



# W8 Tutorial

# Social Work: Making a Difference

<https://github.com/RhodaJiang/Social-Work-Making-a-difference>

✉ [ljiang3@ed.ac.uk](mailto:ljiang3@ed.ac.uk)

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# Paired presentations (within 20 min)

- **First 20 minutes:** Two students (a pair) will deliver their presentation (in 15 minutes maximum), followed by a short Q&A session (5 minutes).
- Please note that presentations are **timed**, and you will be asked to stop if you exceed the limit to ensure there is sufficient time for discussion. In weeks where **two pairs** are scheduled to present, the first **40 minutes** will be allocated to presentations and Q&A.
- **Final 5 minutes:** The tutor will provide verbal feedback (on both the content and delivery of presentation) to the pair/s that presented. Please note that final grades will be communicated at the end of the course (by 17/12/25) after moderation by the course organiser.

# Activity ( 10~30 min)

- This week's discussion topic: **Advocacy and Service User Participation**
  - What is the role of advocacy in social work, and what can we learn from individuals/service users?
  - How can social workers balance advocating on behalf of service users with empowering them to advocate for themselves?
  - Please prepare for the tutorial by reading the following paper: "Being a Member of a Self-Advocacy Group: Experiences of Intellectually Disabled People."

Ann Gilmartin, Eamonn Slevin, [\*Being a member of a self-advocacy group: experiences of intellectually disabled people\*](#)

## Additional resource

(Link will open in a new browser tab)

[\*Participation: its impact on services and the people who use them\* By Gail McMillan.](#)

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# Verbal feedback


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**W7 Tutorial**

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# Activity ( ~30 min)

- This week's discussion topic: **Adult social work services**
  - What is the main purpose of adult social care (including social work)?
  - What are the current challenges of adult social care and social work?
  - How might adult social care and social work be delivered more effectively?

To prepare for this tutorial please read Chapters 1, 2, and 12 of the Independent Review of Adult Social Care, which amount to approximately 23 pages.

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# Verbal feedback

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**W6 Tutorial**

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# Activity ( ~30 min)

**This week's discussion topic: Children and Families Social Work**

- Question: What are the roles, tasks and key challenges of children and families social work?

Please read the following two documents to prepare for this week's tutorial.

- [Clapton, G. \(2018\) Social work with children and families \(Chapter 11\). In Cree, V. E. and Smith, M. \(eds\) \(2018\) Social Work in a Changing Scotland. London: Routledge.](#)
- Children's Social Services in Scotland.PDF

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# Verbal feedback


- **Final 5 minutes:** The tutor will provide verbal feedback (on both the content and delivery of presentation) to the pair/s that presented. Please note that final grades will be communicated at the end of the course (by 17/12/25) after moderation by the course organiser.



**W5 Tutorial**

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# Recap (5-10min)

- **What did you think of the Lecture?**

- W1
  - Lecture 1 - Welcome and Introduction (Dr. Hadijah Mwenyango)
  - Lecture 2 - The History of Social Work (Dr Sarah Henning)
- W2
  - Lecture 1 - Social Work Today. (Dr. Gary Clapton)
  - Lecture 2 - Social Work in a Global Context (Prof. George Palattiyil)

- **What did you think of the Lecture?**

- W3
  - Lecture 1 - Social Work Tomorrow (Dr. Hadijah Mwenyango)
  - Lecture 2 - Social Work: Making a Difference Briefing: Assessment 1 (Dr. Hadijah Mwenyango)
- W4
  - Lecture 1 - Research for Practice for Children and Families Social Work (Dr. Autumn Roesch-Marsh)
  - Lecture 2 - The Professional Role (Children & Families Social Work - statutory practitioner) (Dr Yukti Lamba)



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# Activity (40-45min)

**Please identify your presentation partner, (if present), and provide responses to the following questions.**


- What are the key themes or concepts we have covered thus far, and how do they connect to your selected presentation topic?
- Which social work challenge will your pair focus on? How will you frame the challenge: as a policy issue, a practice dilemma, an ethical concern, or a systemic problem?
- What format or visual or supporting materials will you use (slides, handouts, short video, news clips)?
- How will you share roles/tasks to ensure equal division of labour?



**W4 Tutorial**

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# Recap (10min)

- **What did you think of the Lecture?**
  - What did you learn ?
    - Lecture 1 - Social Work Tomorrow (Dr. Hadijah Mwenyango)
    - Lecture 2 - Social Work: Making a Difference Briefing: Assessment 1 (Dr. Hadijah Mwenyango)
  - What points stood out?
  - Any questions?

# Activity (35-45min)

## Part 1

- How are social services organised in Scotland, what are the main overall challenges and where is it heading?
- What innovations or improvements do you aspire to see in social work?

Please read the following documents before the tutorial:

- Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe) (2022) Social Work in Scotland. [Online] ( Please read pages 22-34). Available at: [Social Work in Scotland | Scottish Parliament Website](#)
- Scottish Government (2015) Social Services in Scotland: A shared vision and strategy 2015-2020. [Online] (Please read pages 7-14). Available at: [Social Services in Scotland 2015-2020.pdf \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

## Part 2

- What is your presentation about? What strategies or steps will you use to structure and organise your presentation to ensure a clear and coherent argument?

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# Activity (15-20min)

## Part 1

- How are social services organised in Scotland, what are the main overall challenges and where is it heading?
- What innovations or improvements do you aspire to see in social work?

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# Activity (20-25min)

## Part 2

- What is your presentation about?
- What strategies or steps will you use to structure and organise your presentation to ensure a clear and coherent argument?



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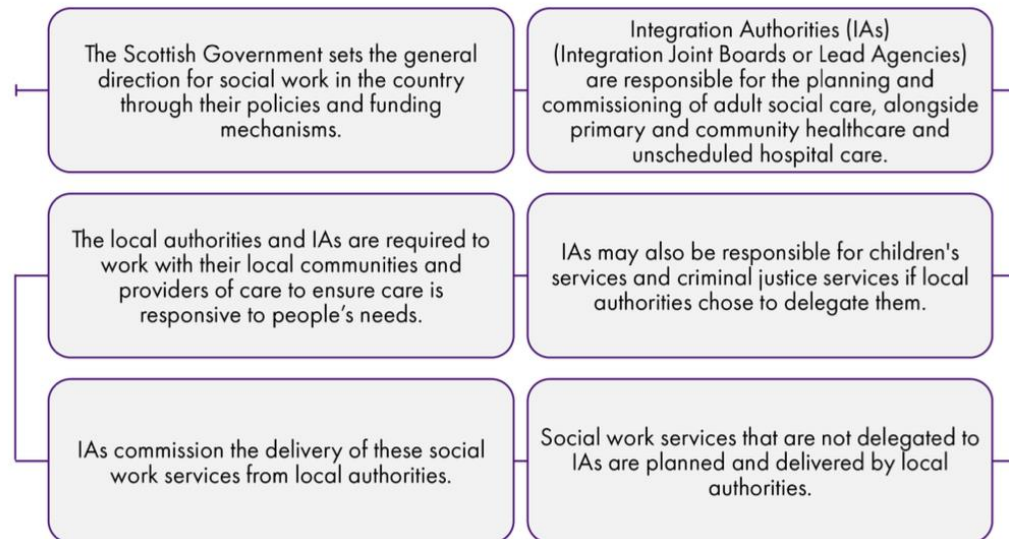
# **From your experience (5-10min)**

- **Any other additions?**
  - ...

# Wrap-up

## Current situation

### Current organisation and delivery of social work services



2022

### Challenges:

- Funding issues
- Workforce issues
  - Workforce wellbeing: Workload; Support; COVID-19 impacts on workforce wellbeing; Addressing wellbeing
  - Retention and recruitment
  - Identity and image
- Integration issues
- Service delivery and consistency issues: Local authority; variation in the eligibility criteria; funding pressures


### Future:

- Workforce planning
- National Care Service

**W3 Tutorial**

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# Recap (10min)

- **What did you think of the Lecture?**
  - What did you learn ?
    - Lecture 1 - Social Work Today (Dr. Gary Clapton)
    - Lecture 2 - Social Work in a Global Context (Prof. George Palattiyil)
  - What points stood out?
  - Any questions?

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# Activity (25-30min)

## ***The History of Social Work***

Key reading: Cree, V. E. (2018) A history of social work in Scotland. In Cree, V. E. and Smith, M. (eds) (2018) *Social Work in a Changing Scotland*. London: Routledge.

Drawing from the above book chapter, please discuss the following questions in your tutorial groups.

- How did Scotland's approach to social work differ from the rest of the UK historically?
- What are the most influential elements in the history of social work?
- How can understanding the history of social work help in shaping its future role in Scotland and beyond?

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# Activity

- How did Scotland's approach to social work differ from the rest of the UK historically?



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# Activity

- What are the most influential elements in the history of social work?

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# Activity

- How can understanding the history of social work help in shaping its future role in Scotland and beyond?

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# From your experience (5-10min)

- Any other additions?
  - ...

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# Wrap-up

- **Comparison between Scotland and England (also Wales)**
  - Ability to work + moral worth = basis for policy
  - Social geography
  - Religion
- **Key points to think about its past, today and future**
  - Human Nature
  - Responsibility, and
  - Moral Judgement

**W2 Tutorial**

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# Recap (10min)

- **What did you think of the Lecture?**
  - What did you learn?
  - What points stood out?
  - Any questions?



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# Activity (20-25min)

- Read (link will open in a new browser tab) [Chapter 9 by Karen McAlister: 'How One Social Worker Made a Difference' in Becoming a Social Worker \(3rd ed.\), edited by V.E. Cree \(2022\), published by Routledge.](#) After completing the reading, answer the following question in your tutorial groups.
  - How would you define social work based on the content of this chapter?
  - Considering the author's experiences shared throughout the chapter, what insights do you gain about the challenges and rewards of social work in real-world practice?

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# Activity

- How would you define social work based on the content of this chapter?

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# Activity

- Considering the author's experiences shared throughout the chapter, what insights do you gain about the challenges and rewards of social work in real-world practice?

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# **From your experience (10-15min)**

- **What is social work?**
  - ...
- **Rewards and challenges social work faces?**
  - ...

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# Wrap-up

- **What is social work?**
  - From this case: Relationships; Changes; Collaboration; User-centered
- **Rewards and challenges social work faces?**
  - Rewards (individual level)
  - Rewards (system/systemic level)
  - Challenges