

Late applications

Physical or mental capacity and/or care or support needs can be considered as reasonable grounds for an applicant to make a late application to the scheme or for an appropriate third party to apply to the scheme on their behalf.

This may include many adults with physical or mental capacity issues, but will also include adults with broader care or support needs, such as those who may be residing in a residential care home, or receiving care and support services in their own home, with long-term physical or mental health needs or a disability.

Evidence to provide in support of lack of mental capacity/reasonable grounds for late applications:

- evidence that a formal arrangement, such as a Power of Attorney, is or was in place in respect of the person
- a letter from a doctor, health professional, social services department or solicitor confirming the circumstances
- a letter from the applicant themselves explaining the circumstances and authorising an appropriate third party to act on their behalf
- evidence of a carer relationship where an appropriate third party is providing for the person's care needs, for example a Department for Work and Pensions letter confirming the eligibility of the third party for Carer's Allowance