

Summary of board papers – statutory bodies

Care Quality Commission board meeting – 20 October 2021

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

Chief executive update

Updates of interest

- The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) is progressing with the recruitment of a new chair for the CQC board, following the end of Peter Wyman's six-year tenure. It is anticipated that the new chair will join by the end of March 2022.
- Ian Trenholm attended the second meeting of the net zero health and care committee who will drive joint action to reduce the system's carbon footprint and deliver net zero commitments. Ian explained the CQC is exploring how, as a regulator, they can effectively support the drive for net zero.

Awareness campaigns

- The race equality network led on a range of events for black history month. This included a talk on the history behind the references in the film Black Panther, a session with the historian David Olusoga, and a session with Dawn Butler, the member of parliament for Brent South.
- For world mental health day (10 October) the disability equality network mental health sub-group and the organisational development team collaborated on a series of events to highlight different mental health experiences at work, support learning from others and encourage positive action.
- CQC has promoted speak up month by encouraging colleagues to complete the National Guardian's Office free e-learning training which has been developed in association with Health Education England.

Closed cultures

- The first version of a 'closed cultures dashboard' (intelligence indicators for inspectors flagging the existence or risk of a closed culture) launches in November. CQC colleagues are being surveyed about their understanding, confidence and ability to identify and regulate closed culture services.

Inspection activity

- During July to September CQC undertook more than 150 inspections and published 132 reports. For the final quarter to end of December they are expecting to undertake a further 220 inspections.

Health and Social Care Bill – implications for CQC's future operations

- The Health and Care Bill is currently going through parliament and will have implications for CQC's future operations. This will include new responsibilities in assessing how local authorities (LA) are meeting the Care Act duties and reviewing and assessing integrated care systems (ICSs).
 - CQC has developed and is implementing an engagement strategy and detailed engagement plans.
 - CQC has worked with the DHSC on legislation and early policy development. It has also provided written and oral evidence to the parliamentary Bill committee.
 - CQC has established an expert advisory group (EAG) to test its early thinking as it develops its approach. The first meeting of the EAG took place on 11 October.

Performance report for August 2021

- CQC's business plan for 2021-24 was published in August 2021 which is a 3-year rolling plan for 2021-24, with a firm set of objectives for the first period to March 2022.
 - 'Manage risk to people – we will analyse data we capture and interpret it to identify risk' - Of those inspections that have a recorded risk trigger (not regulatory history), 54% are triggered by information of concern.
 - 'Ensure we offer a timely registration service which meets the needs of public and providers' - simple and normal registration applications have almost met the 15% reduction target since April 2021.
 - 'Respond to risks in a way to keep people safe' - from April 2021 CQC has undertaken 2274 inspections in response to risk.
 - 'Transform regulation of learning disability and autism' - CQC is testing out a new approach to the inspection of services for people with learning disabilities and autistic people, including multidisciplinary team inspections and new tools.
 - 'Deliver our independent voice and key publications' - of those services completing the quarterly engagement survey, 42% said CQC's independent voice products supported them to make changes to improve quality of care.

Update of parliamentary activity

- Submitted further written evidence to the lords public services committee, following up on comments and commitments made during Rosie Benneyworth's appearance at the committee oral evidence session on 8 September discussing child vulnerability.
- CQC has submitted evidence to the health and social care select committee 'expert panel' to respond to its evaluation of mental health services in England and the progress the government has made against its own targets on mental health.