SCDSW19
Evaluate outcomes of social work practice

Overview

This standard is for social workers working with individuals, families, carers, groups and communities.   Evaluation can easily be overlooked when new demands are constantly being presented, but it is an essential step in continually improving social work practice and people's experience of it. The primary focus of evaluation must be on people themselves and how well they have benefitted from interventions, risk management and resources. The standard addresses the process of evaluation including both personal reflection and objective review using different perspectives and measures, including organisational aspects. It recognises that lessons learned must inform future practice and can influence the wider profession also.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

P1   review the intended outcomes of social work practice in specific situations

P2   analyse information from **a range of perspectives** on progress towards outcomes

P3   in partnership with **others**, evaluate **outcomes** for individuals, their families or communities

P4   analyse the outcomes for your own organisation

P5   reflect on your own role and use of self in specific social work interventions

P6   in partnership with **others**, revise plans for practice and interventions to take account of evaluations

P7   identify **lessons learned** that should inform your future practice and the work of your organisation

P8   articulate how your own evaluations may contribute to the development of social work as a profession

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1   international legislation, its relationship to UK **policies** and social work practices

K2   UK legislation, its relationship to national **policies** and social work practices

K3   national legislation, its relationship to **policies** and social work practices

K4   statutory and professional codes, standards, frameworks and guidance; their relationship to social work policy and practice

K5   the characteristics of the home nation, its language, culture, geography and institutions

K6   theories underpinning our understanding of human development and factors that affect it

K7   theories underpinning our understanding of social issues from psychological, sociological and criminological perspectives

K8   theories of discrimination in contemporary society

K9   theoretical and research based critiques of the relationships between legislation, **policies** and social work practice

K10 social work as a profession, including historical accounts and contemporary issues

K11 the nature, role and mandate of the social work relationship, including professional and ethical boundaries

K12 principles, theories, methods and models of social work intervention and practice

K13 **factors** commonly associated with social work involvement

K14 demographic and social trends

K15 your own background, experiences and practices that may have an impact on your social work practice

K16 principles of risk assessment and risk management

K17 principles of positive risk-taking

K18 techniques for problem solving and innovative thinking

K19 principles of conflict management

K20 the nature of conflict and post-conflict impact on society

K21 working in your organisation: principles, procedures and professional practices

K22 assessment and planning tools and frameworks

K23 the cultural and language context of the individual, family, group or community

K24 principles of partnership working with individuals, families, carers, groups and communities

K25 local multi-disciplinary and organisational procedures for investigating

~~harm or abuse~~

K26	indicators of potential harm or abuse
K27	indicators of hostility, resistance or disguised non-compliance
K28	legal and statutory powers and responsibilities that may be exercised in order to safeguard individuals, families, carers, groups and communities
K29	the potential of individuals to use their personal strengths and resources to achieve change
K30	the value and role of family networks, communities and groups in achieving positive outcomes, and ways to develop them
K31	the nature of personalisation and personalised services, including self directed support; and the role of the social worker in relation to these in the context of national policy
K32	how to express written information with accuracy, clarity, relevance and an appropriate level of detail
K33	legal and organisational requirements for recording information and producing reports
K34	legal requirements, policies and procedures for the security and confidentiality of information
K35	principles of reflective practice, critical thinking and learning
K36	sources of feedback that may inform reflection on practice and critical thinking

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Additional Information

Scope/range

Social work practice with individuals, families, carers, groups and communities in a wide range of contexts including statutory and non-statutory social services, community development, criminal justice and educational welfare.

Scope/range related to performance criteria

A range of perspectives may include the views of individuals, families, carers, groups and communities; views of professional colleagues in your own or other agencies; information from monitoring activities; research

Outcomes maybe intended or unintended, welcomed or not welcomed

Lessons learned may include gaps in provision; failures in quality or compliance; innovative approaches; effective interventions.

Scope/range related to knowledge and understanding

Policies may include those relating to social care, safe-guarding, re-settlement/community re-integration, criminal justice, migration and asylum, education, health, housing, welfare benefits, diversity, discrimination and promoting the independence and autonomy of adults, children, families, groups and communities

Factors may include substance misuse; mental health; frailty; physical ill health; physical disability; learning disability; sensory needs; migration and asylum; poverty; adults or children at risk of harm or abuse; children in need; difficulties around schooling; ethnic or other minority group status; offending behaviour; public protection

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Values
Adherence to the regulatory codes of practice applying to social workers, and the values embedded in them

Skills
1 plan courses of action to achieve identified outcomes
2 manage demands on your own time to prioritise what is important as well as what is urgent
3 communicate in an open, accurate and understandable way
4 adapt communication for a range of audiences
5 facilitate each person's use of language and chosen form of communication
6 work effectively with those whose views or values conflict with your own
7 apply critical thinking to information from a range of sources
8 analyse and synthesise complex information
9 make professional judgements about complex situations
10 apply person centred approaches
11 balance person centred outcomes and the well-being of others
12 produce records and reports that meet professional standards
13 access and use information and communications technology systems for the collection, storage and dissemination of information
14 access and use professional supervision and support in situations beyond your own knowledge or experience
15 apply critical thinking to reflect on your own practice
16 synthesise knowledge and practice

Links to other NOS
This NOS links closely with all other Social Work NOS

External Links
This NOS links with regulatory codes of practice applying to social workers.

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