

## WM-ADASS and DHSC Engagement Session – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023

DHSC representatives attended a MTeams call arranged by WM-ADASS to discuss the information and data needed in social care as part of its [Care Data Matters Roadmap](#) consultation, which closes on 31st July 2023. There were 53 attendees from the region.

The session focused on three main topics:

1. Care Data Matters Roadmap – background and ASC requirements
2. Client Level Data
3. Streamlining and Digitising Assessments

### 1. Care Data Matters Roadmap - Comments, Questions & Answers

These covered a range of topics:

**Surveys** – administrative concerns, low response rates and a desire for surveys to be delivered centrally rather than by each LA. An [Ipsos MORI discovery report](#) is available and views expressed will be considered.

**Consistency of Metrics** – felt to be essential for long-term planning and reporting / benchmarking.

**Understanding how the data is used** – both locally, to inform decisions, and at a national level.

**Understanding what data is needed** – views were expressed about mental health data and about data collected from care providers. The view was also expressed that government needed to be clear about what its data requirements of ASC were – and recognition that NHS systems hold lots of relevant data that would be helpful to ASC. Finally on this topic the opportunity to co-produce data requirements and to collaborate with others were seen as important.

**Engagement with ICT system suppliers** – important that different ICT systems develop the same capabilities – but also a recognition that the pace of development in the past has been slow and inconsistent and that we mustn't be held back by system constraints.

### 2. Client Level Data

The first mandatory collection of CLD is approaching and by April 2023, 88 local authorities had already submitted data, with some having submitted a full year's data, allowing for the recreation of core metrics related to long-term support. The focus has now shifted to the analytical team, which is working on different aspects of data analysis.

In the short term, the focus is on information governance and sharing data back with local authorities by the end of August. A dashboard is being developed to provide access to individual client level data and aggregated benchmarks. In the medium to long term, there are plans to explore data linkage with health data and establish a point of access for broader data utilization. Discovery work is also planned to better understand the needs and requirements of data users. DHSC are scheduled to attend our Performance & Knowledge Network in September to provide a more detailed update on this work.

Participants emphasised the importance of highlighting the value of client level data to aid and improve decision-making. Collaboration and engagement with the sector were also discussed as crucial. Regular meetings are being held with representatives from ADASS, LGA, NHS England, and

the CQC to align approaches and discuss the uses of the data. There is an opportunity for West Midlands LAs to participate in this. The goal is to actively involve local authorities and ensure that their insights and expertise shape the effective use of client level data.

### **3. Streamlining and Digitising Assessments**

This is a priority because of the need to handle increased demand associated with charging reform but also to ensure that people's needs are assessed in a consistent and timely manner.

Four work streams have been established, covering digital tools, operating models, case management systems, and data sharing with HMRC and DWP. The aim is to provide additional support to local authorities and encourage the sharing of successful approaches.

DHSC has offered to provide a more detailed briefing and contact has been made with the Principal Social Worker and Principal OT Networks. The goal is to support the implementation and scaling up of effective practices while promoting collaboration and knowledge sharing.

A more complete summary of the above points, based on a transcript of the meeting, will be used to inform the region's response to the [Care Data Matters Roadmap consultation](#) which closes on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023. The consultation welcomes individual, group and LA responses which can be submitted online. Alternatively, should you wish to contribute to the WM-ADASS response, please email your comments to [raj.chauhan@wm-adass.org.uk](mailto:raj.chauhan@wm-adass.org.uk) by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

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