligible needs for care and
support after their 18th birthday, and advice and information about what can be done to meet eligible needs and what can be done to prevent or delay the development of needs.

306. If the local authority does not accept a request made under these provisions it must explain why in writing and provide information and advice about what can be done to prevent or delay the development of needs.

Clause 56 – Child’s needs assessment: requirements, etc.

307. This clause sets requirements about the assessment of children under clause 55 including consideration of the outcomes the child wants to achieve, whether the provision of care and support will contribute to meeting these outcomes and consideration of whether there are other matters that could help the child achieve the outcomes. The clause specifies that the assessment must involve the child, the child’s parents and any other person who the child or the child’s parent or carer wants to be involved.

308. The assessment must include an indication of whether the needs identified are likely to be eligible, advice and information about what can be done to meet any of the child’s needs and what can be done to prevent or delay the development of needs for care and support in the future.

309. Once the young person becomes 18 the local authority must decide whether to treat this assessment as their needs assessment taking into account when the assessment was carried out and whether the young person’s circumstances have changed.

Clause 57 – Assessments of a child’s carer’s needs for support

310. This clause requires a local authority, when requested, to assess a child’s carer’s needs for care and support (as provided for by this Part), when the carer is likely to have needs for care and support after the child turns 18 and where there is significant benefit to the carer in carrying out the assessment and the child is receiving services under one of the statutes listed in subsection (5) of this clause.

311. This clause also provides a power for a local authority to carry out such an assessment when the child is not receiving such services.

312. A “child’s carer” is any adult providing care to a child, regardless of whether they are the parent of that child.

313. Child’s carers also have a right to an assessment under section 6 of the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000, and support would normally be provided under the Children Act 1989, as part of a whole-family approach. However, there may be certain services available only through adult care and support.
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314. The purpose of the assessment would be to consider what needs for support the child’s carer may have at their child’s 18th birthday, to support planning for transition to adult care and support. The local authority will therefore assess the child’s carers’ needs by reference to the adult care and support arrangements, and this power is not intended to be used to assess needs for children’s services.

**Clause 58 – Child’s carer’s needs assessment; requirements etc.**

315. Assessment of a child’s carer should include assessment of whether the carer is willing and able to provide care to the child and is likely to continue to be willing and able when the child reaches the age of 18.

316. Assessment must include assessment of the outcomes the carer wants to achieve in day-to-day life, whether and to what extent the provision of care and support will contribute to meeting these outcomes and consideration of whether there are other matters that could help the child achieve the outcomes. The clause specifies that the assessment must involve the carer and any other person who the carer wants to be involved.

317. Once an assessment has been done the carer must be provided with an indication of whether they are likely to have eligible needs for care and support on the child’s 18th birthday, advice and information about what can be done to meet any of the carer’s needs and what can be done to prevent or delay the development of needs for care and support in the future.

**Clause 59 - Power to meet a child’s carer’s needs for support**

318. This clause provides a power for a local authority to meet a child’s carer’s needs for support. A child’s carer’s needs will usually be met under section 17 of the Children Act 1989. However, this clause allows for additional support to be provided, where appropriate, for instance, because a certain type of support is only available under adult care and support.

319. The clause provides that regulations can be made in relation to the exercise of this power.

**Clause 60 – Assessment of a young carer’s needs for support**

320. This clause also provides a power for local authorities to assess a young carer’s needs for support where it considers the child is likely to have needs for care and support after turning 18 and where there is significant benefit in carrying out the assessment. This provision does not affect existing rights to assessment under section 1 of the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000. However, as with other young people in clause 55, it provides a right for a young carer, or a person acting on their behalf, to request an assessment in advance of their 18th birthday, to support transition planning.

321. A young carer does not have to be receiving any specific service under children’s legislation in order to request this assessment. Similarly, there is no restriction on the age of child for whom the request may be made, or their proximity to their 18th birthday. The local authority must consider in all cases whether there would be “significant benefit” in undertaking the
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assessment, so that the authority is able to take all relevant circumstances into account in
deciding whether to assess.

322. The purpose of this assessment would be to consider what needs for care and support the
young carer may have after their 18th birthday to support planning for transition to adult care
and support. The local authority will therefore assess the child’s needs by reference to the
adult care and support arrangements, and this power is not intended to be used to assess needs
for children’s services.

323. Where an assessment is carried out the information provided to the person with care needs or
the carer should include an indication of whether they are likely to have eligible needs for
care and support on their 18th birthday, and advice and information about what can be done to
meet eligible needs and what can be done to prevent or delay the development of needs.

324. If the local authority does not accept a request made under these provisions it must explain
why in writing and provide information and advice about what can be done to prevent or
delay the development of needs.

Clause 61 – Young carer’s assessment: requirements etc.

325. This clause sets requirements about the assessment of young carers under clause 60 including
consideration of whether the young carer is willing and able, both at the time and likely to be
so when he or she reaches the age of 18, to provide care to the individual in question. It must
also include an assessment of the outcomes the child wants to achieve, whether the provision
of care and support will contribute to meeting these outcomes and consideration of whether
there are other matters – for example the young carer’s own capabilities - that could help the
child achieve the outcomes.

326. The clause specifies who the local authority must involve in the assessment, namely the
child, the child’s parents and any other person who the child wants to be involved.

327. When assessing a young carer the local authority must have regard to whether the young
person wishes to work or to participate in education, training or recreation.

328. The assessment must include an indication of whether the needs identified are likely to be
eligible, advice and information about what can be done to meet any of the child’s needs and
what can be done to prevent or delay the development of needs for care and support in the
future.

329. Once the young carer becomes 18 the local authority must decide whether to treat this
assessment as their needs assessment taking into account when the assessment was carried out
and whether the young person’s circumstances have changed.
**Clause 62 – Assessments under sections 55 to 61: further provision**

330. The clause includes a power to make regulations about carrying out assessments for children and young carers under these provisions. It also includes provision for the local authority to carry out an assessment of a child jointly with another assessment and specifies that if assessments are to be combined the child must have capacity or be competent to agree to a combined assessment.

331. The clause also enables a local authority to carry out an assessment of an individual jointly with an external body or person when that body or person is carrying out an assessment of the individual or carer.

332. Clause 12(6) allows assessments to be carried out together and with another organisation if appropriate, and “another assessment” could include one under an education, health and care (EHC) plan under the Children and Families Bill.

333. The provisions for assessment in order to plan for transition under clauses 55, 56, 57, 58, 60 and 61 apply both to those who are and to those who are not already receiving support.

**Clause 63 – Continuity of services under other legislation**

334. A local authority may not provide any care and support under this Part to meet a child’s or young carer’s needs in advance of their 18th birthday. However, it is possible that on their 18th birthday, adult care and support may not be in place immediately.

335. Where this happens, and the child or young carer has previously been receiving services under section 17 of the 1989 Act, section 2 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970 or section 2 of the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000, this clause provides that the local authority must continue to provide those services until the relevant steps have been undertaken. This is to ensure no gap in provision during the transition to adult care and support.

**Enforcement of debts**

**Clause 64 – Recovery of charges, interest etc.**

336. This clause allows authorities to recover as a debt any sums owed, such as unpaid charges and interest. This section replaces sections 22 and 24 of the Health and Social Services and Social Security Adjudications Act 1983 and section 45 of the National Assistance Act 1948.

337. The exception to this is cases where an authority could (in accordance with regulations under clause 34) enter into a deferred payment agreement, unless the authority offers someone this option and they refuse (subsection 2).
338. Under subsection (3), sums are recoverable within six years (if they become due following commencement of this section), or within 3 years (if they became due before commencement).

339. When someone misrepresents or fails to disclose any material fact in connection with the provisions in this Part, the authority may recover as a debt, expenditure incurred as a result of the misrepresentation or failure and any sum it would have recovered but for the misrepresentation or failure (subsection 4).

340. Subsection (5) provides that an authority can recover as a debt the legal and administrative costs it incurs in pursuing that debt.

341. Subsection (6) provides a power for regulations to determine the date when a debt becomes due, to specify exceptions to when an authority can recover a debt and to specify when an authority may charge interest on the sum owed, at a rate in accordance with the regulations.

**Clause 65 – Transfer of assets to avoid charges**

342. Where a person’s needs for care and support have been or are being met by a local authority, the local authority may, under clause 14, impose a charge on the person to cover all or part of the cost of meeting the person’s needs. If the person has transferred assets to another individual in order to avoid these charges, subsections (2) and (4) enable the local authority to recover the lost income from the individual, or individuals.

343. Subsection (3) limits the amount the local authority may recover so that it cannot recover more than the individual gained from the transfer.

344. What constitutes an asset and how it should be valued, is set out in subsections (5) and (6).

**Review of funding provisions**

**Clause 66 – Five-yearly review by Secretary of State**

345. This clause requires the Secretary of State for Health to review how the capped cost system is operating every five years, the results of which that can be used to inform decisions on whether to change the level of the cap, or other parameters, such as general living costs, in the system.

346. In reviewing how the cap is operating, the Secretary of State will have to consider how certain factors are having an impact on the capped cost system parameters, such as healthy life expectancy or changes in the way services are delivered (subsection (2)). The Secretary of State can commission other people to carry out the review (subsection (6)).

347. Subsection (3) requires a report of the review to be prepared and published, the report must also be presented to Parliament (subsection (7)). Subsection (4) requires the first report to be
published within five years of the commencement of the clause and subsection (5) requires subsequent reports to be published within five years of each previous report. This means that there will be a review within any five year rolling period.

Miscellaneous

Clause 67 – Discharge of hospital patients with care and support needs
348. This clause introduces the provisions about delayed discharges which are set out in Schedule 3 (see below).

Schedule 3 – Discharge of hospital patients with care and support needs
349. Schedule 3 re-enacts the delayed discharges provisions of the Community Care (Delayed Discharges etc) Act 2003 (the 2003 Act) and relevant regulations, subject to simplification and amendments to fit the new NHS architecture. The Schedule deals with the planning of safe discharge of patients in England from NHS hospital care, or hospital care arranged for by the NHS, to local authority care and support to ensure that patients are not delayed in hospital despite being fit, safe and ready to be discharged.

Cases where hospital patient is likely to have care and support needs after discharge
350. Paragraph 1 places responsibility on the NHS body to inform the relevant local authority of a patient’s likely need for care and support. This is known as an ‘assessment notice’ and is necessary when the patient is unlikely to be safely discharged from hospital without arrangements for care and support being put into place first. The relevant local authority who the NHS body must notify is the one in which the patient is ordinarily resident or, if it is not possible to determine ordinary residence, the local authority area in which the hospital is situated.

351. The paragraph sets out a number of requirements for the assessment notice:

- The notice must state that it is given under this provision. This is so that the local authority is aware of the consequences that could flow from the assessment notice, such as the liability to pay the NHS body for the costs of delayed discharge arising under paragraph 4 of this schedule.
- The notice should not be issued more than 7 days before the patient is expected to be admitted into hospital. This is so the notice is not provided too far in advance of admission to avoid the risk of wasting preliminary planning in the event the patient’s condition changes.
- The responsible NHS body must consult with the patient and, where appropriate, the carer before issuing the assessment notification. This is to avoid unnecessary assessments where, for example, the patient wishes to make private arrangements for care and support.
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352. These requirements replicate provisions set out in sections 2 and 3 of the 2003 Act and regulation 4(4) and (5) of the Delayed Discharges (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/2277).

Assessment notice given by responsible NHS body to local authority

353. Paragraph 2 sets out the process that the responsible NHS body and relevant local authority must follow to ensure a patient with care and support needs can be safely discharged from hospital.

354. There are certain legal obligations that are activated by the discharge of the patient from NHS care. When such a decision has been made and the patient has (or may have) care and support needs, then a safe discharge cannot occur until the NHS and local authority are satisfied that, as sub-paragraph (1) sets out, the patient is ready for discharge and that it is safe for them to be discharged. The NHS body has to give the local authority notice of when it intends to discharge the patient. This is known as a discharge notice.

355. Sub-paragraph (3) provides that the discharge notice must specify whether or not the patient will receive any further health care services upon discharge, and if so, what those services will be.

356. Sub-paragraph (5) sets out the definition of the ‘relevant day’ until which a discharge notice remains in force. This is relevant to defining any delayed discharge period in the event that the local authority is held to be liable under paragraph 4 to pay the NHS body for the cost of accommodation or personal care caused by the delayed discharge from hospital. The ‘relevant day’ would either be the day specified in the discharge notice or the end of a period which regulations may set out.

357. This replicates the provisions set out in section 5 of the 2003 Act and regulation 5 of the Delayed Discharges (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/2277).

358. Paragraph 3 sets out the responsibilities of the local authority who received an assessment notice. The local authority must carry out an assessment of the patient’s need and, where applicable, the carer’s need, with a view to identifying the care and support that is necessary for them to be safely discharged. The local authority must inform the NHS of the outcome of the assessment.

359. This replicates the provisions in section 4 of the 2003 Act.

Cases where the discharge of the patient is delayed

360. Paragraph 4 sets out what is to happen if the discharge of the patient is delayed because the local authority has not carried out the relevant care and support assessments or put the required package of care and support in place.
These notes refer to the Care Bill [HL]  
as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013  [HL Bill 1]

361. Sub-paragraph (2) provides that the local authority is liable to make payments to the responsible NHS body for each day that a patient is unable to be discharged.

362. Regulations will be introduced to set out:
   
   • how the delayed discharge period is to be calculated; and
   • the amount to be paid.

363. This section replicates provisions set out in sections 6 and 7 of the 2003 Act.

**Delegation to management of independent hospital**

364. Paragraph 5(1) provides that an NHS body may make arrangements with others for the person to do anything which is required or authorised to be done by the NHS body under this Schedule. Sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) set out the effect of such an arrangement. This replicates sections 1(3), (4) and (5) of the 2003 Act.

**Adjustments between local authorities**

365. Paragraph 6 allows for regulations to be made to modify the provisions relating to delayed hospital discharges where it appears to the NHS body that the patient is ordinarily resident in the area of another local authority. This might require the local authority to accept assessment notices even in cases where it may wish to dispute that it is the relevant local authority. The regulations may also enable the local authority to recover relevant expenditure that it incurs. This re-enacts section 10 of the 2003 Act.

**Meaning of “hospital patient”, “NHS hospital”, “NHS body”, etc.**

366. Paragraph 7 sets out the meaning of a number of terms relating to the delayed discharges regime in Schedule 3.

**Clause 68 – After-care under the Mental Health Act 1983**

367. Clause 68 clarifies the meaning of, and makes minor amendments to, section 117 of the Mental Health Act 1983 (the 1983 Act). The changes remove anomalies in determining the responsible local authority in relation to the provision of after-care services under the 1983 Act to people who have been detained in hospital for treatment of mental disorder and the provision of care and support services to which the Bill applies. The clause also inserts new section 117A into the 1983 Act. This is about enabling a person to express a preference for particular accommodation to be provided under section 117. Schedule 4 makes a number of modifications to the application of certain provisions of the Bill to enable direct payments to continue to be made in respect of section 117 services.

368. Subsection (1) of 68 clarifies that local authorities may commission as well as provide section 117 services. Consequent upon the amendments made by subsection (1), subsection (2) preserves the effect of section 117(2D) that a clinical commissioning group is under a duty to commission rather than provide section 117 services.
Subsections (3) and (4) apply the ordinary residence rules to section 117 in order to avoid anomalies which can currently arise where one local authority is responsible for commissioning section 117 services whilst another commissions any other services a person may need. One benefit of this will be to empower the Secretary of State to resolve disputes as to which authority is liable to commission section 117 services, which can currently only be resolved through the courts.

Subsection (8) provides that the changes to the commissioning responsibility made by subsections (3) and (4) will not apply where a person is already in receipt of section 117 services when these changes come into force. The current authority will remain responsible for commissioning those services for as long as the person concerned continues to need them.

Subsection (5) inserts a definition of “after-care services” for the purposes of section 117. It makes clear that section 117 services must meet a need arising from or related to a mental disorder. Additionally the purpose of these services must be to reduce the risk of deterioration in a person’s mental condition and accordingly to reduce the risk of the person needing to be admitted to hospital again for treatment for the disorder.

Subsection (6) inserts a new section 117A into the 1983 Act. This empowers the Secretary of State to make regulations to place a duty on a local authority to enable a person who qualifies for accommodation under section 117 to live in accommodation of their choice. This may involve the person themselves or another person paying some or all of the additional cost.

Subsection (7) provides that a local authority may exercise its duty under section 117 by making direct payments, subject to Schedule 4.

Schedule 4 – After-care under the Mental Health Act 1983: direct payments

Schedule 4 modifies the application of certain direct payments provisions of the Bill (clauses 31, 32 and 33) to make sure they also apply to services provided under section 117.

Clause 69 - Prisoners and persons in bail accommodation

Clause 69 sets out the responsibilities for provision of care and support for adult prisoners and people residing in approved premises (which includes bail accommodation). Where it appears to a local authority that adults in prison or approved premises may have needs for care and support, the local authority will be under a duty to assess their needs under clause 9 and where they have needs which meet the eligibility criteria, may be under a duty to meet those needs. This will provide consistency of approach between institutions and ensure prisoners and residents in approved premises receive services equivalent to people with similar needs in the community.

Subsections (1) and (2) of clause 69 make clear that the local authority in whose area a prison, or approved premises, is located will be responsible for providing assessments and meeting care and support needs for the residents of those custodial settings. A detainee’s previous
ordinary residence will not be a consideration while they are in these settings, and responsibility will fall to the local authority area in whose area the prison or approved premises is located without reference to the general ordinary residence criteria.

377. **Subsection (3)** makes clear that prisoners and those in approved premises will not be able to express a preference for particular accommodation except where the individual is being released into the community. The duty for local authorities to protect property will not apply to the property of adult prisoners and residents in approved premises with care and support needs whilst in custody.

378. **Subsection (4)** makes clear that clauses 31 to 33 on the provision of direct payments do not apply to prisoners or residents in approved premises, except those who have not been convicted of an offence, for example some people in bail accommodation. Prisoners and residents in approved premises who have been convicted of an offence will not be eligible to receive direct payments for the costs of their care and support.

379. **Subsection (5)** covers continuity of care for prisoners and those in approved premises whose needs for care and support are being met by a local authority. The continuity provisions in clauses 36 and 37 will apply to prisoners and residents in approved premises being moved between different custodial settings and on release to the community.

380. **Subsection (6)** also makes clear that the duty for local authorities to protect people’s property does not apply to people in prison or approved premises.

381. **Subsection (7)** makes clear that governors and officers of a prison will not be allowed to become members of Safeguarding Adult Boards. By virtue of subsection (8), this also extends to young offender’s institutions, secure training centres and secure children’s homes.

382. The eligibility framework will apply to prisoners and residents in approved premises.

383. Youth offenders with care and support needs should receive the same transition procedures to adult care and support as young people in the community. A request for an assessment can be made on the youth offender’s behalf by the professional responsible for their care in the Young Offenders’ Institution, Secure Children’s Home or Secure Training Centre.

384. Charging arrangements for care and support services received by prisoners will be the same as for people in the community.

385. **Subsection (10)** makes clear that as soon as someone is sentenced to imprisonment they are deemed to be detained in prison for the purposes of this section. It also sets out that someone who is temporarily away from their prison or approved premises, such as for visits to hospital, is deemed to be still detained in that prison or residing in those approved premises whilst away. This means, for example, that if someone is receiving care or support from the local
authority in which their prison is based and they are temporarily in hospital in the area of a different local authority, the responsibility for providing the support does not change local authorities.

Clause 70 – Registers of sight impaired adults, disabled adults, etc.

386. Subsection (1) sets out the requirement on local authorities to establish and maintain a register of people who are ordinarily resident in their area and are sight impaired. This replaces the requirement on local authorities to maintain registers of disabled people under section 29(4)(g) of the National Assistance Act 1948.

387. There is no legal definition of “sight impairment”, but clinical guidelines make it clear that someone can be certified as sight impaired if they are “substantially and permanently handicapped by defective vision caused by congenital defect or illness or injury”.

388. Subsection (2) allows for regulations to describe what “sight impairment” and “severe sight impairment” mean for the purposes of compiling a local authority register. This aims to ensure that clinical staff and local authorities have a shared understanding of the terminology.

389. Subsection (3) gives local authorities the option to establish and maintain registers of people living in their area who require care and support or who might in the future. This clause will allow those people whose needs may change over time to be accurately recorded – for instance, to take account of an individual with a progressive neurological condition who may need care and support at some point in the future.

390. Subsection (4) defines the categories of people who might be included in these voluntary general registers.

Clause 71 – Guidance

391. This clause provides a power for the Secretary of State to issue guidance to local authorities about how they exercise their functions under this Part of the Bill. It has been drafted with the intention that this guidance will have the same legal effect as guidance issued under section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970. Like section 7, the provision requires local authorities to “act under the general guidance of the Secretary of State”. The Courts have interpreted this to mean that local authorities must “follow the path charted by the Secretary of State’s guidance, with liberty to deviate from it where the local authority judges on admissible grounds that there is good reason to do so, but without freedom to take a substantially different course” (R v Islington LBC ex parte Rixon [1997] 1 CCLR 119 at 123).

392. Section 7 continues to apply in relation to guidance about the exercise of all other social services functions.

393. Subsection (2) requires the Secretary of State to consult relevant persons including stakeholders before issuing guidance under this section.
**Clause 72 – Delegation of local authority functions**

394. This clause provides a power for local authorities to authorise a third party to carry out certain care and support functions.

395. However, certain functions are excluded from this power. Subsection (2) sets out the functions which are excluded, and which therefore may not be delegated to a third party.

396. Subsection (4) provides that that the local authority may determine the extent to which it delegates the function in any particular case. For example, a local authority may delegate the carrying out of all needs assessments to a third party organisation, or it may choose to delegate assessments only for certain groups of people, but carry out other assessments itself. When delegating any function, the local authority may impose conditions on the way the third party may exercise the function.

397. Subsection (5) provides that any authorisation is only for the period specified in the authorisation and the local authority may revoke the authorisation at any time during that period. Delegating the function does not prevent the local authority from being able to carry out the function itself.

398. Subsection (6) makes clear that anything done (or failed to be done) by the third party in carrying out any function delegated to them is treated as done (or not done) by the local authority itself (though as subsection (7) makes clear this does not mean that the third party can avoid liability for any criminal actions nor for any disputes between it and the local authority arising out of any contractual relationship between them). This means that the delegation of any function does not absolve the local authority from ultimate responsibility for ensuring the function is carried out properly and in accordance with all relevant statutory obligations.

399. Subsection (8) makes provision permitting the disclosure of information between the local authority and anyone to whom it has delegated a function under this provision (even where such disclosure would otherwise be unlawful) where such disclosure is necessary for the exercise of that function. It does this by applying the provisions of Schedule 15 of the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 to any delegation made under this provision. Schedule 15 of the 1994 Act contains detailed provisions governing the disclosure of information in cases such as this (where a function is delegated to a third party). The effect is that the third party may be given information by the local authority where it is necessary for the exercise of the delegated function but the third party is then subject to the same kind of confidentiality requirements in respect of that information as was the local authority.

400. This clause includes an order-making power to enable the Secretary of State to change the list of functions to which this power applies, and also to impose conditions and limitations on the exercising of the power.
These notes refer to the Care Bill [HL]
as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013  [HL Bill 1]

General

Clause 73 - Part 1: interpretation
401. This clause provides an index of defined expression in respect of terms used in Part 1 of the Bill.

Part 2 – Care standards

Quality of Services

Clause 74 – Warning notice
402. This clause makes amendments to the powers of the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to issue warning notices to NHS trusts and NHS foundation trusts.

403. Warning notices under section 29 of the 2008 Act will no longer be able to be issued to NHS Trusts and NHS foundation trusts (subsection (1)). Instead, where it appears to the CQC that the quality of health care services provided by a trust requires significant improvement, the CQC will be able to highlight these areas in a new form of warning notice. This notice will be given under a new section 29A of the 2008 Act (subsection (3)).

404. The new warning notice will state the reasons for the CQC’s view that significant improvement is needed and require that improvements in the quality of services are delivered within a specified time. If the notice deals with multiple failings, the CQC will be able to specify a different time period for improvement in relation to each failing. The CQC will not prescribe the action that is to be taken to address significant failures in the quality of health care services.

405. At the end of the time period specified in the notice (or, where the notice specifies more than one time period, the latest of the specified periods) the CQC must review whether the requirements specified in the notice have been met. Where the CQC is not satisfied that the requirements have been complied with it must review what, if any, further action to take in respect of the trust. In the case of an NHS foundation trust, the CQC’s review must include use of its power to require Monitor to put the trust into special administration under section 65D(2) of the National Health Service Act 2006.

Clause 75 – Imposition of licence conditions on NHS foundation trusts
406. This clause amends section 111 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 (imposition of licence conditions on NHS foundation trusts) (the 2012 Act) to extend Monitor’s powers to be able to impose additional licence conditions on foundation trusts. Monitor will be able to impose additional licence conditions on a foundation trust when the CQC has issued a warning notice to that trust requiring it to make a significant improvement to the quality of the health care provided by it (subsection (2)). At present Monitor can only make use of these powers if there is a failure in governance of a foundation trust.
407. Where there was a breach of any such additional licence conditions by the NHS foundation trust concerned, Monitor’s powers to suspend or remove directors or governors under section 111(5) of the 2012 Act would also apply (subsection (3)). In the event of health care services provided by the trust requiring significant improvement, Monitor will, as a result, be able to take timely action to make changes to leadership or governance with the intention of securing improvements to those services.

Clause 76 – Trust special administration: appointment of administrator

408. This clause amends section 65D of the National Health Service Act 2006 (NHS foundation trusts: appointment of trust special administrator). The amendment will enable Monitor to make an order to authorise the appointment of a trust special administrator where it, or the CQC, is satisfied that there is a serious failure by an NHS foundation trust to provide health care services of sufficient quality and it is appropriate to make the order (subsections (2) and (3)). At present Monitor is only able to authorise the appointment of a trust special administrator in cases of insolvency.

409. Monitor may make an order when it is so satisfied, but must make the order when required to do so by the CQC.

410. Before requiring Monitor to make an order for the appointment of an administrator, the CQC will need to consult first the Secretary of State and Monitor, and then the foundation trust, the NHS Commissioning Board and any other person, for example a clinical commissioning group, to which the foundation trust provides services (subsection (4)).

Clause 77 – Trust special administration: objective, consultation and reports

411. This clause amends provisions in Chapter 5A of Part 2 of the National Health Service Act 2006 (in relation to trust special administrators for NHS foundation trusts) to bring within coverage the quality and safety of health care services. To achieve this, the objective of trust special administration, as laid down in section 65DA, has been broadened to include an additional requirement for the services, whose continuous provision is to be secured through special administration, to be of sufficient safety and quality (subsection (1)). The objective will apply to any foundation trust in special administration regardless of whether the order was made to resolve a financial failure or a serious failure to provide services of sufficient quality.

412. In particular, subsection (2) provides for the CQC to be added to the list in section 65F of persons that must be consulted before the trust special administrator provides a draft report to Monitor recommending the action to be taken by Monitor in relation to the trust. Also, the administrator may not provide a draft report to Monitor, under section 65F or 65G, unless the administrator has first obtained a statement from the CQC that the part of the objective relating to the quality of services has been met (subsections (3) and (5)). The intention is to ensure that the CQC is satisfied that the services which are to be continued to be provided by the foundation trust are of sufficient safety and quality.
413. Additionally, when considering the final report from the trust special administrator under section 65KB (or the re-submitted report under section 65KD), the Secretary of State must also be satisfied that the CQC has discharged its functions for the purposes of Chapter 5A (subsection (8)). If, on considering a re-submitted final report, the Secretary of State is not satisfied that the CQC has discharged its functions, the Secretary of State is able to use his powers under section 82 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (failure by the CQC in discharge of functions) to intervene, which includes power to direct the CQC as to the carrying out of its functions (subsection (14)).

Care Quality Commission

Clause 78 – Restriction on applications for variation or removal of conditions

414. This clause makes an amendment to section 19 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (the 2008 Act). The amendment will have the effect of prohibiting providers registered with the CQC from making an application to vary or remove a condition on their registration if the CQC has already served a notice of proposal or a notice of decision to change the conditions of registration in the same way.

415. This addresses an inconsistency in the way that the CQC is able to use its enforcement powers in respect of facilities that do not meet the essential levels of safety and quality set out in the regulations under section 20 of the 2008 Act.

416. Where the CQC has commenced enforcement action to close down a single location of a provider that operates from several sites, the provider may be able to avoid this enforcement action by making an application under section 19 to vary the conditions of its registration to remove the location.

417. This is not possible in cases where the registered provider only carries on a regulated activity from a single location. In these instances, the CQC would cancel the provider’s registration. Under section 19(2) and (3) of the 2008 Act the provider is prohibited from making an application to cancel its registration where the CQC has commenced proceedings to cancel the registration.

Clause 79 – Unitary board

418. Clause 79 amends provisions relating to the membership of the CQC. Under paragraph 3 of Schedule 1 to 2008 Act all members of the CQC must be appointed by the Secretary of State. Subsection (1) amends paragraph 3 of Schedule 1 so that the Secretary of State only appoints the Chair and other non-executive members whilst the CQC appoints its own executive members (including the Chief Executive) without the involvement of the Secretary of State. Subsection (2) defines “non-executive members” and “executive members” and provides that the number of non-executive members must exceed the number of executive members.

419. Subsections (3) to (8) make further amendments to Schedule 1 to the 2008 Act to clarify where necessary which provisions apply to non-executive members only, executive members
only, or both. For example, subsections (4) and (5) make amendments to the Secretary of State's regulation-making powers in paragraph 3 of Schedule 1 to the 2008 Act so that any regulations relating to the appointment, suspension and termination relates only to non-executive members, whilst the power to make regulations to limit the number of members may apply to both executive and non-executive members. This is intended to ensure that the CQC’s Board remains at an appropriate size as set in regulations and to ensure that the non-executive members appointed have the requisite skills and knowledge.

420. **Subsections (7) and (8)** make amendments to paragraph 5 of Schedule 1 to the 2008 Act to clarify that since executive members are employees and the CQC appoints its employees on such terms and conditions as it considers appropriate, it will accordingly also determine the terms and conditions of its appointment of executive members.

**Performance ratings**

Clause 80 – Reviews and performance assessments

421. Clause 80 substitutes section 46 of the 2008 Act (periodic reviews). The CQC’s duty to conduct periodic reviews, assess performance and publish reports of such assessments (henceforth known as ratings) is to apply in respect of any regulated activities and any registered service providers as may be prescribed in regulations.

422. In addition, where regulations so provide, the CQC must also review and assess the performance of the provision and commissioning of adult social services by English local authorities which may not always be registered service providers. The substituted section 46 replaces and consolidates the CQC’s existing periodic review duty in respect of the provision of healthcare by English NHS providers, the provision and commissioning of adult social services by English local authorities and the Secretary of State’s power to extend the scope of periodic reviews by way of regulations in section 49 of the 2008 Act, which is to be repealed by clause 80(3). The new powers in section 46 will allow the Secretary of State to prescribe the particular types of services or providers in relation to whom the CQC should publish performance information so as to enable the public to make informed choices about the quality of services being provided.

423. The CQC is given the responsibility for determining the quality indicators against which services and providers will be assessed (section 46(5)). This may include measures of financial performance and governance in its assessments if the CQC deem this appropriate. The CQC will also prepare a statement setting out the method it will use to assess and evaluate performance and the frequency and period of any reviews (section 46(6)). Different quality indicators, methods and frequency and periods may be used for different types of cases. The CQC may also review the indicators of quality and method statement from time to
These notes refer to the Care Bill [HL]  
as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013  [HL Bill 1]

time as it sees fit (section 46(7) and (8). This is consistent with the recommendations of the Nuffield Trust’s independent review – Rating providers for quality; a policy worth pursuing?

424. The CQC will be required to consult the Secretary of State and other prescribed persons before publishing the indicators of quality, and statement on method and frequency and before publishing any subsequent revisions to them which are significant (section 46(9)).

False or misleading information

Clause 81 – Offence

425. This clause creates a new offence so that providers of health services and adult social care in England, which supply, publish or otherwise make available information that is false or misleading, could be subject to criminal sanctions. The offence applies to a care provider as a corporate body, not to individual directors or employees.

426. Clause 81 outlines the scope of the offence, including which care providers are potentially subject to it and the type of information to which it relates (further detail will be specified in regulations as appropriate). It provides that the information must be required under a statutory provision or other legal obligation.

427. Subsection (1) enables the offence to apply to information that is supplied, published or otherwise made available by a care provider, and which is materially false or misleading. The offence will only be applicable, in practice, to those care providers set out in regulations, and in relation to such information as is described in regulations. Clause 109(4)(f) states that such regulations will be subject to the scrutiny of both Houses of Parliament under the affirmative procedure.

428. Subsection (1)(b) states that this offence will relate only to information that care providers are legally obliged to supply, either by a statutory provision or by another legal requirement such as a contractual requirement. An example of information required by a contract, rather than by a statutory provision, might be information required to be supplied by the provider of health services in accordance with a term in its “commissioning contract” with a clinical commissioning group. Subsections (1) and (6) provide that, in practice, the offence will only be applicable to information of a type that is described in regulations. It is envisaged that the offence will typically apply in cases involving the supply of information to the Secretary of State, the Health and Social Care Information Centre, regulators and commissioners, in accordance with those persons’ and bodies’ statutory powers to require information.

429. Subsection (2) provides a defence for care providers that can demonstrate that they “took all reasonable steps and exercised all due diligence”. This defence will be available to those care providers that can demonstrate that they “took all reasonable steps and exercised all due diligence”. This defence will be available to those care providers that can demonstrate that they “took all reasonable steps and exercised all due diligence”.

9“Commissioning contract” is defined in section 6E of the National Health Service Act 2006 (as inserted by section 20 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012).
providers that have made a genuine mistake or administrative error, provided that they can demonstrate that they had adequate procedures in place to ensure that false and misleading information was not provided.

430. The care providers that fall within the scope of the offence are described generically at subsection (3). The offence thus applies to public bodies that provide health services or adult social care services in England, such as NHS Trusts, NHS Foundation Trusts, GPs and local authorities. It also applies to providers who are not public bodies, but who provide these services on behalf of a public body, such as independent providers of hospital services and independent care homes. “Adult social care” is further defined at subsection (5) and covers all necessary forms of personal care and other practical assistance. Subsection (5)(b) introduces a caveat in that any social care provided by an establishment or agency registered with Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Education, Children’s Services and Skills will not be subject to this offence. Subsections (1) and (6) provide that, in practice, the offence will only apply to care providers that are specified in regulations.

431. Subsections (7) to (9) ensure that there is no overlap or duplication between this false or misleading information offence and certain offences under the Competition Act 1998, the Enterprise Act 2002 and the Health and Social Care Act 2008.

Clause 82 – Penalties

432. This clause provides for the penalties applicable when a court decides that a care provider has committed the offence of providing false or misleading information.

433. Subsection (1) states that if a care provider is convicted of providing false and misleading information, it could be subject to an unlimited fine. The offence is applicable to the corporate body, not to individuals be they directors or employees. As the offence applies to corporate bodies, a custodial sentence is not possible.

434. Subsection (2) states that as well as, or instead of, a fine the court may also impose a remedial or publicity order by way of penalty on the care provider.

435. Subsection (3) states that a remedial order will permit the court to require the convicted care provider to take certain steps to remedy the breach that led to the conviction; this includes correcting any deficiencies in conduct, management of information, policies, systems or practices. Subsection (5) outlines the procedures to be followed in obtaining a remedial order. The prosecution must apply to the court and suggest the terms of the proposed order, and the court must consider the representations made on behalf of both the prosecution and the convicted care provider and any evidence presented by either party.

436. Subsection (4) concerns publicity orders, which require a convicted care provider to publicise information about the offence, including the particulars of that offence, and details of any fines or remedial orders made.
437. For both remedial orders and publicity orders, a time period must be stated within which the required actions must have been completed (subsections (6) and (7)).

438. Breach of either a remedial order or a publicity order would result in a further offence and further punishment on conviction by an unlimited fine.

Part 3 - Health

Chapter 1 - Health Education England

Establishment

Clause 83 – Health Education England

439. This clause establishes Health Education England (HEE) as a non-departmental public body. HEE will be the national body responsible for the planning and delivery of education and training for the NHS and public health workforce. It will also be responsible for establishing Local Education and Training Boards (LETBs) which will be responsible for planning and commissioning education and training at a local level.

440. Subsection (2) gives effect to Schedule 5 which, amongst other things, makes provision for the constitution of HEE, its functions and its financial and accounting obligations.

441. Subsection (3) abolishes the Special Health Authority called HEE, and subsection (4) makes provision for the Secretary of State to transfer from that Special Health Authority any property, rights and liabilities to HEE. Clause 105 makes further provision on transfer orders.

Schedule 5 – Health Education England

Part 1 – Constitution

Membership

442. Paragraph 1 set outs the requirements for the membership of the Board of HEE. It provides that the Board must consist of a chair and six other non-executive members appointed by the Secretary of State, a chief executive and no more than four executive members appointed by the chair and non-executive members. Non-executive members are not employees of HEE. The chief executive and executive appointments will be employees of HEE.

443. Paragraph 2 specifies that the Board of HEE must include persons with clinical expertise, for example, as a doctor, nurse or one of the allied health professions. Regulations may specify the numbers of Board members and the balance between non-executive and executive members that must have clinical expertise.
Non-executive members: terms of office

Paragraph 3 makes provision about the terms of appointment and tenure of office of non-executive members of the Board of HEE. Sub-paragraph (2) provides that non-executive appointments will be for a maximum period of four years. Sub-paragraph (3) confirms that non-executive members can be reappointed after they have ceased to be a member or at the end of the four year term of office. Sub-paragraph (4) provides that persons appointed to non-executive roles may resign from office by giving notice to the Secretary of State. Sub-paragraph (5) gives the Secretary of State a power to remove any person from a non-executive appointment on the grounds of incapacity, misbehaviour, or failure to carry out their duties properly. Sub-paragraph (6) permits the Secretary of State to suspend a person from a non-executive role for any of the reasons set out in sub-paragraph (5).

Non-executive members: suspension from office

Paragraphs 4 and 5 set out the procedural requirements to be complied with when the Secretary of State suspends a non-executive member of the Board of HEE, make provision for the Secretary of State to review the suspension and gives the Secretary of State power to appoint an interim chair. HEE will have no power to appoint an interim chair, but could choose to appoint a deputy chair (regardless of any suspension of the chair).

Non-executive members: pay

Paragraph 6 requires HEE to pay to the non-executive members such remuneration as the Secretary of State may decide. Sub-paragraph (2) provides that the Secretary of State may also determine the allowances and gratuities that HEE must pay a person who is or has been a non-executive member.

Employees: terms of office

Paragraph 7 gives HEE the power to appoint the chief executive, executive members and other employees on such terms as it decides. The appointment of the chief executive requires the consent of the Secretary of State.

Employees: pay

Paragraph 8 provides that HEE must pay its employees such remuneration as it decides. HEE must also pay such pensions, allowances or gratuities as it may determine. In common with other arms-length bodies, HEE is required to obtain the approval of the Secretary of State to its policy on pay before making a decision on these matters.

Committees and sub-committees

Paragraph 9 provides that HEE may appoint committees and sub-committees and pay remuneration and allowances to those members of a committee or sub-committee who are not employees of HEE. Any committees or sub-committees of the Special Health Authority called HEE will become part of HEE when it is established as a non-departmental public body and will be treated as appointed for the purposes of this paragraph.
These notes refer to the Care Bill [HL]  
as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013  [HL Bill 1]

Procedure
450. Paragraph 10(1) provides that HEE regulates its own procedure. Paragraph 10(2) confirms that the validity of any act of HEE, will not be affected by vacancies or any defects in appointments.

Seal and evidence

Status of HEE
452. Paragraph 12 states that HEE is not to be regarded as a servant or agent of the Crown and will not enjoy any status, privilege or immunity of the Crown. HEE’s property will not be regarded as property of, or property held on behalf of, the Crown.

Part 2 – Functions

Exercise of functions
453. Sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 13 imposes a duty on HEE to exercise its functions effectively, efficiently and economically.

454. Under sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) HEE may arrange for any person to assist it in the exercise of its functions and may provide payment for remuneration and allowances when it does so. Sub-paragraph (4) provides that HEE is not permitted to arrange for a committee which is not a LETB to exercise the functions of a LETB.

455. Under sub-paragraph (5) HEE has a power to involve health care workers, patients and their carers in decisions about the exercise of its functions. In this context, “carer” means an adult who provides or intends to provide care for another person.

456. Under sub-paragraph (6) HEE has a general power to do anything necessary or desirable for the purposes of or in connection with the exercise of its functions.

457. Sub-paragraph (7) amends section 247C of the National Health Service Act 2006 (the 2006 Act) to include HEE in the list of bodies that the Secretary of State has a duty to keep under review in the exercise of their health service functions. In line with other arms-length bodies, the purpose of this is to ensure that the Secretary of State is ultimately accountable for ensuring that HEE performs its health care functions effectively.

Help or advice for public authorities
458. Paragraph 14 states that HEE may provide help or advice to another public authority on such terms as it decides. Public authority is defined in sub-paragraphs (3) and (4) as any person whose functions are functions of a public nature and excludes the Houses of Parliament or a person exercising functions in connection with proceedings in Parliament. Public authorities
in the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man are included within this definition, but others outside the UK are not.

**Co-operation**

459. *Paragraph 15* requires HEE to co-operate with the Secretary of State in the exercise of his public health functions. Public health functions are defined in section 1H of the 2006 Act.

460. Sub-paragraph (2) amends section 72 of the 2006 Act so that HEE is treated as a NHS body for the purposes of that section. Section 72 requires NHS bodies to co-operate with each other in the exercise of their functions. This means that all NHS bodies, along with those bodies included within the definition of NHS bodies for the purpose of this section such as the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence and the Health and Social Care Information Centre, will be required to co-operate with HEE in the exercise of their functions, and in turn HEE will be required to co-operate with them.

461. Sub-paragraph (3) requires HEE and the Care Quality Commission to co-operate with each other, and HEE and Monitor to co-operate with each other.

462. Sub-paragraph (4) gives the Secretary of State a power to specify in regulations other bodies with which HEE must co-operate, and bodies which must co-operate with HEE.

**NHS contracts**

463. *Paragraph 16* adds HEE to the list of bodies eligible to enter into NHS contracts under the 2006 Act.

**Arrangements with devolved authorities**

464. *Paragraph 17* gives HEE a power to exercise on behalf of a devolved authority any functions which are similar to HEE’s functions. There are occasions where UK wide co-operation and activity is required to support education and training, for example in planning for the medical workforce. This will allow HEE to lead work of this nature on behalf of the devolved authorities in circumstances where all parties have agreed to this. Sub-paragraph (2) makes provision for HEE to receive payment from the devolved authorities for any costs incurred under such arrangements.

**Failure to exercise functions**

465. *Paragraph 18* empowers the Secretary of State to intervene to direct HEE in the delivery of its functions, where he considers HEE is failing, or has failed to exercise any of its functions properly, and that the failure is significant. A significant failure could include circumstances where there is evidence that public money is not being used effectively; there are concerns about the quality of education and training and these are not being adequately addressed; plans look likely to lead to a shortfall in an important part of the professional workforce; or there are concerns that education and training is impacting on patient safety.
Sub-paragraph (2) states that if HEE fails to act as directed by the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State, or another person on his behalf, may carry out HEE’s functions.

Sub-paragraph (3) requires the Secretary of State to publish reasons for intervention where HEE is failing, or where HEE has failed to take the remedial action stipulated by Secretary of State.

**Part 3 – Finance and Reports**

Paragraphs 19 to 23 set out how the Secretary of State will fund HEE. It also sets out the general financial duties of HEE, including restrictions on the use of resources.

**Funding**

Paragraph 19 provides that the Secretary of State must pay HEE the amount allotted for meeting HEE’s expenditure. Sub-paragraph (2) provides that an amount will be regarded as allotted once HEE is notified of the amount. The payment is subject to such conditions relating to records, certificates or otherwise as the Secretary of State requires.

Sub-paragraph (3) states that the Secretary of State is able to increase or decrease the allotted amount if HEE agrees to the change, there is a parliamentary general election, or the Secretary of State considers that there are exceptional circumstances which make an increase or a decrease necessary. Such exceptional circumstances might include a severe disease outbreak or unpredictable and substantial damage to infrastructure.

Sub-paragraph (4) provides that the Secretary of State may direct HEE in respect of HEE’s payments to it in respect of charges or other amounts relating to the valuation and disposal of assets.

**Financial duties: expenditure**

Under paragraph 20, HEE will have an obligation to ensure that its total expenditure does not exceed the aggregate of the amount allotted to HEE by the Secretary of State for that year and any income derived from other sources. This is in effect an annual "cash limit" on the total amount of cash expenditure which may be incurred.

The income which counts for the purposes of this limit would include, for instance, funds received as a result of the power in paragraph 21 for HEE to generate its own income.

The Secretary of State has the power to determine by directions what will and what will not count as total expenditure for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1). Sub-paragraph (3) gives the Secretary of State a power to determine in directions the extent to which, and the circumstances in which, sums received by HEE under paragraph 19 but not yet spent must be treated for the purposes of this section as part of total expenditure, and to which financial year’s expenditure they must be attributed.
475. The Secretary of State also has a power to direct HEE to use banking facilities that he specifies in the Directions.

**Financial duties: use of generated income**

476. Paragraph 21 provides that any income that HEE generates must be re-invested for education and training purposes.

**Financial duties: controls on total resource use**

477. Paragraph 22 is concerned with HEE’s annual resource allocation. Under this paragraph, the total use of capital resources and the total use of revenue resources by HEE in a financial year must not exceed amounts specified by the Secretary of State. HEE is placed under a duty to ensure that these total limits are not exceeded.

478. The resource allocations include not only HEE’s expenditure in the form of cash spending (that is, the cash spending that should be accounted for in that financial year, in line with resource accounting standards), but also consumption of other resources and the reduction in value of assets belonging to HEE (paragraph 22(4)). For example, the reduction in value of a photocopier across the year, or the distribution of leaflets previously kept in storage would be counted as part of the resource allocation. This system of setting not only a cash limit on HEE’s expenditure but also a limit on use of resources reflects the system for controlling government resources under the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000.

479. Sub-paragraph (2) gives the Secretary of State a power to give directions that specify what descriptions of resources must be treated as capital or revenue resources, and the uses of resources that must, or must not, be taken into account, when determining whether HEE has remained within the resource allocations for a financial year.

480. As with the allotment, the Secretary of State may only vary the resource allocations within a financial year if certain conditions are met. These conditions are set out in sub paragraph (3) and are that if HEE agrees that the change is necessary, if there is a parliamentary general election, or if the Secretary of State considers that exceptional circumstances require a variation of the allocation.

**Financial duties: additional controls on resource use**

481. Paragraph 23 enables the Secretary of State to specify additional limits within the total revenue resource limit on the maximum use of resources attributable to administrative matters by HEE (sub-paragraph (1)(c)). Sub-paragraph (2) provides that the matters relating to administration which count for the purposes of these limits may be set out in directions.

482. Under sub-paragraphs (1)(a) and (1)(b), the Secretary of State will also be able to set additional limits on total revenue or total capital resource use attributable to particular matters specified in directions. Sub-paragraph (3) requires that the Secretary of State may only impose such limits for the purpose of complying with limits imposed by HM Treasury.
limits relate to specific budgetary limits applied across all Government Departments on certain elements of spending. For example within the revenue Departmental Expenditure Limit, HM Treasury applies a ring-fence to spending on depreciation. HM Treasury applies controls on Annually Managed Expenditure under which there are limits on the creation of new provisions (charges for spending that is likely to happen in future years e.g. the economic cost of providing student loans over the full repayment period. The Department of Health would also apply a limit on the balance of spending not covered by the specific limits, again to provide consistency with the controls applied by HM Treasury. These types of spending will fall within the total resource limits but need to be separately controlled within them.

**Losses and liabilities etc**

483. *Paragraph 24* provides that HEE is included in the list of authorities covered by section 265 of the Public Health Act 1875. The effect of this is to protect members and officers of HEE from personal liability in certain circumstances.

484. Sub-paragraph (3) includes HEE in the list of bodies eligible to enter into schemes for meeting losses and liabilities as set out in section 71 of the National Health Service Act 2006.

**Accounts**

485. *Paragraph 25* requires HEE to keep proper accounts and proper records in relation to the accounts (with such content and in such form, and using such methods and principles to prepare the accounts, as the Secretary of State may direct with the approval of HM Treasury). The chief executive of HEE is to be the chief accounting officer.

**Annual accounts**

486. *Paragraph 26* requires HEE to prepare consolidated accounts annually in respect of each financial year. HEE’s consolidated accounts must include the accounts of each LETB, any other committees of HEE, and HEE’s activities.

487. Sub-paragraph (3) provides that HEE must submit the accounts to the Secretary of State and to the Comptroller and Auditor General within such period as is directed by the Secretary of State. The Comptroller and Auditor General must examine, certify and report on the accounts of HEE and lay copies of the accounts, along with a report of them, before Parliament.

**Interim accounts**

488. Additional provision is made in *paragraph 27* for the Secretary of State, with the approval of HM Treasury, to direct HEE to prepare interim accounts. The interim accounts must include the accounts of any committees, including the LETBs.

489. HEE must submit the interim accounts to the Secretary of State and, if the Secretary of State directs, to the Comptroller and Auditor General within such period as is directed by the Secretary of State. The Comptroller and Auditor General must examine the interim accounts.
of HEE and if the Secretary of State directs, send a copy of the report to the Secretary of State, and lay copies of the accounts, along with a report of them, before Parliament.

Annual report

490. Paragraph 28 requires HEE to prepare an annual report for each financial year about how it has exercised its functions. This assessment must include an assessment of HEE’s achievement of the objectives and reflection of the priorities set by the Secretary of State under subsection (1) of clause 87 and an assessment of its achievement of the outcomes set by the Secretary of State for the purposes of subsection (2) of clause 87. HEE must provide this report as soon as possible after the end of the financial year.

491. HEE must send a copy of the report to the Secretary of State and lay a copy of the report before Parliament. HEE must also provide such other reports and information relating to the exercise of its functions as the Secretary of State requests.

Part 4 – Consequential amendments

492. This Part makes consequential amendments to the following acts to include references to HEE where relevant – the Public Records Act 1958, the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1967, the House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975, the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, the Freedom of Information Act 2000, and the Equality Act 2010.

National Functions

Clause 84 – Planning education and training for healthcare workers etc.

493. The Secretary of State has a duty in section 1F of the National Health Service Act 2006 (the 2006 Act) to carry out his functions under prescribed enactments, including section 63 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 and the 2006 Act, to secure an effective system for the planning and delivery of education and training to persons who are employed, or who are considering becoming employed, in an activity which involves or is connected with the provision of services as part of the health service in England. The duty applies in relation to people working in the NHS and public health system, and to trainee professionals at the start of their career, before they enter employment in the NHS and public health system. The Secretary of State’s duty was introduced in the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

494. Section 63 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 gives the Secretary of State a power to provide, either directly or by entering into arrangements with others, education and training to persons specified in that section, which include all NHS and public health workers. Section 258 of the 2006 Act imposes a duty on the Secretary of State to make available facilities required by universities for clinical teaching and research connected with clinical medicine or clinical dentistry.
495. Subsection (1) delegates the Secretary of State’s duty under section 1F, so far as it applies to its functions under section 63 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968, section 258 of the 2006 Act and any other of the enactments listed in section 1F(3) of that Act to HEE.

496. Subsection (2) gives the Secretary of State a power by regulations to specify other functions of the Secretary of State to which section 1F(1) of the 2006 Act will apply, and to require HEE to carry out the resulting duty.

497. Subsection (3) gives the Secretary of State a power to specify that the duty in section 1F of the 2006 Act may be applied to persons of a specified description.

498. The 2006 Act places a duty on providers of NHS services, the National Health Service Commissioning Board and clinical commissioning groups to promote education and training to assist the Secretary of State in the discharge his duty in section 1F. These duties are amended by subsection (4) to require co-operation with HEE to assist HEE, in addition to the Secretary of State, in the discharge of the section 1F duty.

499. Subsection (5) gives the Secretary of State power to make regulations to specify further functions for HEE relating to education and training.

500. Subsection (6) gives HEE a power to carry out other activities related to education and training, with the consent of the Secretary of State.

501. Section 63(6)(b) of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 gives the Secretary of State a power to pay travelling and other allowances to persons who are undertaking education and training under that section. Subsection (7) amends section 63(6) of that Act to give the Secretary of State a power to make such other payments as the Secretary of State considers appropriate and for payments to be made subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of State decides. The Secretary of State’s power to make such payment means that provisions can be made about suspension or termination of payments, and overpayments could be required to be repaid.

502. Subsection (8) provides that the power of the Secretary of State under section 63(6) of the 1968 Act is exercisable concurrently with HEE, but in exercising the power HEE must have regard to any guidance or other information issued by the Secretary of State.

Clause 85 – Ensuring sufficient skilled health care workers for the health service

503. This clause places a duty on HEE to ensure that there is a sufficient number of healthcare workers with the skills and training to provide health services in England. For example, HEE will need to ensure that sufficient nurses are trained nationally to meet anticipated demand for future NHS service provision.
These notes refer to the Care Bill [HL]  
as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013  [HL Bill 1]

504. HEE has direct control over the investment in education and training for health professionals funded through the education and training budget. This budget totalled approximately £4.9 billion in 2012/13 and is invested in a wide range of undergraduate programmes, post registration and postgraduate training programmes and in NHS student support arrangements. Where necessary, HEE will work closely with other bodies to influence investment. For example, HEE will work with the Higher Education Funding Council for England, and universities across England who deliver healthcare related training programmes, to ensure that their funding is invested in the right areas and suitable training opportunities are available in the right places and in the right numbers.

505. Subsection (2) gives the Secretary of State the power to specify in regulations in relation to which healthcare workers the duty to ensure sufficient skilled workers should apply.

Clause 86 – Quality improvement in education and training, etc.

506. Subsection (1) provides that HEE must exercise its functions with a view to securing continuous improvement in the quality of education and training provided to care workers and in the quality of NHS services. The professional regulators such as the General Medical Council set the standards for health professionals to be registered to practice in the UK. In commissioning education and training, HEE and the LETBs must build on these minimum standards and will work with education providers to ensure that the provision of education and training continually improves in quality and delivers health professionals who are fit for purpose and meet the needs of employers in the NHS and their patients and service users.

507. Subsection (2) provides that HEE must, in exercising its functions, promote research into the activities listed in section 63(2) of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968, such as primary dental or medical services, in so far as they are relevant to HEE’s functions. HEE may do this by, for example, working closely with organisations such as the Academic Health Science Centres and Academic Health Science Networks. HEE must also promote the use of evidence obtained from this research.

508. Subsections (3) and (4) require HEE to have regard to the NHS Constitution and promote the NHS Constitution in carrying out its functions.

Clause 87 – Objectives, priorities and outcomes

509. Subsection (1) stipulates that the Secretary of State must publish a document which specifies the objectives and priorities for HEE in relation to the education and training to be provided to health care workers. This document will be commonly referred to as HEE’s mandate. It will be reviewed annually, before the beginning of each financial year, and republished if changes are made.

510. Subsection (2) stipulates that the Secretary of State will publish a document that sets the outcomes for HEE to achieve having regard to its objectives and priorities. The document will be known as the Education Outcomes Framework and will include outcomes applicable to other organisations in the health and public health system. It will be supported by a range of
measures so that the system can demonstrate at all levels education quality outcomes as they impact on patient experience, care and safety.

511. **Subsection (3)** permits the Secretary of State to revise HEE’s mandate and the Education Outcomes Framework and also provides that it must be republished if it is revised.

512. **Subsection (4)** requires HEE to publish a document which specifies the priorities, objectives and outcomes it expects to achieve; these priorities, objectives and outcomes must be consistent with those set by the Secretary of State at subsections (1) and (2) above. The document must also include guidance to LETBs about how they should carry out their commissioning functions. HEE is required to review the document annually and republish it if it is amended. This document will be developed in consultation with the NHS Commissioning Board and Public Health England. It will underpin the relationship and resource allocation arrangements between HEE and the LETBs. It will set out the medium to long term context for the development of the NHS and public health workforce, and will provide the framework within which the LETBs will develop their education and training plans. **Subsection (5)** provides that in producing the document, HEE must have regard to longer term objectives relating to workforce planning and education and training provision. HEE’s duty under subsection (4) can be met by publishing two or more documents which taken together comply with its obligations.

513. **Subsection (8)** requires HEE to review the document annually and if it revises it then it must republish the revised document.

**Clause 88 – Sections 85 and 87: matters to which HEE must have regard**

514. This clause specifies matters that HEE must have regard to when exercising its duties at clauses 85(1) (ensuring sufficient skilled workers) and 87(4) (setting objectives, priorities and outcomes for education and training).

**Clause 89 – Advice**

515. This clause stipulates that HEE must make arrangements for obtaining advice from persons who are involved in, or have an interest in, the provision of education and training. The education and training landscape is multi-faceted, and many organisations have an interest in the development of health professionals, ranging from local employers in the NHS through to national organisations such as the professional regulators like the General Medical Council and professional bodies such as the medical Royal Colleges.

516. **Subsections (2) and (3)** stipulate that HEE must ensure it receives representations from specified groups. These groups include providers of NHS services, patients and their carers, the NHS and public health workforce or the trades unions who represent them and, professional regulators such as the Health and Care Professions Council. It also includes the range of bodies involved in the development and provision of education and training such as the medical Royal Colleges who support the development of curricula and the bodies involved in the delivery of further and higher education such as colleges and universities.
517. Subsection (4) requires HEE to advise the Secretary of State on any matters relating to its functions as the Secretary of State requests. The Secretary of State may specify in his request how and when the advice is to be provided.

Local functions

Clause 90 – Local Education and Training Boards

518. This clause provides for HEE’s appointment of committees, known as Local Education and Training Boards (LETBs), to exercise HEE’s functions on its behalf in so far as they are exercisable in respect of the local area. LETBs will plan and commission education and training and quality assure the education and training that has been commissioned for their areas. The LETB, as a committee of HEE, will work within the national framework set by HEE, but within that will address local priorities for education and training and be a forum for local workforce development in the NHS and public health system.

519. Subsection (3) confirms that the LETB should represent the interests of all providers of NHS and public health services in the area of the LETB. It is important that the LETB acts on behalf of all providers, for example, across primary care, secondary care and the public health system.

520. Subsection (4) provides that LETBs may co-operate with each other and two or more LETBs may exercise their functions jointly. LETBs may also be required to work closely together on specific elements of workforce planning or education provision, for example, where a healthcare provider has a presence in two or more LETBs.

521. Subsection (5) permits HEE to attend any LETB meetings about a matter of concern to HEE. This may be required where HEE has serious concerns about delivery of national workforce priorities, objectives and outcomes.

Clause 91 – LETBs: appointment etc.

522. This clause deals with the process by which HEE appoints LETBs. LETBs will be supported by operational staff who will be employed by HEE. These will include staff from the Strategic Health Authorities and postgraduate medical and dental deaneries.

523. HEE will appoint LETBs, where a group of persons, which must include local healthcare providers for the area and persons who have relevant clinical experience (as specified in regulations), come together and fulfil the requirements of the appointment criteria. The appointment criteria will be contained in a document that will primarily assess potential LETB’s potential to carry out HEE’s functions at a local level. They will assess the LETBs capacity and capability to carry out those functions, their ability to secure financial control and the proposed local governance arrangements. Schedule 6 makes further detailed provision about the area of LETBs, the appointment criteria and the exercise of HEE’s functions.
These notes refer to the Care Bill [HL] 
as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013 [HL Bill 1]

524. HEE will assess potential LETB applicants and there will be three possible outcomes from the application process. Firstly, as set out in subsection (1) the applicants may meet all the criteria set by HEE and HEE is therefore satisfied that the LETB is capable of taking on all functions delegated to it. In this case the LETB will be appointed without any further conditions. Secondly, as set out in subsection (2) the applicants may meet some of the criteria set by HEE and HEE is satisfied that they are capable of taking on some, but not all of the functions delegated to them. In this case, the LETB will be appointed with conditions attached to their appointment. The third outcome is that the applicants meet some of the criteria but not all, and HEE is not satisfied that they can take on functions delegated to them, or that they do not meet any of the criteria. In this case, the LETB will not be appointed. In such circumstances HEE may, under subsection (8), appoint its own employees as members of the LETB to take on responsibility for the education and training functions in that area until an application meets sufficient criteria.

525. Subsections (3) to (8) provide more detail on eligibility for LETB membership and the required composition of its membership. Subsection (3) sets out who is eligible to be a member of the LETB. Subsection (4) specifies that regulations may set out the required numbers of persons with clinical expertise. Subsection (5) confirms that persons involved in the provision of education and training may also be members of a LETB and subsection (5)(b) allows HEE to specify other persons who are eligible to be appointed. Subsection (6) confirms that non-executive and executive members of HEE are not eligible for membership. Subsection (7) confirms that the majority of the members of the LETB must be drawn from providers of NHS and public health services in the LETB geographical area. This is important. Whilst LETBs will rightly include other partners as members, for example, from the education sector or commissioning organisations, their primary purpose is to plan and commission on behalf of local healthcare providers.

526. Subsection (9) requires HEE to appoint the chair of the LETB. The chair may not be a provider of NHS or public health services in the LETB’s geographical area or a representative from a further or higher education institution in the LETB’s geographical area.

527. Subsection (10) requires HEE to notify applicants in writing of the outcome of its decision, and any reasons for rejection. HEE will then publish the decision as set out in subsection (11).

528. Subsection (12) provides that the members of the LETB must not use information obtained in that capacity for any other purposes.

529. Subsection (13) gives the Secretary of State a regulation making power to make further provision on the appointment of members of the LETB, the removal by HEE of members of a LETB and the suspension by HEE of members of a LETB.
Schedule 6 – Local Education and Training Boards

The area for which a LETB is appointed

Paragraph 1 makes provision for the geographical area covered by the LETB. Sub-paragraph (1) requires HEE to ensure that the areas covered by all LETBs together cover the whole of England and do not overlap or coincide geographically.

Sub-paragraph (2) gives HEE a power to vary the area of a LETB. This may be required if there are changes in the area of neighbouring LETBs which lead to part of England being unrepresented by a LETB. HEE must also keep an up to date record of the geographical areas and publish that record.

Assessment of whether the members of LETBs meet the appointment criteria

Paragraph 2 requires HEE to continue to assess LETBs to ensure they are compliant with the appointment criteria set by HEE. If a LETB in question is not meeting the criteria HEE must assess whether it is still able to exercise its functions. HEE will undertake such an assessment whenever it considers this appropriate. Sub-paragraph (2) requires HEE to notify the LETB of the outcome of the assessment and where HEE is not satisfied that it meets the appointment criteria HEE is required to give the reasons for this and publish these.

Sub-paragraph (3) provides that where a LETB is continuing to meet some but not all appointment criteria and HEE determines that it can still exercise its functions, HEE may impose conditions on the LETB relating to its operation.

Sub-paragraph (4) stipulates that where a LETB fails to meet sufficient appointment criteria to enable it to exercise its functions, HEE may do one or more of the following: appoint new members of the LETB; exercise the functions on behalf of the LETB; arrange for another LETB to take responsibility for the area.

Sub-paragraph (5) requires HEE to notify the LETB of the conditions it proposes to impose or action it proposes to take, and the reasons for doing so, before it may impose the conditions at sub-paragraph (3) or take actions described under sub-paragraph (4).

Sub-paragraph (6) requires HEE to publish the details of these conditions and the reasons for imposing them or taking that action.

Sub-paragraph (7) requires HEE to obtain the approval of a LETB before asking it to take on another LETB’s functions as described in sub-paragraph (4)(c).

Sub-paragraph (8) provides that regulations must require specified commissioners of health services to include in the arrangements under the National Health Service Act 2006 for the provision of such services terms to ensure that the provider complies with requirements mentioned in sub-paragraphs (8)(a) and (b). Sub-paragraph (8)(a) states that providers must
co-operate with any LETB which represents that provider because it has been appointed by HEE to represent it by virtue of sub-paragraph (4)(c). This obliges providers to co-operate with any LETB that represents both its interests and the interests of providers from a different geographical area that the LETB originally represented before it was appointed to additionally represent the interests of another LETB. Sub-paragraph (8)(b) states that providers must provide LETBs with such information as they may request.

Sub-paragraph (9) allows the Secretary of State to make regulations specifying other circumstances where HEE may intervene in the operation of the LETB.

Publication and review of the appointment criteria

Sub-paragraph (1) requires HEE to publish the appointment criteria that persons applying to be appointed as a LETB must meet. HEE is required to obtain the approval of the Secretary of State before publishing this criteria. Sub-paragraph (2) requires HEE to keep the appointment criteria under review and make any necessary revisions. HEE is required to obtain the approval of the Secretary of State for any revisions that HEE considers significant.

Exercise of functions

Paragraph 4 enables the Secretary of State, through regulations, to give the LETBs additional functions relating to education and training and impose requirements about how those functions should be exercised.

Sub-paragraph (2) allows a LETB to do anything which it considers necessary or desirable to enable it to carry out its functions.

Sub-paragraph (3) provides that where HEE considers that a LETB is failing to exercise one or more of its functions, or there is a significant risk that it may do so, HEE must direct the LETB on the exercise of such functions.

Sub-paragraph (4) stipulates that where a LETB fails to comply with the direction under sub-paragraph (3), HEE may intervene as described under paragraph 2(4) of this Schedule, which means that HEE may appoint new members of the LETB, exercise functions on behalf of the LETB, or arrange for another LETB to represent providers of services in the area.

Clause 92 – LETBs: co-operation by providers of health services

Subsection (1) provides that regulations must require specified commissioners of health services to include in the arrangements under the National Health Service Act 2006 (the 2006 Act) for the provision of such services terms to ensure that the provider complies with requirements imposed under paragraphs (a), (b) and (c). Paragraph (a) states that providers must co-operate with any LETB in which it provides services. Paragraph (b) requires providers to provide LETBs with such information as they may request and paragraph (c) requires providers to comply with other obligations that may be specified. The regulations will seek to ensure that providers of NHS and public health services co-operate with the
LETB in their area to support the planning, commissioning and provision of education and training. This may include the provision of workforce information to support such activities. Such regulations will support the duty imposed on commissioners by section 1F(2) of the 2006 Act.

546. Subsection (3) provides that the regulations may specify matters that the LETB must have regard to when considering the reasonableness of requesting a provider to cooperate with it, or to provide it with information.

Clause 93 – Education and training plans

547. Subsection (1) requires LETBs to publish an education and training plan for each financial year. The education and training plan will set out, amongst other matters, the LETB’s proposed investment in their current and future workforce. Subsection (2) makes provision for the content of the education and training plan. In developing their plans, the LETB must have regard to national objectives, priorities and outcomes set by the Secretary of State and HEE (at clause 87), alongside the local priorities of the NHS and public health providers represented by the LETB.

548. Subsection (3) lists matters that a LETB must have regard to in the preparation of the plan.

549. Subsection (4) places a duty on the LETB to involve the providers it represents in the preparation of its education and training plans, along with commissioners of health services, Health and Wellbeing Boards and such other organisations that either it or HEE considers appropriate. It is important that education and training plans are informed by the local needs of the health and public health system.

550. Subsection (5) requires the LETB to submit its education and training plan to HEE for approval prior to publication. Subsection (6) enables HEE to direct LETBs to amend their education and training plans prior to approval. By operation of subsection (7), in the case of LETBs which meet all appointment criteria, HEE’s power is restricted to amendments that HEE considers necessary to ensure that the LETB will achieve the outcomes set by HEE under clause 87(4)(b). This is intended to respect the autonomy of the LETB and therefore restricts any amendments to issues linked to nationally agreed priorities, objectives and outcomes. HEE must publish the amendments and the reasons for making them as described in subsection (8).

Clause 94 – Commissioning education and training

551. This clause requires each LETB to commission education and training activity that will support their plans for that year. HEE has a duty to allocate appropriate funding to each LETB in order to commission the necessary education and training activity.

552. There may be some circumstances where it is advantageous to have nationally co-ordinated provision of education and training, rather than leaving it to the discretion of LETBs. For
example, some professions and medical specialties may require only very small numbers to be commissioned across England, so national level commissioning may be more appropriate. In such cases, subsection (2) gives HEE a power to make arrangements itself for the provision of education and training, or to direct a lead LETB to do so on behalf of itself (but the latter is subject to consultation with the LETB in question (subsection (3)).

553. Subsection (4) requires HEE to allocate to the LETB the resources that are required to deliver its education and training plan for that year.

554. Subsection (5) requires HEE to take account of any requirements placed on the LETB by clause 95 – which establishes a tariff-based system for funding clinical education and training – when making such an allocation.

555. Subsection (6) allows the LETB to arrange for another person to assist in the exercise of its commissioning functions.

556. Subsection (7) places a duty on LETBs to keep under review the quality of the education and training provision that it commissions, and imposes a duty on them to report its findings to such bodies that the LETB considers may be interested. This could include, for example, the relevant professional regulatory body.

557. Subsection (8) requires the LETB to produce such reports on the commissioning of education and training as HEE may require.

Tariffs

Clause 95 – Tariffs

558. This clause establishes a tariff-based system for funding clinical education and training – whereby providers receive the same payment for the same activity. This will enable a national approach to the funding of clinical placements, and provides for equality of treatment between different providers. The Secretary of State will set the tariff price.

559. One of the functions of HEE is to determine the way in which education and training activities are grouped together for the purposes of payment. Subsection (2) recognises that different tariffs will need to be set by the Secretary of State, depending on the groups developed by HEE.

560. Subsection (4) allows the Secretary of State to specify a procedure for making variations to a published tariff. This could either be a variation to the price of the tariff itself, or a variation to the price being paid to a particular provider (or group of providers) on a case-by-case basis.

561. Subsection (6) allows the Secretary of State to revise or revoke any such variations. It also allows the Secretary of State to make any revisions or revocations to the tariff itself.
562. Subsection (9)(a) stipulates that where a tariff has been published by the Secretary of State, HEE – through their LETBs – will be required to make payments to providers at the published tariff price. Subsection (9)(b) confirms that – where there has been a variation to an approved price – that this new price should be used by HEE.

Chapter 2 – Health Research Authority

Establishment

Clause 96 – The Health Research Authority

563. This clause establishes a new body to be known as the Health Research Authority (HRA). The HRA is to have functions relating to health and social care research which are conferred in other clauses in this chapter.

564. The HRA is to replace the Special Health Authority (SpHA) also known as the Health Research Authority and take on its functions, which include those relating to reviewing the ethics of research proposals in England. Like the SpHA, the HRA will have the objective of protecting and promoting the interests of actual and potential participants in health and social care research and the general public by facilitating and promoting high quality research that is safe and ethical. Subsection (3) abolishes the SpHA and the relevant instruments establishing it and conferring functions on it. Subsection (4) makes provision for the Secretary of State to make an order to transfer the property, rights and liabilities from the SpHA to the HRA.

Schedule 7 – The Health Research Authority

565. This Schedule makes provision for the constitution and establishment of the HRA.

Part 1 – Constitution

566. Paragraph 1 makes provision about the membership of the HRA. The Board will be made up of a chair, three or four non-executive members, a chief executive and two or three executive members.

567. Paragraph 2 makes provision about the terms of appointment and tenure of office of non-executive members. Sub-paragraph (2) specifies that the maximum term for a non-executive is 4 years. Sub-paragraph (3) specifies that a person who ceases to be a non-executive member is eligible for re-appointment. Provision is made in sub-paragraph (4) to enable a non-executive member to resign at any time by giving notice to the Secretary of State, and sub-paragraphs (5) and (6) enable the Secretary of State to remove or suspend non-executive members from office on the grounds of incapacity, misbehaviour or failure to carry out his or her duties as a non-executive member.

568. Paragraph 3 sets out the procedural requirements to be complied with where the Secretary of State suspends a non-executive member of the HRA under the power in paragraph 2(6).
Paragraph 4 enables the Secretary of State to appoint a non-executive member as interim chair where the chair is suspended under paragraph 2(6), and sets out the conditions that apply to that appointment.

Paragraph 5 requires the HRA to make payments to the non-executive members and the chair. The level of these payments would be determined by the Secretary of State.

Paragraph 6 gives the HRA powers to appoint employees on such terms as it may determine. The appointment of the chief executive must be agreed by the Secretary of State.

Paragraph 7 allows the HRA to decide the levels of pay, pensions or allowances it will make to its staff. In line with other arms-length bodies (for example, Monitor, Care Quality Commission, NHS Commissioning Board and, as covered by this Bill, HEE), the HRA would be required to seek the approval of the Secretary of State to its policy on pay, pensions and allowances.

Paragraph 8 enables the HRA to appoint committees and sub-committees. Such committees can include participants, potential participants and the public and enables HRA to pay such members of its committees where they are not employees of the HRA.

Paragraph 9 allows the HRA to regulate its own procedure. So for example, this power may enable the HRA to remove the risk of a conflict of interest by preventing executive members from being involved in determining their own pay. Sub-paragraph (2) provides that a vacancy amongst the members of the HRA or a defect in appointment of a member does not prevent the HRA from continuing to operate.

Paragraph 10 makes provision in relation to the HRA’s seal which would be used to show approval of official HRA documents.

Paragraph 11 provides that the status of the HRA would be a non-departmental public body that is not part of the Crown, nor regarded as a servant or agent of the Crown.

Part 2 - Functions

Paragraph 12 places a requirement on the HRA to exercise its functions effectively, efficiently and economically. Provision is made to enable the HRA to arrange for any person to exercise on its behalf, or assist with the exercise of its functions and to make payments to them. Sub-paragraph (5) gives the HRA a general power to do anything which appears to it to be necessary or desirable for the purpose of, or in connection with the exercise of its functions.

Paragraph 13(1) makes provision for the HRA to provide help or advice to another public authority (as defined in sub-paragraphs (3) and (4)) to enable that public authority to meet its objectives. By way of example, it is envisaged that this power could be used to enable HRA
to advise and assist the Secretary of State in relation to the approvals for processing confidential patient information for research purposes under the Control of Patient Information Regulations 2002 (S.I. 2002/1438) or to advice and assist the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Agency in relation to applications to process information under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology (Disclosure of Information for Research Purposes) Regulations 2010 (S.I. 2010/995). Sub-paragraph (2) makes provision for the HRA to determine the terms under which it provides the help or advice in sub-paragraph (1), including rates of pay and allowances.

579. Paragraph 14 enables Scottish Ministers, Welsh Ministers, or the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety in Northern Ireland to arrange for the HRA to exercise certain functions. These are those functions which relate to health or social care research and correspond to a function of the HRA, or to provide services or facilities to them in connection with the exercise of such functions. Sub-paragraph (2) makes express provision to enable the parties to agree for the HRA to receive payments to recoup its costs.

580. If the Secretary of State considers that the HRA is failing or has failed to exercise its functions, and the failure is significant, paragraph 15(1) would give the Secretary of State the power to direct the HRA to perform its functions. If the HRA fails to comply with the direction made under sub-paragraph (1), sub-paragraph (2) would enable the Secretary of State to exercise the functions specified in the direction, or make arrangements for another person to exercise those functions on his behalf. Where the Secretary of State exercises the power under sub-paragraph (1) or (2), he must publish the reasons for doing so.

Part 3 – Finance and reports

581. Paragraph 16 makes provision for the Secretary of State, with the consent of the Treasury, to make payments to the HRA. The payments could be made at any time and have any conditions attached to them which the Secretary of State considers appropriate.

582. Paragraph 17 gives the Secretary of State the power to make regulations requiring a fee to be paid to the HRA for specified functions. Any regulations made under this clause would be subject to the affirmative parliamentary procedure. Any fees prescribed under this clause, as determined by the HRA, would need to take account of the cost of the functions involved and must be approved by the Secretary of State.

583. Paragraph 17(7) applies existing legislation so that the members and staff of HRA are protected from personal liability whilst carrying out work on behalf of HRA. Paragraph 17(9) amends section 71 of the National Health Service Act 2006 to add the HRA to the list of bodies that may join a scheme established by the Secretary of State for the purpose of meeting expenses arising from any loss, damage or injury incurred by members, to their property and liabilities, and to third parties for loss damage or injury arising out of carrying out the functions of the bodies.
Paragraph 18(1) requires the HRA to keep accounts and prepare annual accounts for each financial year in a form to be determined by the Secretary of State, and which must be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General.

Paragraph 19 requires the HRA to prepare an annual report on the activities it has undertaken during the previous financial year and the activities it proposes to undertake during the current financial year. The report must include information about health and social care research which has taken place during the year as well as setting out the steps the HRA has taken to fulfil its objectives under clause 97(2). The HRA must lay a copy of the report before Parliament and send a copy to the Secretary of State. Paragraph 19(4) provides that the HRA must provide the Secretary of State with other reports and information relating to the exercise of its functions on request.

Part 4 – Consequential amendments

Paragraphs 20 to 26 make amendments to other primary legislation so that the relevant provisions apply to the HRA. For example, paragraph 23 amends Part 2 of Schedule 1 to the House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975 to insert the HRA into the list of bodies whose members are disqualified from membership of the House of Commons.

General functions

Clause 97 – The HRA’s functions

Subsection (1) sets out the HRA’s main functions. These functions relate to the co-ordination and standardisation of practice relating to the regulation of health and social care research, research ethics committees, membership of the United Kingdom Ethics Committee Authority under the Medicines for Human Use Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004 (Clinical Trials Regulations), and the process for approving the processing of confidential patient information for medical research. The functions are set out in detail in clauses 98 to 104.

Subsection (2) sets out the main objective of the HRA when performing its functions to:

- protect participants in health and social care research and the general public by encouraging safe and ethical research which conforms to generally accepted ethical standards as described in subsection (6); and
- promote their interests by facilitating the conduct of such research.

Therefore, for example, in carrying out its duty to cooperate with other bodies that hold research related functions the HRA would need to act in a way that will ensure that people are protected through safe and ethical standards whilst also facilitating research. This might involve, for example, removing duplication and ensuring proportionate regulation.

Subsection (3) defines health research as research into matters relating to people’s physical or mental health. The definition does not include health research involving animals that is
These notes refer to the Care Bill [HL]  as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013  [HL Bill 1]

regulated by the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986. Subsection (4) defines social care research as research into matters relating to personal care or other practical assistance for individuals in need of care or assistance for the reasons listed. The references to health or social care research in this chapter do not, except where otherwise stated, include research which is a function exercisable by the devolved authorities (Scottish Ministers, Welsh Ministers, or the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety in Northern Ireland) or research within the legislative competence of the devolved legislature (the Scottish Parliament, the National Assembly for Wales or the Northern Ireland Assembly) (subsection (5)).

591. Subsection (7) provides a power to amend by order the list of functions listed in subsection (1) in consequence of functions being given to or taken away from the HRA or amended by other statutory enactments,

Regulatory practice

Clause 98 – Co-ordinating and promoting regulatory practice etc.

592. Subsection (1) imposes an obligation on the HRA and the people and bodies listed to co-operate with each other. The aim of this subsection is to encourage co-ordination and standardisation of practice of such bodies and persons when carrying out functions relating to the regulation of health and social care research. Subsection (2) provides that when exercising the duty to co-operate the HRA and specified people and bodies must have regard to the need to protect participants in health and social care research and the general public by encouraging safe and ethical research as well as promoting the interests of those people by facilitating the conduct of such research.

593. For example, the Secretary of State has both a duty to promote research in relation to the health service under section 1D of the National Health Service Act 2006 (the 2006 Act) and a power under paragraph 13 of Schedule 1 to the 2006 Act to conduct, commission or assist the conduct of research into any matters relating to the causation, prevention, diagnosis or treatment of illness, and research into any other matters connected with a service provided under the 2006 Act. The Secretary of State currently relies on these provisions to establish the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) which funds research and the infrastructure to support research. As part of this role, the NIHR seeks to promote and coordinate proportionate research management systems within the NHS. Subsection (1)(a) requires the Secretary of State to work cooperatively with the HRA in relation to functions such as that of the NIHR.

594. The references to the Secretary of State and the licensing authority in subsection (1)(a) and (b) ensure that functions carried out by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Executive Agency fall within the duty to co-operate. The reference to the Chief Medical Officer in subsection (1)(d) ensures that the Chief Medical Officer’s function of receiving abortion notifications under regulation 4(1) of the Abortion Regulations 1991 (made under section 2 of the Abortion Act 1967) is covered by the duty.
These notes refer to the Care Bill [HL]  
as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013  [HL Bill 1]

595. There is a power to add to the list of the HRA’s co-operation partners by way of regulations under subsection (1)(i). This may be used to include bodies that have relevant health and social care research functions conferred upon them in the future.

596. Subsection (3) imposes a freestanding duty on the HRA only to promote the co-ordination and standardisation of practice in relation to the regulation of health and social care research giving it the lead role in removing duplication and streamlining the regulation of health and social care research across the regulatory system. This is in addition to the reciprocal duty on HRA and the other bodies listed in subsection (1) to co-operate with each other in this particular area insofar as their respective functions relate to the regulation of health and social care research. One way in which the HRA might meet this duty could be by continuing to run an integrated research application system (IRAS) currently administered by the HRA SpHA and by building on it to create a unified approvals process for research. The IRAS enables a researcher to enter information about their project into one application form which includes the information required for a number of different research approvals by different bodies.

597. Subsection (4) imposes an obligation on the HRA and the devolved authorities to co-operate with each other in the exercise of their functions where they relate to the regulation of assessments of the ethics of health and social care research, with a view to coordinating and standardising practice in the United Kingdom relating to the regulation of such research. Health and social care research in this context includes research that relates to the functions exercisable by a devolved authority or which is within the legislative competence of the devolved legislature (subsection (10)).

598. Subsection (5) requires the HRA to undertake a horizon scanning function to keep under review matters relating to the ethics of health and social care research and to advise the Secretary of State about such matters if requested.

599. The Department of Health currently publishes the Research Governance Framework for Health and Social Care which sets out the broad principles for good research governance. Subsection (6) requires the HRA to publish guidance on principles of good practice in the conduct and management of health and social care research, and any requirements imposed upon researchers in legislation or by other sources.

600. Under subsection (7), a local authority, an NHS trust in England and an NHS foundation trust must have regard to guidance published under subsection (6).

601. Subsection (8) makes express provision that co-operation under subsection (1) or (4) can include sharing information.
Research ethics committees

Clause 99 – The HRA’s policy on research ethics committees

602. This clause states the general policy of the HRA in relation to research ethics committees (RECs) it recognises or establishes under clauses 99 and 101. The HRA needs to ensure that RECs provide an efficient and effective means of assessing the ethics of health and social care research. Subsection (4) sets out ways in which the HRA may fulfil this function, such as coordinating and allocating work to RECs, and providing help and advice. The HRA may also develop and maintain a training programme to ensure that RECs’ members and staff can carry out their work effectively. Subsection (9) requires the HRA to indemnify members of the RECs against certain risks that may be involved in the exercise of the committees’ functions in assessing the ethics of health and social care research.

603. RECs are defined by subsection (2) as a group which assesses the ethics of research involving individuals and gives examples of how research may involve individuals, including obtaining information, tissue or fluid from them.

604. Subsection (3) requires the HRA to publish a REC policy document to set out the requirements that RECs recognised or established by the HRA would be expected to comply with and must monitor their compliance. These requirements are currently set out in the Governance arrangements for RECs (GAfREC) document published by the Department of Health. Subsection (5) lists the requirements that may be included in the REC policy document. Subsection (6) requires the HRA to ensure that the requirements in the REC policy document do not conflict with the requirements imposed on ethics committees under the Clinical Trials Regulations. The Clinical Trials Regulations establish a body called the United Kingdom Ethics Committee Authority (UKECA) which has the power to establish and recognise ethics committees for the purpose of approving clinical trials on investigational medicinal products for human use in the UK under the Clinical Trials Regulations. This subsection would enable a committee which is recognised or established by the HRA also to be able to meet the requirements for recognition by UKECA to ethically approve clinical trials of investigational medicines under the clinical trials regulations so as to avoid duplication. Subsection (8) allows the HRA to revise the document.

605. Subsection (7) requires the HRA to consult the devolved authorities and anyone else it considers appropriate on the content of the document before it is published. This also applies to any significant revision of the document made under subsection (8).

Clause 100 – Approval of research

606. At present the Department of Health issues policy guidance on RECs (the GAfREC document) which sets out when the Department considers it is good practice or legislation requires them to seek approval of research by a REC, or where legislation requires the researcher to do so. Subsection (1) of this clause requires the HRA to publish guidance setting out when it considers it good practice to seek approval of research by a REC.
607. **Subsection (2)** requires the HRA to consult the devolved authorities and other people it considers appropriate, and obtain approval of the Secretary of State before publishing guidance. Where the HRA revises its guidance, and it considers the revisions significant, it must consult and seek approval from the Secretary of State before publishing the revised guidance (**subsection (3)**).

608. **Subsection (4)** introduces Schedule 8, which contains amendments relating to references to RECs in secondary legislation.

**Schedule 8 –Research ethics committees (RECs): amendments**

609. Schedule 8 makes consequential amendments to secondary legislation where references are made to RECs. The amendments replace references to ethics committees recognised by the Secretary of State with reference to those established or recognised by the HRA. The amendments also standardise the definitions of RECs to bring them into line with the definition of a REC under clause 100.

**Clause 101 – Recognition by the HRA**

610. This clause makes provision for the HRA, following an application by or on behalf of a group of people, to recognise that group as a REC for the purpose of approving research of a type specified by the HRA in the guidance issued under clause 100(1) or for the purpose of approving research where this is required under other legislation.

611. Under **subsection (2)** the HRA would only be able to recognise a REC if it is satisfied that the REC meets the requirements of the REC policy document published by the HRA under clause 99(3), and that there is, or will be, a demand for such a group. **Subsection (3)** would require the HRA to take into consideration whether the group is already recognised as a REC by, or on behalf of, a devolved authority. **Subsection (4)** enables the HRA to do anything (including provide financial assistance) to help a group of people who want to be recognised to make an application which is likely to be successful. Therefore, for example the HRA may consider it appropriate to make a meeting room available to a REC in which they can conduct their business.

612. **Subsection (5)** gives the HRA the power to revoke recognition of a REC where it is satisfied that the recognised REC is not complying with the requirements of the REC policy document published by the HRA under clause 99(3). Recognition may also be revoked if the HRA is satisfied that the group is not carrying out its function of assessing the ethical aspects of research, or is not doing so properly, or that the revocation is necessary or desirable for another reason.

613. Any group which was established or recognised by the SpHA Health Research Authority or by the Secretary of State as a REC, and which exists when the new provisions come into force would, under **subsection (6)**, receive automatic recognition by the HRA.
Clause 102 – Establishment by the HRA

614. This clause gives the HRA the power to establish RECs for the purpose of approving research of a type specified by the HRA for the purpose of approving research of the type specified by the HRA in the guidance document issued under clause 100(1), or where such approval is required under other legislation. The HRA would be required, under subsection (2), to ensure that any REC it establishes complies with the requirements in the REC policy document. Therefore, for example, if the guidance sets out requirements for lay membership, the REC must comply. Subsection (3) provides that the HRA has the power to abolish a REC it has established under this clause.

Clause 103 – Membership of the United Kingdom Ethics Committee Authority

615. This clause amends regulation 5 of the Clinical Trials Regulations which provides for the membership of the United Kingdom Ethics Committee Authority (UKECA) to replace the Secretary of State’s membership with that of the HRA and makes other amendment consequential on this change.

Patient Information

Clause 104 – Approval for processing confidential patient information

616. This clause makes a number of amendments to the Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002 (S.I. 2002/1438) (the 2002 Regulations). These amendments transfer the Secretary of State’s power to approve the processing of confidential patient information for research purposes to the HRA and change the way that the requirement for REC approval is expressed legally. These changes will retain the safeguards currently in place.

617. Subsection (2) amends regulation 5 of the 2002 Regulations to replace the requirement for approval from the Secretary of State and a REC for the processing of confidential patient information for the purpose of medical research, with a requirement for approval only from the Health Research Authority (new regulation 5(1)(a)). Subsection (3) inserts new sub-paragraph (2) into regulation 5 of the 2002 Regulations which provides that the HRA may not give approval under new paragraph 5(1)(a) unless a REC has approved the medical research concerned. This means that approval for processing confidential patient information for the purpose of medical research would require approval by the HRA as well as REC approval of the ethical aspects of the research concerned.

618. Subsection (4) inserts new sub-paragraph (3) into regulation 5 of the 2002 Regulations to require the HRA to put in place a system for reviewing decisions it makes in relation to the processing of patient information under sub-paragraph (1)(a).

619. Subsections (5) to (8) amend regulation 6 of the 2002 Regulations to require the HRA to record in a register details about any transfer of information which is approved under the regulations. Provision is also made to require the HRA to retain such information and to enable it to publish any entries in the register, as it considers appropriate.
Chapter 3 - Miscellaneous and General

Miscellaneous

Clause 105 – Transfer orders

620. Clause 105 makes provision on transfer orders under clause 83 (establishment of Health Education England) or clause 96 (establishment of the Health Research Authority) for rights and liabilities relating to an individual’s contract of employment.

621. In particular, it provides that, a transfer order may, amongst other matters, require that employees of the Special Health Authority are transferred to HEE or HRA as the case may be, under terms which are the same as or similar to those made by the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 which provides certain protections of employment rights for transferred staff.

General

Clause 106 – Part 3: interpretation and supplementary provision

622. This clause contains interpretation provisions for Part 3.

Part 4 – General

Clause 107 – Power to make consequential provision

623. This clause provides power for the Secretary of State by order to make provision in consequence of the Bill; in particular, an order may amend, repeal, revoke or otherwise modify an enactment.

624. This power in particular will be used to make provision in respect of the repeal of the statutory provisions currently underpinning adult social care in England, and any necessary consequential amendments arising from such repeal.

625. This approach, making provision by Order rather than on the face of the Bill, is required because of the technical timing difficulties of providing for such matters on the face of the Bill caused by the parallel consideration of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Bill. This Bill, introduced into the Welsh Assembly in January 2013, deals with the reform of adult social care in Wales, and therefore envisages repeal, in respect of Wales of the same statutory provisions as will need to be repealed in respect of England. Whichever Bill comes into force first will need to disapply those provisions in respect of its territory, pending full repeal when the second Bill comes into force (subject to savings in respect of the existing rights of those under the age of 18 and also in respect of any provisions that also extend to Scotland).

626. As there can be no certainty, assuming successful passage of each Bill, as to which Bill would come into force first, repeals and consequential amendments cannot be dealt with on the face
These notes refer to the Care Bill [HL]
as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013  [HL Bill 1]

of either Bill. Instead, they will be dealt with by Order in each case, in reliance on the power
in the respective Bills to make consequential amendments. Whichever Bill comes into force
first, the relevant Order will make provision to disapply the relevant provisions in respect of
its territory. The second Order with then in due course complete the process of repeal (subject
where necessary to savings as indicated above).

Clause 108 – Power to make transitional etc. provision
627. This clause provides power for the Secretary of State by order to make transitional provision
in connection with commencement of the Bill.

Clause 109 – Regulations and orders
628. This clause makes general provision about the powers to make regulations, and orders under
the Bill and for the Parliamentary procedures that apply in relation to such instruments. Subsection (4) lists the secondary legislation which is subject to the affirmative resolution
procedure.

Clause 110 – General interpretation
629. This clause provides definitions for the purposes of the Bill.

Clause 111 – Commencement
630. Subsection (1) of this clause provides that the provisions of Part 1 to 3 of the Bill come into
force on the day or days specified by the Secretary of State in an order, and different days
may be specified for different purposes, including different geographical areas (subsection (3)). The provisions of Part 4 of the Bill come into force on Royal Assent.

Clause 112 – Extent and application
631. This section sets out the Bill’s extent, a full description of which is in the “Territorial extent
and application” section of this document.

Clause 113 – Short title
632. This clause provides the Bill’s short title.

PUBLIC SECTOR FINANCIAL COST AND MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS
633. The legislative changes proposed by the Care Bill carry with them both costs and savings.
These are set out in detail in the Impact Assessments, which are published in parallel with the
Bill.

Part 1 – Care and support
634. Most of the costs to the public sector associated with Part 1 arise from introducing and
funding a cap on care costs and from the proposed increase to the capital threshold. These are
partly offset by consequential reduction in costs of attendance allowance and disability living allowance. There are additional costs from new provisions for assessment and support for carers, continuity of care, care and support in prisons, and safeguarding adults from abuse and neglect, as well as the costs of implementing legal reform (administrative changes and workforce training). These will be partly offset by cost savings from creating clearer and simpler legislation, reducing the administrative burden and reducing the risk of mistakes and incorrect advice. There will be opportunity costs of providing deferred payments. These will be partly offset by charging interest. There will also be administration costs of operating the scheme.

635. Local authorities will require additional manpower to implement the care and support reforms in Part 1. In particular, the proposals to introduce a capped cost funding scheme for care and support will mean additional assessments, care management and review, which is expected to cost up to £2.05 billion. Manpower implications are not possible to quantify as it is for local authorities to decide how to exercise their functions. The Department of Health does not anticipate that any redundancies will be necessary as a result of these proposals.

636. There will be costs to the Care Quality Commission (CQC) of overseeing providers in scope of the market oversight regime for care and support, and it is estimated that CQC will need to employ approximately 15 full-time equivalent staff. Additional consultancy and corporate services are likely to be needed.

637. A summary of costs to the public sector, and corresponding benefits, arising from Part 1 of the Care Bill are shown below. Figures are given in terms of net present value, which represents costs or benefits over 10 years discounted for the future.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PART 1 (Care and support)</th>
<th>Public sector costs (net present value) (£m)</th>
<th>Benefits (net present value) (£m)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Funding reform</td>
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<td>366</td>
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<tr>
<td>Market oversight</td>
<td>10</td>
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</table>
Part 2 – Care quality and standards

638. The development and implementation of aggregate ratings and the integrated failure regime are likely to impose an additional burden on the CQC. Because the costs and manpower implications, particularly of aggregate ratings, depend to a significant extent on how CQC operates the proposed schemes, it is not yet possible to quantify them. In addition, trying to do so at this stage would run the risk of inaccurate estimation of costs both across measures associated with the Government’s response to the Report of the Mid-Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust Public Inquiry, led by Robert Francis QC, and with what the CQC currently does now. The overall effect of the measures being taken forward in response to the Francis report on the CQC and its funding will be set out in impact assessments accompanying the full Government response, to be published in the autumn of 2013.

639. In respect of the integrated failure regime, there may also be additional resource required for Monitor and the NHS Trust Development Authority, which will also be detailed more fully in the impact assessments accompanying the full Government response to the Report of the Mid-Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust Public Inquiry.

640. The creation of a new offence for the provision of false or misleading information will mean additional costs to the police and another organisation of investigating potential non-compliance, and to the Crown Prosecution Service and justice system of prosecution. The cost is estimated at £0.7 million over ten years (discounted for the future), and there are unlikely to be significant manpower implications.

Part 3 - Health Education England and the Health Research Authority

641. The establishment of HRA as a non-departmental public body may mean the appointment of one additional non-executive director to the HRA’s board. Otherwise, no significant costs are expected to arise as a result of the provisions in Part 3.

SUMMARY OF IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

642. The Impact Assessment, which incorporates the Equality Impact Assessment, for the Bill is structured as follows:

**Coordinating document**

643. This gives a summary of the costs and benefits of the proposed changes.
These notes refer to the Care Bill [HL] as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013 [HL Bill 1]

Care and support legal reform impact assessment

644. This document covers the provisions relating to adult care and support in England. This sets out the expected benefits in terms of improved outcomes and experience of care, and the more effective use of public and community resource by improving the personalisation of services, enabling people to have increased flexibility, choice and control over how their desired outcomes are achieved. It also sets out the expected costs from those legal duties set out in the Bill which do not replace previous duties, but are wholly or substantially new, including increased assessment and support for carers, continuity of care provisions, care and support in prisons, safeguarding adults from abuse and neglect, and implementation of legal reform.

Care and support funding reform impact assessment

645. This document covers provisions to put a cap on the costs an individual has to pay to meet their eligible care and support needs. It argues that there are benefits arising from providing people with financial protection from catastrophic care costs such as peace of mind from knowing they do not risk losing all their assets to pay for their care, and from encouragement for people to prepare for their care needs in later life. Costs arise from funding care for those people who exceed the cap and from the proposed increase to the capital threshold, as well as from the provision of additional assessments for self-funders and possible set-up costs.

Universal deferred payment scheme impact assessment

646. This document covers the provisions that give local authorities a duty to offer deferred payments. It argues that there are benefits, chiefly peace of mind for homeowners who can defer residential care fees. It also sets out the expected costs, including both the inherent cost of providing loans as well as the costs of administering the scheme, as well as potential impacts on the housing market.

Market oversight in care and support impact assessment

647. This document covers provisions to ensure the continuity of care for vulnerable care service users in the event of financial distress and market exit of a major provider of care services. It argues that there are benefits, arising from reassurance and protection for those receiving care now and in the future, their carers and families. It also sets out an illustrative estimate of the costs that will be incurred by the regulator in establishing and managing the regime, and by providers who are within scope of meeting the requirements of the regime.

Provider ratings review impact assessment

648. This document covers provisions for CQC to undertake ratings for health and social care providers, giving a single version of provider performance. It argues that there are benefits of improved patient choice and greater incentives for performance improvement among
providers. The scheme should lead to increased accountability, improved choice for patients, and increased ability for commissioners to make better evidence-based decisions and make the comparative quality of services clear to providers. There will be costs to CQC of setting up and running the scheme, but these are not quantified.

**Single failure regime impact assessment**

649. This document covers the establishment of a new failure regime to ensure that, where the standard of care is below an acceptable level, action is taken until it is properly and promptly resolved. The benefits arise from building the correct incentives into the regulatory system and improving communication and alignment between the regulators, resulting in improved outcomes for patients. Costs will fall on the regulators who will operate the regime, and there may be costs to providers, which are not quantified.

**False or misleading information impact assessment**

650. This document covers the creation of a new offence of providing false or misleading information. The benefits accrue from improved transparency, accountability and confidence in the provision of such information, allowing corrective interventions to be taken earlier. The offence could prevent future incidents of poor care and improve the quality of care in general, through better provider internal control, better patient choice and better commissioning and regulation. The costs arise from additional investigations and prosecutions and would fall to the police, the Crown Prosecution Service and the justice system, as well as another organisation in the health and social care system which could assist with building cases. There may be some necessary costs to providers of ensuring compliance, but they should already be doing this. Those that are subject to prosecution will incur costs of defending legal action.

**Care Quality Commission loophole closure impact assessment**

651. This document covers the closure of a legislative loophole that enables providers to avoid a record of poor care by closing down a service before it is de-registered by CQC. It sets out the benefits, which are associated with increased transparency about provider compliance with CQC requirements, and a level playing field for providers. No significant costs are expected. Providers who would have evaded enforcement action will face negative publicity and low additional administration costs.

**Health Education England impact assessment**

652. This document covers the establishment of HEE as a non-departmental public body, to ensure that the education and training system can operate safely and effectively as part of a stable health and social care system. Benefits are expected to arise from greater confidence among the public and NHS stakeholders that their needs and expectations will be addressed and that
investment in education and training will be directed by service and clinical priorities. There are no expected costs.

**Health Research Authority impact assessment**

653. This document covers the establishment of HRA as a non-departmental public body. It describes the benefits arising from establishing HRA as an arm’s length body which would give it the independence to put interests of research participants and the public first, and providing stability for researchers and funders. There may be a cost to HRA of recruiting and salary payment for one non-executive director.

**COMPATIBILITY WITH THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

**Section 19 of the Human Rights Act 1998**

654. Section 19 of the Human Rights Act 1998 requires the Minister in charge of a Bill in either House to make a statement about the compatibility of the Bill with the Convention Rights (as defined in section 1 of that Act). Earl Howe, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Quality has made the following statement –

655. “In my view, the provisions of the Care Bill [HL] are compatible with the Convention Rights.”

**Part 1 - Care and Support**

656. The provision of care and support services may engage Articles 2 (right to life), 3 (inhuman and degrading treatment) and 8 (right to private and family life) of the Convention. The Bill aims to ensure that individuals’ human rights are respected in the provision of their care and support by local authorities. Clause 1 sets out the overarching duty of local authorities promote individuals’ well-being, and the clause sets out the ways in which this should be achieved. In particular there is a duty to have regard to the individual’s wishes, and to ensure that the individual is able to participate as much as possible in decisions which affect him or her.

657. Local authorities’ positive obligations to safeguard adults may also engage Articles 2, 3 and 8. The new adult safeguarding duty in clause 41 and the establishment of Safeguarding Adult Boards will strengthen protection for adults with care and support needs who are at risk of abuse or neglect. Individuals’ rights under those Articles are further protected by the provisions requiring local authorities to meet the needs of adults who are left without care and support services due to the failure of a provider (clauses 47-49), requiring the Care Quality Commission to support local authorities in fulfilling their continuity of care duties (clause 53) and requiring the CQC to oversee and assess the financial sustainability of those care providers who would pose serious threats to continuity of care were they to fail (clauses 50-
54). Such provisions aim to ensure that individuals affected by the failure of their care provider are not left without the care and support they need.

**Transfer of assets to avoid charges**

658. Clause 65 allows local authorities to recover from transferees amounts it would have charged a service user had a transfer of assets to avoid payment not occurred. Whilst Article 1 Protocol 1 (right to the peaceful enjoyment of possessions) may be engaged, any deprivation would be justified as it would be prescribed by law and given that it pursues a legitimate aim in that it seeks to prevent people intentionally avoiding the payment of charges for care and support by transferring assets for little or no consideration. Local authorities will need to pursue recovery by way of proceedings in the County Court which will meet any obligations under Article 6.

**Disclosure of information**

659. The Bill contains a number of provisions under which personal information about individuals will need to be exchanged between local authorities or with other agencies, for example the duty to cooperate (clause 7) and the provisions on continuity of care (clauses 36 and 37). Information may also need to be exchanged between care providers, the CQC and local authorities in the context of provisions relating to continuity of care in the event of financial failure of a provider (clauses 47-49 and 50-54).

660. Information will normally only be disclosed with the consent of the individual concerned but in limited circumstances consent may not be required, for example where disclosure is necessary for statutory functions to be exercised (such as the making of ordinary residence determinations under clause 39 or for the purposes of assisting or enabling a local authority to make enquiries in relation to adults at risk of abuse or neglect or to enable a Safeguarding Adult Board to exercise its functions (e.g. to undertake safeguarding adult reviews).

661. This exchange of information is necessary for the effective operation of the care and support system. Any interference with an individual’s private life will not be contrary to Article 8 because it will be in accordance with the law, necessary and proportionate to one of the legitimate aims referred to in that Article.

**Part 2 - Care Standards**

662. Part 2 of the Bill amends provisions in relation to the Care Quality Commission, the independent regulatory body responsible for the registration, review and inspection of certain health and adult social care services in England, and Monitor.

663. Clause 74 makes amendments to the powers of the CQC to give a warning notice to an NHS trust or an NHS foundation trust. In future, it will be able to give a warning notice to a trust
where it has formed the view that the quality of the health care provided by the trust requires significant improvement. The notice would then require the trust to make a significant improvement to the quality of the health care concerned within a specified time.

664. The giving of a warning notice requiring a significant improvement in the quality of services provided by an NHS trust or an NHS foundation trust is not determinative of a civil right, so Article 6 is not engaged. NHS trusts and foundations trusts are public bodies and there are therefore no private interests involved. Even if there were, the notice has no effect on the ability of the NHS trust or the foundation trust to continue to provide the services in question; it just requires the quality of those services to be improved.

665. This Part also contains provisions that enable regulations to be made that will make it an offence for a specified health or social care provider to supply, publish or otherwise make available specified information that is false or misleading, where that information is required under an enactment or other legal obligation. It would be a defence to a charge under this provision for the care provider to prove that it had taken all reasonable steps and exercised all due diligence to ensure the veracity of the information supplied, published or made available. The defendant care provider would have to prove that the defence applies. The legal burden in respect of the defence will therefore fall on the defendant, to be satisfied on the balance of probabilities.

666. Placing such a burden on the defendant in this case is reasonable and proportionate in the circumstances and is compatible with article 6(2) (right to a fair hearing and presumption of innocence). A substantial burden remains on the prosecution in establishing the offence. It must first prove to the criminal standard that the information provided was “false or misleading” in a material particular. Only once that has been proved would the burden (on the civil standard) transfer to the defendant.

Part 3 – Health

Health Education England

667. Clauses 83 to 95 establish Health Education England (HEE). Under clause 90, HEE must appoint committees for areas in England as Local Education and Training Boards (LETBs).

668. Clause 92 places a duty on the Secretary of State to make regulations requiring commissioning contracts to make provision about co-operation with the LETB, the provision of information to the LETB, and compliance with such other obligations as are specified. This might engage the right to the protection of property under Article 1 of Protocol 1, the property in this case being the right to provide NHS services under a contract.

669. There is no deprivation of property as contracts are to be amended, rather than removed. As the current legislation provides for existing contracts to be amended without consent any
interference with the right to property (if it exists) could be justified as it would be prescribed by law, pursues a legitimate aim and strikes a fair balance between the right of the owner of the possession and the public interest. Such new obligations in the contracts are necessary to ensure that education and training policy can be implemented. The legitimate aim of the policy is to secure sufficient health care workers to provide NHS services and the effective use of public funds.

**Health Research Authority**

670. Clause 96 establishes the Health Research Authority as a non-departmental public body. One of the main functions of the HRA will be to run a system for ethical review of health and social care research by research ethics committees (clauses 100 to 102). This will include issuing guidance on when REC approval should be sought, recognising and establishing RECs for that purpose (including specifying the criteria such RECs must meet) and providing organisational and financial support to those RECs within its remit. It is expected that researchers will comply with the HRA guidance because of the need to demonstrate high quality research to secure funding and access to patients and data. There are also freestanding legislative requirements for REC approval to research which will be incorporated into the HRA’s remit. These provisions will ensure that the rights of participants in research are protected, for example RECs will need to consider whether informed consent is in place for a research project thereby seeking to protect participant’s rights under Article 8.

671. However if a researcher does not obtain approval from a REC established or recognised by the HRA then they would not be able to carry out certain types of research covered in secondary legislation – for example research relating to a person lacking capacity to consent10. In addition if researchers fail to comply with the HRA guidance, they would be very unlikely to have their project funded or have access to NHS patients etc. There is no legislative appeal process but the Bill makes express provision that the criteria published by the HRA for RECs within its remit must include requirements relating to procedures for challenging the committees’ decisions (clause 99 (3)(h)). It is intended that a different REC would carry out the review and that the HRA will administer this system. In addition a judicial review action could be brought against the second REC’s review decision, as a body exercising public functions. We therefore consider that the review procedure viewed as a whole would be sufficient to secure Article 6 compatibility if the application process were found to have engaged private law rights.

672. Clause 104 amends the Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 200211 (the 2002 Regulations) to replace the role of the Secretary of State in approving the processing of confidential patient information for the purpose of medical research, with the HRA. Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life) is likely to be engaged by the processing of confidential patient information to the extent that the information identifies a

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living individual and is processed without their consent. However any such interference would be compliant with Article 8 as confidential information will be processed in accordance with the provisions of the 2002 Regulations which contains a number of safeguards and would be for the legitimate purpose of the protection of health (as access to such information is an important part of medical research).

673. The provisions of the Bill do not alter any of these existing safeguards but simply replace the role of the Secretary of State with the HRA. For these reasons, the government does not consider any Article 8 issues arise as a result of the amendments made by the Bill.

COMMENCEMENT

674. Clause 111 provides for commencement. The provisions of the Bill will come into force on a day specified in an order made by the Secretary of State.
GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations used in notes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<td>1983 Act</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003 Act</td>
<td>Community Care (Delayed Discharges etc) Act 2003</td>
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<td>Care Quality Commission</td>
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<td>IRAS</td>
<td>Integrated research application system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LETBs</td>
<td>Local Education and Training Boards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIHR</td>
<td>National Institute for Health Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECs</td>
<td>Research ethics committees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAB</td>
<td>Safeguarding Adults Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpHA</td>
<td>Special Health Authority</td>
</tr>
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</table>
These notes refer to the Care Bill [HL]
as introduced in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013  [HL Bill 1]

UKECA United Kingdom Ethics Committee Authority
CARE BILL [HL]

EXPLANATORY NOTES

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