

31 AUGUST 2023



Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome to the Supported Accommodation Sector Awareness and Provider Preparedness newsletter.

Inside this edition, you can find:

- A round-up of our recent and upcoming programme of activity
- An update from Ofsted about the inspection consultation
- Key messages related to supported accommodation

Best wishes,
The NCB Team

FEATURE

Round-up of recent and upcoming programme of activity



Virtual Regional Community of Practice events

We will soon be kicking off our series of virtual Community of Practice events for each of the 9 regions across England. These events are a follow-up to our face-to-face events that we delivered throughout June and July.

At each event both local authority colleagues (including commissioners; social work teams; placement teams; quality assurance teams) and provider colleagues will come together in the same virtual space to discuss key issues and experiences and to share learning in relation to the registration process and the implementation of the quality standards.

The dates, times and sign-up links are below – book now to secure your place!

- 4th September 2.30pm – 5pm [South East](#)
- 4th September 1pm – 3.30pm [East Midlands](#)
- 6th September 1pm – 3.30pm [East of England](#)
- 11th September 1pm – 3.30pm [North West](#)
- 11th September 1pm – 3.30pm [London](#)
- 13th September 9am – 11.30am [North East](#)
- 13th September 1pm – 3.30pm [Yorkshire and Humber](#)
- 15th September 1pm – 3.30pm [West Midlands](#)
- 15th September 1pm – 3.30pm [South West](#)

Policy Training for Providers

If you missed out on attending our Policy Training for providers of supported accommodation, there is another chance to attend on Friday 8th September from 10am – 3pm. Click [here](#) to sign-up.

Some of the feedback received has included:

"The training was interesting and informative. It was very useful to be able to have any questions answered and hear from other service providers."

"This training helped to ease some of the fears of going through the application."

Young people's voice in supported accommodation: provider workshop

We are delivering an online workshop on 13th September from 1pm – 5pm which will give in-depth advice and examples of working in co-production with young people to create information materials, and will themselves be co-designed and co-delivered with lived experienced young people. The session will explore:

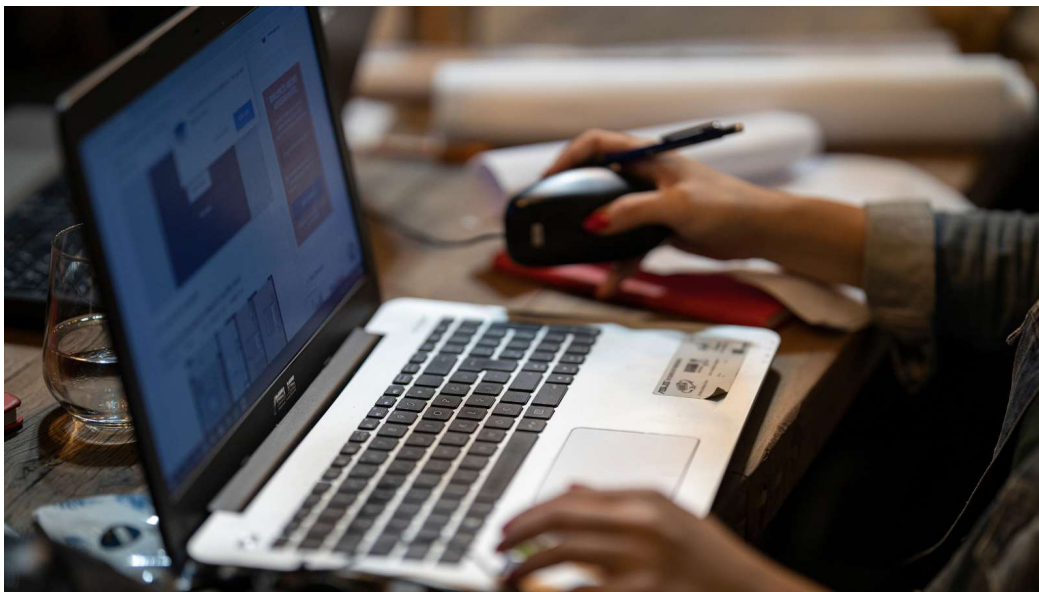
- Young people's rights and entitlements
- Accessible ways of presenting information in a young person's guide
- Approaches to embedding co-production and the voice of young people into services and provision

Sign up [here](#) to secure your place!

VIEW AND SIGN UP TO OUR EVENTS HERE

ARTICLE

Ofsted Inspection Consultation



On the 10th of July, Ofsted launched a consultation and a young person's version of a consultation for inspecting supported accommodation.

The consultation is a great opportunity for providers, children, care leavers and the wider sector to give their views on proposals relating to inspection outcomes, the notice Ofsted will give for inspections, and the main features of effective supported accommodation. You can read about the proposals below.

Inspection outcomes

For the first round of inspections, Ofsted are proposing that there should be 3 possible outcomes for inspections of supported accommodation:

- Consistently strong service delivery leads to typically positive experiences and progress for children. Where improvements are needed, leaders and managers take timely and effective action.
- Inconsistent quality of service delivery adversely affects children's experiences and limits their progress. Leaders and managers must make improvements.
- Serious or widespread weaknesses lead to significant concerns about the experiences and progress of children. Leaders and managers must take urgent action to address failings.

As this is a newly regulated sector that does not yet have an established benchmark for excellence, Ofsted are proposing there is no outcome that identifies exceptional practice.

Ofsted will use the learning from the first round of inspections to inform longer-term inspection arrangements in the future, including how they make judgements.

Notice of inspection

Ofsted propose to give 2 working days' notice of inspection to providers. They explain this is the minimum notice required to deliver effective and efficient inspections and is consistent with the notice that they give for other 'provider-level' social care inspections.

Main features of effective supported accommodation

Ofsted's inspections of supported accommodation providers will lead to outcomes that consider the following areas of evidence:

- overall experiences and progress of children
- how well children are helped and protected
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers

Ofsted are keen to hear as many views as possible, and especially want to hear the views of young people. Your views will help make sure inspections focus on what makes the most difference to children living in supported accommodation.

You can access the consultation [here](#) and it runs until midnight on the 8th September 2023.

FEATURE

Supported accommodation placements for UAS young people



Further to the [recent judgement in relation to unaccompanied asylum seeking \(UAS\) young people](#), the National Children's Bureau (NCB) are currently working with the Department for Education (DfE) to undertake a data exercise related to supported accommodation placements for UAS young people aged 16–17.

We are seeking to map providers who have vacant placements that could accommodate UAS young people and providers who are seeking to expand their provision to provide more placements for this cohort of young people. We would be grateful if you could complete [this survey](#) to help us gather this data.

COMPLETE THE SURVEY HERE

FEATURE

Help us collect data on provider readiness!



As the deadline for registration is less than 2 months away, we are keen to continue to gather data on provider readiness.

[The provider readiness tool](#) has been designed to support providers to be prepared to submit their application to register with Ofsted and meet the requirements of the four Quality Standards. The tool pulls together in one place the key pieces of evidence that a provider will wish to assure itself on and aims to give a high-level overview of its progress.

The tool presents this information in an easily accessible "at a glance" RAG review rating system to update the Provider on progress in implementation.

Once completed, please submit your data [here](#) after audit 1. All data is anonymous, and it will be shared with DfE and Ofsted to provide an indication of the current confidence and readiness of providers in advance of the 28th October deadline. This will assist in planning and decision making for the remainder of the registration window.

[SUBMIT YOUR DATA HERE](#)

LATEST RESOURCES



Based on our conversations with stakeholders, we have been developing resources to support providers to register as soon as possible, and for Local Authorities to share with their providers. Click on the links below to see what is available.



Case Study Learning Example: Sunderland

Sunderland local authority has successfully registered with Ofsted as a provider of supported accommodation under the new regime. Download [this case study](#) to read about their journey to registration, how they made key decisions and their learning from the process.



Timeline to Register

Our [timeline infographic](#) shows the key stages and estimated timescales of the registration process to support providers in planning their applications. Existing providers must register with Ofsted as soon as possible to avoid the risk of operating illegally after 28 October 2023.



Visit our new Resource Hub on our microsite for more!

You can view all of our resources on our [resource hub](#) on our [microsite](#) including our policy development resources, FAQs from recent events and top tips from Ofsted for the registration process.

THANK YOU!

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