

Summary of board papers – statutory bodies

Care Quality Commission board meeting: 20 May 2020

For more detail on any of the items outlined in this summary, please find the [full agenda and papers available online](#)

Emergency support framework

- The Emergency Support Framework (ESF) is a digital product to be used across all sectors. It allows CQC to conduct assessments and have conversations with providers, to protect people's human rights and to escalate issues regionally and nationally where necessary.
- It is not an inspection, and the CQC were clear that it won't be rating providers. The information inspectors gather through this route will be used to monitor risk, identify where providers may need additional support and ensure that providers are delivering care that protects people's human rights.

Coronavirus insight report (first of a regular series of insight documents)

- CQC analysed data from PHE on covid-19 outbreaks in care homes and presented this information by region ([available here](#)). The North East (47%), London (42%) and the North West (41%) regions have seen the highest outbreaks of corona virus in care homes. Highest proportion of care homes deaths in the North West (17%) and the South East (19%).
- Analysis shows that the total number of care homes that have had an outbreak is still growing, but more slowly than in March and April. The graph also shows that where the North West hit its peak in early April (with 120 care homes per 1000 experiencing an outbreak), it is now slowing at a faster rate than the other regions.
- The CQC's domiciliary care tracker shows that around a fifth of agencies had people with COVID-19 but only 28% of agencies in London and the North West reported having only enough PPE to last up to a week. Concerns in the care sector are shifting towards the cost of PPE for all adult social care providers and the impact of this on the financial viability of their business.
- The data also showed the average absence rate for adult social care staff in England was 9% and the most recent data from 8 May suggests that deaths in care homes have started to reduce slightly.
- Deaths of people subject to the MHA
 - 58 deaths that mental health providers indicated were suspected or confirmed to be related to COVID-19

Executive team update

Infection control

- NHS England has recently issued guidance on infection protection and control (IPC) for health services during the Covid-19 epidemic. The guidance which, includes a self-assessment assurance tool, is there to enable Trusts to provide Board level assurance around the effectiveness of their IPC arrangements. CQC will shortly be exploring with individual providers how they have addressed the risks of cross-infection and ensuring they consistently meet the standards set out in the guidance.
- CQC will have initial conversations with Trusts w/c 18th May and will ensure the CQC Board is kept informed of the progress it is making in assessing the effectiveness of infection control across Trusts.

Mental health

- Investigating the increase in deaths of patients receiving treatment for opiate addiction. CQC have taken enforcement action against a large national provider of substance misuse services, that stopped all daily dispensing of opiate treatment.

Parliamentary activity

- Gave oral evidence to the Joint Committee on Human Rights on the human rights implications of COVID-19.

Innovation and good practice

- CQC have published a collection of short case studies highlighting the adaptability and the lengths to which providers have gone to provide safe care.

Closed cultures

- In addition to the David Noble review recommendations, this work now incorporates the recommendations from part one of the Glynis Murphy review and will evolve further once we have recommendations from the second part of the review (to be published in Autumn).
- Work delivered so far includes a CQC insight tool implemented in December 2019, legal and policy advice on the non-publication of inspection reports is now included in inspector guidance and a review of the providers complaints procedure was completed in March 2020.