

19 MAY 2023



Dear <<First Name>>,

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

Inside this edition, you can find:

- [Updates](#) from the Sector Awareness and Provider Preparedness conferences;
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#);
- Two [outputs](#) based on the provider and local authority workshops;
- A [suite](#) of videos from the national conferences.

Best wishes,
The NCB Team

FEATURE

Over 200 supported accommodation providers and local authorities



At the end of April the National Children's Bureau (NCB) ran two conferences in partnership with the Department for Education (DfE) and Ofsted. The conferences took place in Manchester and London as part of the DfE funded Sector Awareness and Provider Preparedness programme for Supported Accommodation. The conferences were attended by over 38 local authorities and 179 providers of supported accommodation.

Both local authority commissioners and supported accommodation providers had the opportunity to learn more about the new regulations, registration process, and provider preparedness programme directly from the DfE, Ofsted and NCB, as well as a message from Minister for Children and Families Claire Coutinho.

In the afternoon sessions, attendees participated in workshops to share feedback and discuss with colleagues on the details of the new way of working and identify areas where they may need support.

As part of the national conferences, [Chickenshed](#), an inclusive theatre company, held workshops for young people with lived experience of supported accommodation to explore what high-quality support should look and feel like for young people.

Themes that came out during the day included safety in supported accommodation, having a voice, high quality, tailored support and positivity about the future.

The themes discussed during the young persons' workshop were then presented to the local authority commissioners and providers through

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During the performance, young people expressed their views through monologues on key themes. One monologue stated: *"I don't want adults who are supporting me to never be given time to talk to me and understand me."*

Another said: *"I am worried that my voice won't be heard when I ask for support. I'm worried that people will carry on ignoring my voice until I'm not listened to, not noticed and become invisible."*

The final monologue read: *"I want people around me who can see me not as a child but as a teenager who is going to be a young adult. A young adult who is going to make a difference to the world."*

Supported accommodation is a form of accommodation outside of regulated children's homes, kinship care and foster care, which provides supported, semi-independent living for 16 and 17-year-olds who are ready to start living with more independence.

From October 2023, all providers of supported accommodation will be required to adhere to mandatory national quality standards which will be overseen by Ofsted-led registration and inspection.

As part of this work, NCB has been appointed by DfE to deliver the Sector Awareness and Provider Preparedness programme which is supporting the sector to prepare for the introduction of the new quality standards, registration and regulation system.

NCB's role will focus on raising sector awareness about the new requirements and helping providers prepare for the new system of oversight.

Find out more about the opportunities to be involved in the next stages of development and delivery including: tailored support, training, e-learning, workshops and online communities of practice [here](#).

Feedback from the day included:

"Excellent advice and experience."

"I thoroughly enjoyed the day and found it extremely helpful and informative. Chickenshed were amazing."

"Great networking experience and look forward to joining further conferences."

[here.](#)

FEATURE

Sector Awareness and Provider Preparedness Programme – Frequently Asked Questions



Based on the questions sent to us by providers of supported accommodation and local authorities for the Q&A Panel Discussion at our conferences, this FAQ covers the most crucial points relating to Registration, Fees and Costs, Quality Standards and Regulation, and Inspections and Site Visits.

This FAQ has been produced in collaboration with the DfE and Ofsted and aims to clarify key details about the registration process, where to go for additional information and the expectations on supported accommodation providers as set out in the DfE's Guide to Regulations.

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LATEST RESOURCES



Outputs based on the provider and local authority workshops

We have created two outputs to share the learning and insights from our workshops with providers of supported accommodation and local authorities at our national conferences.

[View here.](#)



National conference films

To view a suite of films including footage from the young people's workshop, keynote speeches and Chickenshed, please click [here](#).

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