

# Local Authority Assessment



Mary Cridge, CQC Director of Adult Social Care  
4 July, LGA Annual Conference 2023

# New responsibilities

CQC has new roles:

- The Health and Care Act gives CQC a role in reviewing **integrated care systems**
- It also gives CQC a new duty to assess how **local authorities** are meeting their social care duties under part 1 of the Care Act



These will allow us to look more effectively at how care provided in a local system is improving outcomes and reducing inequalities.

We've engaged extensively over the last 18 months on how we'll do this. We want to bring together a view of quality across a local area and put people at the centre of driving improvement in care.

# Local authority assessment and system reform



- LA assessments will help us to illustrate the quality of care in a local area and provide independent assurance
- We will be developing an evidence base on how LAs are delivering their Care Act duties by; reporting on what we find locally and nationally, and highlighting challenges, risks and the impact on the local population
- We will support improvement through showcasing best practice and new/innovative ways LAs are providing care and support to local people.
- We will use our evidenced and independent voice to inform and influence wider system reform

# Local authority assessment from April 2023

- Since April, we have been reviewing published evidence and data, across all local authorities, focusing on two quality statements
  - Care provision, integration and continuity
  - Assessing needs
- Alongside this, we are running **full end to end pilots** of our assessment approach with the following five local authorities:
  - Birmingham City Council
  - Nottingham City Council
  - Lincolnshire County Council
  - North Lincolnshire Council
  - Suffolk County Council



# CQC scope: local authorities

## Theme 1: Working with people

- Assessing needs
- Supporting people to live healthier lives
- Equity in experience and outcomes

## Theme 2: Providing support

- Care provision, integration and continuity
- Partnerships and communities

## Theme 3: Ensuring safety

- Safe systems, pathways and transitions
- Safeguarding

## Theme 4: Leadership

- Governance, management and sustainability
- Learning, improvement and innovation

# Local authority pilot assessments

We will be piloting the following assessment methods:

- Data and insight held by CQC across several metrics
- Reviewing publicly available information and documents shared by the local authority
- End to end case tracking of a small number of individuals
- Working on site directly with local authorities and conducting interviews/group discussions including with patient representatives
- Insight from voluntary groups and advocacy groups/organisations
- These will then be evaluated.



# Role of councillors in LA assessments

Councillors are a bridge between the community and the council.

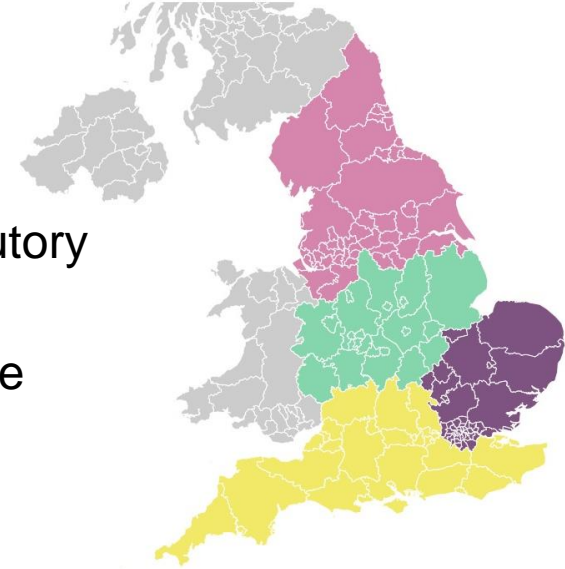
We'd love to hear your views on;

- how local people are experiencing social care in your area and any patterns you have seen
- any local community organisations and projects that benefit adult social care
- how you are working with local community and organisations to develop a vision for the area and working with partners to improve services and outcomes
- how you contribute to shaping the council's adult social care strategy
- how you provide checks and balances on the executive, testing performance, raising issues of concern, holding decision makers to account.



# Preparing for assessment

- Review the themes of the Care Act that our assessment process is designed to test out, including the specific statutory requirements
- Review our assessment process - how performance will be measured and rated
- Be aware of the preparation being done by the Director of Adult Services (DAS)
- Contribute to the self-assessment: this describes current performance, risks and challenges and the plans to address them
- Share your insights into local people's experiences and outcomes of adult social care in your area with the DAS
- Highlight any local activities, organisations or projects that are improving people's well-being.



# Thank you

For more information and to keep in touch:

[www.cqc.org.uk](http://www.cqc.org.uk)

[SystemsEngagement@cqc.org.uk](mailto:SystemsEngagement@cqc.org.uk)

Our assessment framework is published [here](#)

To keep up to date with news sign up to our bulletin [here](#)