

Briefing note - Local Authority Assessment

Gloucestershire County Council July 2024

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is the independent regulator of healthcare, adult social care and primary care services in England. The CQC's objectives are to protect and promote the health, safety and welfare of people who use health and social care services. The CQC's role is to encourage the improvement of health and social care services, the provision of health and social care services in a way that focusses on the needs and experiences of people who use services, and the efficient and effective use of resources in the provision of health and social care service.

The CQC has been given powers under the Health and Care Act 2022 to assess how Local Authorities deliver against key aspects of their duties under Part 1 of the Care Act 2014. The purpose of our assessments will be to understand the performance of Local Authorities and to assure ourselves and the Department of Health and Social Care about the quality of care in an area and consider whether any improvements may be required.

The site visit, which is part of your local authority assessment, will take place during week commencing **02 September 2024** We intend to meet with council leaders, front line staff, people using services, carers, voluntary and community groups and care providers. We will also review information and data to understand how the local authority is meeting these duties.

We will be assessing all nine quality statements within our local authority Assessment Framework <https://www.cqc.org.uk/local-systems/local-authorities>. Once we have assessed these areas, we will write a report and score against the statements. This will lead to an overall rating and the report will be published.

We would be grateful for your valuable input if you are invited to participate in an interview or you participate in a drop-in group. Your feedback will enable us to make a judgement in relation to the quality statements. We will be asking you questions relating to your roles and will be interested in what works well and leads to good outcomes for people who use the local authority's services and areas where improvements could be made.

If you speak with the assessment team, we will ask if you are happy to participate and for your name and role. As part of the process we will provide the local authority with feedback and a report. No names will be used in the feedback or reports, as we report generally on what people tell us and themes of information only, to make our judgements. However, if you tell us something which is of a safeguarding nature then we will speak to you individually about what action we may take.

All the information collected as part of these activities will be done so in accordance with GDPR, on the lawful basis that it is necessary for the purposes of a task carried out in the public interest or for the exercise of official authority. If it is relevant for our regulatory responsibilities, we may also share information provided to us with relevant colleagues within CQC, for example, the Integrated Care System Assessment team.

If you have any questions about this or the assessment of the Council, please contact:

GCCQCInspection@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Or Tel 01452 425608