

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

HEALTH INTEGRATION & PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY PANEL

CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) PILOT INSPECTION OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an overview of CQC Pilot Inspection of Adult Social Care onsite visit.
- 1.2 To provide summary Self-Evaluation of Adults (as of May 2023) articulating key progress highlights and achievements together with areas of continued development and next steps across the CQC inspection themes - how the Local Authority **works with and supports people**, how the Local Authority **ensures safety in the system** and **leadership** capability.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 CQC (independent regulator of health & social care in England) have been given new powers under the Health & Care Act 2022 to assess how Local Authorities (LA's) deliver against key aspects of their duties under Part 1 of the Care Act 2014. Preparations for inspection have been continuing, with us now taking part in one of 5 pilot assessments between May and September 2023. **North Lincolnshire Council inspection will take place w/c 21 August 2023 with the onsite fieldwork being carried out 22-24 August 2023.**
- 2.2 Following the pilot assessment, CQC will write a short report and score against the CQC themes. This will lead to an overall rating (inadequate / requires improvement / good / outstanding) and the report will be published. The focus will be on the local authority meeting its care act responsibilities, quality of care and improved outcomes for people.
- 2.3 The CQC assessment framework for local authorities comprises 9 quality statements (QS) mapped across 4 overall themes with quality

'we' statements (detailed within the accompanying slides) for each theme (that local authorities must commit to in delivering high-quality, person-centred care).

- Theme 1 - Working with people
QS: Assessing needs / Supporting people to live healthier lives, Equity in experiences and outcomes
- Theme 2 - Providing support
QS: Care provision, integration and continuity / Partnerships and communities
- Theme 3 - Ensuring safety within the system
QS: Safe systems, pathways and transitions / Safeguarding
- Theme 4 - Leadership
QS: Governance, management and sustainability / Learning, improvement and innovation

2.4 As part of the CQC Inspection process Local Authorities are requested to complete an Information Return, gathering of evidence and key information (including self-evaluation) required for the assessment, ahead of the fieldwork activity. In addition to this provide case tracking identifying 50 cases with CQC inspectors to then follow the pathway of 6 cases in gathering evidence for the assessment.

2.5 Local Authorities are encouraged to provide an objective, honest and authentic self-assessment of its strengths and areas to improve, driving the focus of improvement planning and delivery at the local, regional, and national levels in a way that ensures local ownership. There is no requirement by CQC for local authorities to produce a self-evaluation however should LA's choose not to CQC have informed they may then need to spend more time in the fieldwork part of the assessment to gather and analyse required evidence from various sources. This includes time with senior leaders to understand successes, risks, challenges and improvement plans. A self-assessment template **is not provided** and again it is up to individual authorities to develop their self-assessment in any format they choose, or they can use the framework developed by the LGA and ADASS in 'Getting Ready for Assurance: A guide to support the development of your Adult Social Care Self-Assessment'.

2.6 Self-assessment is an opportunity for us to:

- assess and make judgements about our own performance in relation to the quality statements, using evidence to support our judgements
- explains the local context, issues and priorities, recognising that every council is different and local elected leaders are involved in creating local priorities and plans.
- focuses on CQC assessment framework themes, which in themselves reflect the requirements set out in Part 1 of the Care Act 2014 and other relevant legislation, the aim is that it will have sufficient confidence of the CQC to meet their "Local Authority Self-Assessment and Information Requirements" (LASAIR) needs.

- includes feedback from people who draw on social care together with various supporting data and evidence throughout.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 There are no options available to the scrutiny panel related to this report, for information only.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 N/A

5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)

- 5.1 As well as bringing about learning opportunities, the pilot inspection and preparations including developing, sharing and supporting understanding of our strengths and areas of development across the workforce, partners and people with lived experience does bring additional burden and pressures on our workforce especially with the pilot taking place over the holiday period.

6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)

- 6.1 There are no other relevant implications.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

- 7.1 N/A

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

- 8.1 Preparations for the pilot are continuing. Work is ongoing in sharing, inviting discussions and supporting understanding of our self-evaluation with the workforce, partners and people with lived experience – via regular webinars and specific focus briefing sessions.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Scrutiny Panel members are requested to receive the overview of CQC Pilot Inspection of Adult Social Care and how we will be graded as well as note the areas of strengths and developments

DIRECTOR OF ADULTS & HEALTH

Church Square House
SCUNTHORPE

North Lincolnshire
DN15 6NL
Author: Kate Richardson
Date: 20.07.23

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report –

Self-Evaluation of Adults