

# Shaping The Future Of Care Together

The government has published its long-awaited Green Paper outlining various options for the way care and support are delivered and paid for. The main proposals are:

Eligibility : assessments, eligibility for funding and how much people would receive free from the state would be nationally set, but the level of funding could be set either nationally or by the local authority.

Benefits : should disability benefits such as Attendance Allowance be integrated into care and support?

Paying for care : three options are proposed:

- a **partnership model** whereby everyone would get up to one-third paid by the state, the less wealthy would get two-thirds and the poorest would be fully funded;
- a voluntary **insurance scheme**, either private or state-backed, for those who wished to insure against any remaining costs above those paid by the partnership scheme; and
- a **comprehensive scheme** whereby those over retirement age who could afford it would pay a single sum (possibly £17,000-£20,000) into an insurance scheme in return for guaranteed free care.

The above options cover care only; most people would still need to pay for their own accommodation costs for residential care.

The government rejected two further options – self-funding (with no state funding, and an entirely tax-based system – as being unfair or unworkable.

There are 36 stakeholder events taking place in cities throughout England from July to October 2009 giving people an opportunity to learn about the Green Paper in detail, to share their responses and to meet and ask questions of senior policy officials. Each event is designed to last around three and a half hours.

In Yorkshire and the Humber the planned events are as follows:

Hull, Thursday 01 October 2009: 13.00 - 16.30

Hull, Thursday 01 October 2009: 17.00 - 20.30

Leeds, Friday 02 October 2009: 13.00 - 16.30

Leeds, Saturday 03 October 2009: 09.30 - 13.00

You can register for events in your area at [www.coievents.co.uk/careandsupport](http://www.coievents.co.uk/careandsupport)

*There is more information about the green paper here <http://careandsupport.direct.gov.uk/>*

The consultation ends on 13 November.