Ruth Shipstone, Head of Education and Standards, Scottish Social Services Council.

Consultation on Pre and Post qualifying Standards for Social Work transcript

The Framework for Social Work Education in Scotland was first published in 2003.

It includes the standards in social work education and the Scottish requirements for social work training.

The Scottish Social Services Council are working to republish the framework for social work education in March 2026, but we want to bring the framework documents up to date and future proof it in a number of ways.

Firstly, we are asking you to help us to identify the changes that need to be made to the standards in social work education to reflect current practice.

Secondly, the Office of the Chief Social Work Adviser worked extensively on the development of an advanced practice framework for social work practitioners, but the overwhelming feedback from the workforce was that you wanted one framework using the same language and structure from the day you step into university until the day you retire from social work.

The new framework will incorporate a refreshed Standards in Social Work Education, the Scottish requirements for social worker education and post qualifying standards for social work education and learning.

These will build on the feedback from our 2023 CPL consultation in which you, the workforce identified that the eight core learning elements are highly relevant to social work practice.

Over the next few weeks we would really like to hear your views. The consultation is now live on the SSSC website at www.sssc.uk.com where you will find details of our online information sessions and short life working group. We will also be attending conferences and other live events over the summer and we look forward to meeting you in person there.