

CARE AND SUPPORT COMMISSIONING

BULLETIN – 07/10/2026

The Bulletin is produced monthly – please ensure key messages are shared with care staff accordingly.

Capacity Tracker ASC Mandatory Submission: 8th to 14th September 2026

The window will open on **Thursday 8th October 2026** for providers to complete their ASC Mandatory submission on Capacity Tracker. **The window will close on Wednesday 14th October 2026.**

Please refer to [Adult social care provider information provisions: guidance for providers on data enforcement – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/adult-social-care-provider-information-provisions-guidance-for-providers-on-data-enforcement) regarding the enforcement action DHSC will undertake if providers are not compliant with their ASC Mandatory submission.

Wakefield Mental Health Day - 9th October 2026 – Turning Point Talking Therapies/WMDC

Please see attached the flyer event with details.

Memo of the Month for September 2026 – Infection Prevention Control Team

Please find attached the 'Memo of the Month' for September 2026. Alongside the supporting PDFs for information around your "Flu Vaccines" and Flu Myths".

Now Available - DSTP Version 9 for 2026-27

26/27 Version is 9 is now available and providers can now review and republish their Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT) Please be advised that that there are no new questions for Standards Met.

There have however been some changes in the wording of existing questions.

Version 9 changes can be summarised as:

- Stronger governance requirements (more alignment with GDPR rules)
- More evidence of compliance
- Regular review and testing expected
- Broader device security controls
- Demonstrable supplier cyber assurance

For most providers this should just mean ensuring their policies and procedures are up to date and that they can clearly show that business continuity plans are being tested.

Free SUPPORT: The Digital Care Hub Website has information and resources to assist you with reviewing and republishing your DSPT [Republishing your DSPT | Digital Care Hub](#)

The previous offer is still in place if anyone wishes to book on the monthly workshop (2nd Wednesday of each month) or have a 1-2-1 session then they can email dspt@kircca.co.uk

CQC Mandatory Training Requirement on Learning Disability and Autism

One year on from the publication of the Oliver McGowan Code of Practice, CQC has highlighted progress in meeting the mandatory training requirement on learning disability and autism. CQC has seen positive examples of providers enhancing staff training to meet the needs of the people they support. However, some providers still have work to do to ensure staff receive the required training. CQC reminds providers that this requirement applies to all services delivering a CQC-regulated activity. [Mandatory training requirement on learning disability and autism - Care Quality Commission](#)

Patient Safety Alert for the use of Hoists – Gov.uk

Please see attached the “Patient Hoists NatPSA – Final PDF” explaining around the alert which is applicable to care homes and other settings where hoisting equipment is used for clients.

Care Workforce Pathway for Adult Social Care – Skills for Care

Please see link to the Care Workforce Pathway:

<https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fd43a2d7748d9411c97cc461eaaf4b5bf....>

Further information through the link - [Getting started](#)

Join the Wakefield (Domiciliary) Registered Managers Network – Skills for Care

Are you a Registered Manager for an adult social care provider based in Wakefield, supporting individuals in the community?

What to expect from a local network

Being part of a network offers managers:

- Peer support – connect with other managers facing similar challenges locally
- Knowledge sharing – exchange ideas and best practice, share experiences
- Guest speakers – for example CQC, commissioners, Integrated Care System (ICS) representatives and other sector organisations

Why should you join a local network

- Feel more supported and less isolated in your role
- Stay informed about sector developments and best practice
- Ability to ask questions and get answers in a safe, supportive environment
- Take ideas and learning back to your service

To join the local Registered Managers Network, please contact the Locality Manager, Ailsa Benn, at ailsa.benn@skillsforcare.org.uk

Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set (ASC-WDS) Sessions – Skills for Care

If you haven't got an Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set (ASC-WDS) account or need a refresher then this session is for you

Skills for Care, Yorkshire and Humber area, are running 2 Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set (ASC-WDS) sessions on the 22 October 2026 and 13 January 2027, both sessions are virtual.

The aim of the session is to understand the benefit of having an up to date (ASC-WDS) account.

The Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set (ASC-WDS) is a free online data collection service that covers the adult social care workforce in England. Data from ASC-WDS is used by key decision makers and the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) when planning, funding, and monitoring the sector.

The session will cover:

- What ASC-WDS is and how the data is used by key stakeholders

- Benefits of creating an account including access to funding for training
- Live demo
- What you'll need to create an account
- Q&A

To book your place please follow the link [Invitation to attend – Fill out form](#)

Wakefield Cares Careers Hub Updates October 2026 (Please see attached)

Please see attached update document from Wakefield Cares Careers Hub.

Help Shape the Future of Adult Social Care: The Big Conversation on Care

The independent Casey Commission has launched [The Big Conversation on Care](#), a national conversation giving people across England the opportunity to have their say on the future of adult social care. The feedback gathered will help inform the Commission's recommendations to Government on the future of adult social care. (Please see attached PDFs flyers and Easy Red document)

We recognise the important contribution providers make to supporting people across the Wakefield District. Your experiences, alongside those of your workforce, the people you support, and their families and carers, can help shape future discussions and recommendations relating to adult social care.

Who is the Commission keen to hear from?

The Commission is keen to hear from a wide range of people, including:

- People who draw on care and support
- Unpaid carers
- Adult social care providers
- Care and support workers
- Members of the public

Why take part?

The Big Conversation on Care is an opportunity to:

- Share your views on the future of adult social care.

- Contribute ideas and experiences that will help inform the Commission's recommendations to Government.
- Read and respond to the ideas shared by others.
- Take part in a national conversation about the future of care and support in England.

Have your say

- Find out more and take part here: <https://caseycommission.co.uk/bigconversation/take-part/>
- You will be asked one question to start with - “*When we are old or disabled, or have a serious illness, who should support us and how?*” From there, you can share your own ideas, read what other people have said, and say whether you agree or disagree with their ideas.

How providers can support the engagement

To support wider engagement, we have attached a poster and flyer that can be used across your service to promote The Big Conversation on Care and help maximise participation.

We encourage providers to:

- Display or share the attached materials through appropriate channels within your organisation.
- Promote the opportunity through staff briefings, newsletters and communications with people who draw on care and support, families and carers.
- Encourage participation from staff, people who draw on care and support, families and unpaid carers.
- Consider how you might support individuals who may need assistance to take part in the engagement, including sharing the Easy Read materials (also attached).

Further information, including a short introductory video from Baroness Louise Casey, Chair of the Independent Commission on Adult Social Care, is available on the Commission's website: <https://caseycommission.co.uk/bigconversation/>

Activity Coordinators' Meeting Dates for Care Homes 2026

Please see attached upcoming meeting dates for 2026 - where Care Homes can share ideas, discuss best practice, and learn from one another.

Join Wakefield Care Association – Membership Applications Now Open (Free for 2026/27)

On behalf of Wakefield Care Association, please see below the information -

Dear Colleague,

We are writing to invite CQC registered, independent, private and VCSE Adult Social Care Providers across Wakefield to join Wakefield Care Association (WCA) as we continue to develop a single, strong, collective voice for adult social care providers in our area.

The Care Association has made significant progress over recent months, and we are now opening membership as we move into the next phase of development. Our Executive Board is now in place, with a wider board currently being formed, and regular provider meetings are already underway to ensure providers are shaping our priorities and direction.

Progress to date includes:

- ☒ A clear Plan on a Page setting out our vision and priorities
- ☒ Board roles and governance policies agreed
- ☒ Branding, dedicated email address and website established
- ☒ Formal letter submitted to Wakefield DASS regarding funding pressures
- ☒ Trusted Assessor survey completed, with findings shared with Wakefield Council
- ☒ Company officially registered with Companies House
- ☒ Administrative support in place via KirCCA

Wakefield Care Association is a not-for-profit organisation, created by providers, for providers, with a shared commitment to:

- Represent the sector clearly and credibly
- Influence care sector decision making

- Support collaborative working
- Drive improvements in adult social care

Why join? By becoming a member, you will:

- Be part of a united provider voice influencing local, regional, and national strategy and decisions
- Have opportunities to shape priorities, raise issues, and share solutions
- Access regular provider meetings, updates, and shared learning
- Strengthen the collective position of independent, private and VCSE adult social care providers
- Help build a sustainable, collaborative future for adult social care in Wakefield

Membership details

- Membership for 2026/27 is completely FREE
- Open to all CQC registered independent, private and VCSE adult social care providers operating in Wakefield
- No obligation — just a shared commitment to collaboration and improvement

We are at an exciting point in our journey and would welcome you to join us as the Care Association continues to grow and develop.

Please click on the link below to complete the online membership application form.

👉 Join here: [Membership Form – Wakefield Care Association](#)

If you have any questions, please contact us at: admin@wakefieldca.co.uk

We look forward to working with you.

Health & Social Care updates – Gov.co.uk

Please see below link to recent updated guidance and information on Gov.co.uk for topics relating to Health & Social Care. <https://www.gov.uk/search/all?parent=department-of-health-and->

[social-care&order=updated-newest&level_one_taxon=8124ead8-8ebc-4faf-88ad-dd5cbcc92ba8&level_two_taxon=7d67047c-bf22-4c34-b566-b46d6973f961&organisations%5B%5D=department-of-health-and-social-care](#)