

4.8 Current debates and reforms

Social policy in Malta is undergoing a process of change characterised by reforms which aim to promote greater decentralisation of social welfare services, a more targeted approach to the provision of benefits, the flourishing of public-private partnerships in health and social care, a rights-based as opposed to a charity-based approach, and greater differentiation and specialisation of services, particularly 'enabling' services. These reforms reflect new needs and evolving realities within the context of an active inclusion and participatory approach (Vella & Gauci, 2016).