

## Introduction

*A Guide to Joint Reviews in Wales* provides an introduction to the overall framework for the second round of joint reviews, which started in 2004. It sets out the rationale behind the review programme and the structure of the review process.

For ease of reference, more detailed material is included in this Handbook which guides you chronologically through the different phases of the joint review process and the activities associated with them. It is intended primarily for those who are actively involved in joint reviews, to help them prepare and to ensure a good understanding of mutual responsibilities.

The Handbook is used for material that needs more regular updating in response to:

- feedback from local authorities, service users and carers and others;
- wider developments in social care and in government.

We would like to thank all stakeholders, especially members of the reference group and the many people who took part in the process of consultation for their contribution to the material contained in the Handbook.

The Handbook can be accessed on the joint review web-site and it can be supplied in CD form on request. Paper copies of all the documents contained in the Handbook are available.