

Preparedness Instruments for Social Workers for the implementation and impact of the new legislation on reductions of social benefits in Denmark

The new Danish legislation on integration benefits, cash ceiling and 225 hour rule meant that municipalities had to devote time and resources to implement this new legislation in 2016-2017.

An implementation one should expect that some citizens would express negative attitude towards. And the new legislation is expected to have consequences for the working environment for social workers, therefore the municipality shall have a special focus on how growing workloads affect the employees, and how it can be prevented or handled.

The Danish Association of Social Workers did in 2016 develop a webbased information package to help the social worker clubs within the municipalities to meet the challenges that could be a result of the new criticized legislation. *An information package* that addresses some suggestions for local activities and policy options as inspiration for the work of the local social worker club and for discussion with the local management. Including a draft script for a club meeting where the development as well as the club's needs and strategy can be discussed. Generally the focus is on the organization of the task, the increased resource requirements, the management of risk of threats and violence, the good professional social work, and not at least the dialogue at the work place about the actual challenges.