



Issue 63 – 14 October 2024

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The future of adult social care

The [Procurement Act](#) was due to go live on 28 October 2024 but the Government announced that it will be delayed until 24 February 2025 to enable the National Procurement Policy Statement to be updated.

Guidance and good practice

eVisa

Over the next year the Government is replacing physical immigration documents with digital proof of immigration status called eVisa.

Residents in the UK who currently use a physical immigration document, such as a biometric residence permit (BRP), or legacy paper document such as a passport containing ink stamps or a vignette sticker (if they have indefinite leave to enter or indefinite leave to remain) should take action to create a UKVI account to access their eVisa in 2024.

Most new visa applications will get an eVisa from Autumn 2024 onwards. The move to an eVisa will not impact a customer's underlying immigration status.

It is free for customers who hold a valid physical or legacy paper document to create a UKVI account to access their eVisa.

The latest updates and information on these changes can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/evisa>

For additional support please visit www.eastmidscare.co.uk

Reporting unwitnessed falls where injury has occurred

An unwitnessed fall in a 24-hour care setting where injury has occurred is a potential safeguarding enquiry.

Currently for Leicestershire County Council, the process is to report unwitnessed falls where injury has occurred through the Incident form. We are in the process of changing this as soon as possible as these falls are potential safeguarding referrals.

Until informed otherwise please continue to report unwitnessed falls where injury has occurred through the Incident form. We will notify you as soon as we change the online forms to move unwitnessed falls from the Incident form to the Safeguarding form.

Leicestershire County Council updates

CQC Assessment of LCC Adult Social Care Services

As you may be aware, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) began assessments of Local Authority Adult Social Care services last year. Information about Local Authority assessments is on the CQC's website <https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-regulation/local-authorities>.

Leicestershire County Council has received notification that our Adults and Communities social care service will be subject to a Care Quality Commission Assurance Assessment in the coming months. We are looking forward to welcoming the CQC to the county which gives us a great opportunity to showcase the good work we do and also to learn from their external view of how we perform in delivering our duties under the Care Act 2014.

The first part of the assessment, the information return is complete, with all requested documents submitted to the CQC.

This will be followed by a site visit during which the CQC assessment team will speak to a range of staff and partners to explore their key lines of enquiry. We do not currently have a date for the site visit, however the CQC will write to tell us when the site visit will take place, giving us six to eight week's notice.

During the weeks leading up to our site visit the CQC may contact providers seeking feedback on the provision of care in Leicestershire and how well we work with you to support the market and the quality and sustainability of the services people receive. The areas we believe the CQC are likely to explore with you are;

1. Support and oversight
2. Quality assurance
3. Business continuity planning
4. Emergency response
5. Safeguarding
6. Equity of access, experience and outcomes

If the CQC do contact you asking for your feedback, please do take part and give your views, which the CQC will use to inform their assessment of our services. Any information you share with the CQC Assessment team will be confidential.

We shall keep you updated with further news about our CQC Assessment as we receive more information from the CQC.

If you have any queries or would like further information about our CQC assessment, please contact A&C-Strategy@leics.gov.uk

Financial sustainability

Pension Credit Support

If you are working with somebody who is 66 or over, they may be eligible to claim Pension Credit, giving them cost of living support including the Winter Fuel Payment.

People can check their eligibility on the GOV website as well as apply. Call 0800 99 1234 or visit the GOV website for more information: <https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit>

Health and wellbeing

Adult Social Care winter letter to Directors of Adult Social Care

This [letter from the Department of Health and Social Care](#) sets out priorities for improving service resilience, ahead of and during the winter period.

Awards

Care Professional of the Year Awards 2024

The Care Professional of the Year Awards 2024 was an incredible success, celebrating the hard work and dedication of care professionals across Leicestershire!

If you missed the live stream, you can now watch the full recording on our Inspired to Care Facebook page: [Inspired to Care Facebook](#).

We've also uploaded the stunning photos from the night to our website! Visit the gallery here: [Inspired to Care Gallery](#) and relive the amazing moments!

Reminders

Next edition

The next edition of Provider News will be published during week commencing 28 October 2024. If you are interested in contributing by writing about a topic of your choice, perhaps something that is particularly important to you, please contact us at enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk.

Useful links

- [Current and past editions of Provider News](#)
- [Provider conference calls](#)