

What does an adult Principal Social Worker do?

This guide explains what a Principal Social Worker does and how the work they do may affect you and your life. Principal Social Workers are sometimes called PSWs. We will call them the PSW in this guide.



It has been recommended that councils have a PSW since 2012 following a report about improving social work.

In 2016 the new Care Act guide stated that Councils **MUST** have a PSW and that the PSW has certain jobs they must do.



The PSW must lead and support social workers to make sure the work they do with people is the very best it can be



This means that managers must meet with social workers regularly to talk about the work they do with people.

It also means that the PSW needs to make sure that social workers continue to learn new things to help them work with people



The PSW is responsible for making sure that social workers understand the laws that they use when they support people and use them in the correct way.



It is important that social workers are able to work with people to make sure that they have control over their lives and that they have the right to make decisions



The PSW should make sure that social workers work with people in a positive way and understand the strengths and skills people have.

PSWs should make sure that social workers enable people to live in real communities with everybody else.



Good social work will make sure that people's human rights are respected and upheld and that people can be fully included citizens.



The Care Act says that the Director (the boss) of social services should ask PSWs for advice.

The Director will also ask the PSW to get involved in situations where things get complicated.

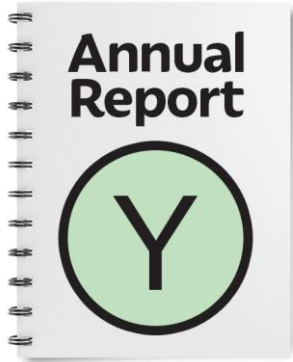
The PSW must make sure that social workers follow the rules on safeguarding and protect people from abuse



PSWs will help make sure that people are listened to and have the right to explain what they would like to happen.

PSWs will also make sure that the Council are 'making safeguarding personal' and that people are supported to be involved in any meetings or investigations

The PSW is responsible for making sure the council and social workers do this to a high standard.



The PSW should write a report once a year explaining what they have done over the last year.

They should tell everyone about the good work that social workers have done

They should explain how they are going to improve things that social workers need to do better.



The PSW should talk to people who have social workers to find out what they think and what could be done better



The PSW would also like to hear about the things that people think social workers do well so that they can share these good stories



If you would like to speak to the PSW in your area ask your social worker for their details or contact your local council