



Case study four:

Tool 2 - Learning needs analysis for social workers for end of life care

You can use this tool to consider how far you meet the capabilities for supporting people who are dying or bereaved, and to plan how you will gain skills, knowledge and confidence to work well in this area.

Capability	How well I do this (1 low-5 high)	Comment	Action	By when	Complete?
Social workers are ready to apply their knowledge, skills and values to recognise and support people who are dying, facing loss or bereaved.					
Social workers recognise the impact of people's values and beliefs, including their own, on death, dying and loss; and are committed to the principle of living well until you die, whatever that means for someone.					
Social workers value people as individuals, and ensure their wishes and needs are respected at end of life and when bereaved.					
Social workers ensure that people who are dying or bereaved, especially from marginalised or disadvantaged groups, can empower themselves and be enabled to get the support they need.					
Social workers are aware of the impact of loss from knowing that you are or someone close is dying, from physical and other changes, from grief and from bereavement. They know how to use law, evidence and systems to support and protect dying people and those close to them.					

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Case study four:

Tool 2 - Learning needs analysis for social workers for end of life care continued

Capability	How well I do this (1 low-5 high)	Comment	Action	By when	Complete?
Social workers are able to judge when specialist support is needed for people they work with who are dying or bereaved, and when they themselves need additional support.					
Social workers are able to engage with people who are dying or bereaved and those close to them to ensure they have the practical, emotional, psychological and spiritual support they need. This includes working with individuals, groups and communities.					
Social workers are able to access advice, information and input from palliative care social workers when this is needed in their organisation.					
Social workers remind others of the need to recognise and respond effectively to people who are dying and bereaved, act as mentors, and share learning about how to do this well. This includes advocating for people's rights and supporting them to access the information and help they need.					

This is taken from Association of Palliative Care Social Workers in collaboration with the former College of Social Work and Making Waves Lived Experience Network/OPEN FUTURES Research, with support from the British Association of Social Workers and Hospice UK (2016) *The role of social work in palliative, end of life and bereavement care* www.apcsw.org.uk/resources/social-work-role-eol.pdf