

7 JULY 2023



Dear <<First Name>>,

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

Inside this edition, you can find:

- Reflections from our Regional Community of Practice events
- Dates and sign-up links to our upcoming events
- Key tips from Ofsted
- Provider readiness tool
- New resources on our microsite

Best wishes,
The NCB Team

FEATURE

NCB's Regional Community of Practice Events

Networking, information-sharing, and working collaboratively



Throughout June and July, the National Children's Bureau is running a series of Regional Community of Practice events for local authorities and supported accommodation providers.

The aim of our Regional Community of Practice events is to provide a space for networking and shared learning with local authority or provider colleagues. They are also an opportunity to discuss challenges, needs and support requirements for the new regime.

Attendees from the East Midlands, East of England, North-West, South-East, London, Yorkshire & Humber, North-East and South-West have joined our events in a variety of locations so far, with one more session to go:

- West Midlands (Wednesday 12th July)

Our morning sessions have been attended by a variety of local authorities from each region, with supported accommodation providers coming together for our sessions in the afternoon.

Attendees heard from the NCB who shared feedback from their baseline survey and the national conferences that took place at the end of April, as well as information about upcoming support as part of the Sector Awareness and Provider Preparedness Programme.

Using an Action Learning approach to guide discussion, those who have attended the Community of Practice events shared the challenges and barriers they are facing in relation to the new Regulations and quality standards.

After discussing this with the wider group, attendees worked collaboratively to identify solutions and actions to address challenges

and move plans forward.

Some of the key themes from discussions in the Community of Practice events so far are:

Local authority sessions

- Quality assurance
- Parallel planning and sufficiency
- Local authorities registering as supported accommodation providers

Provider sessions

- Staffing and recruitment
- Ofsted inspection framework
- Multi-agency working
- Supported lodgings and how the new regulations will affect this area

At the end of the afternoon session, providers had the opportunity to ask specific questions about registration and the regime in a virtual session, attended by Ofsted representatives.

Some feedback we have received from the events so far:

- "Great discussion, debate, networking and potential for solutions."
- "Well organised, clear presentation, informative, no jargon used and clear information."
- "Good delivery, informative, lots of opportunity to discuss."
- "Great event. Really beneficial to network with colleagues who we wouldn't usually."
- "Action learning approach was very useful."
- "Good networking and open discussion."

In September, NCB will be running follow-up Community of Practice sessions. These will be held virtually and will bring together both local authorities and supported accommodation providers in one event to facilitate further collaborative problem solving.

If you have already attended a Regional Community of Practice event, thank you for engaging with the sessions and we hope you found the session valuable.

If you would like to attend a future event, you can sign up on our [Digital Learning Platform](#).

Further information about events, training and resources can be found on our website [here](#).

FEATURE

Secure your place at our upcoming events!



Co-Production workshops for providers

Between July and September we are delivering five learning events focussing on supporting the sector to work in co-production with young people. Three of the events will be in person and two will be online. ***The next workshop will take place in Manchester on 27th July.***

Policy Training for providers

We are hosting four free online training throughout July to assist supported accommodation providers to understand and implement formal policies as required by the national Quality Standards. ***Due to***

popular demand, we have planned a fifth session which will take place on Monday 14th August!

Quality Assurance Training for local authority officers

We are delivering three online training sessions for local authority Quality Assurance Officers in July. The aim of the training is to raise awareness of the new national framework for oversight of supported accommodation, to enable practitioners working in Quality Assurance to effectively support providers to prepare for registration and to be clear about their roles and responsibilities under the new Regulations.

To browse and sign up to all of our events and training please visit our digital learning platform [here](#).

FEATURE

Key tips from Ofsted



Ofsted have developed a Key Tips document for Registering a Supported Accommodation Service resource for our series of face-to-face Regional Community of Practice events in June and July.

These tips are based on the learning from the applications Ofsted have received so far and aim to help providers get their applications in and determined as 'complete' to avoid any unnecessary processing delays.

The National Children's Bureau are sharing this resource on behalf of Ofsted. View Ofsted's Key Tips [here](#)

READ MORE

LATEST RESOURCES



Provider Readiness Tool

The purpose of this tool is to support providers of Supported Accommodation to be well prepared to submit their application to register with Ofsted and to meet the 4 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.

[View here.](#)



Roles and Responsibilities Guide

We have developed an information pack about the key requirements of the different roles and responsibilities. These resources cover the key responsibilities for each role, as well as the requirements that must be met in order to successfully register.

[View here.](#)



Visit our new Resource Hub on our microsite for more!

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.

[Find out more here.](#)

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