



November 2019 E-News

Welcome to our November Issue. We were very pleased to welcome ECA members to our new conference venue in Basildon on 7th November. The event was well attended, and the feedback was that almost 80% of attendees were happy or very happy with the speakers.

One of the most popular speakers was Chad Marshall-Lane who spoke about LGBT+ issues in the Care sector. The response was so positive that we are now looking to arrange some half-day workshops in the New Year.

*As part of the Care Association Alliance, ECA continues to lobby various agencies for increased funding for our sector. We met recently with Kate Terroni, CQC's Chief Inspector of Adult Social Care and were very pleased to hear her say that '**Base funding for Social Care is not where it needs to be and this is needed to support innovation.**' This view was not expressed by her predecessor, so we are pleased to hear CQC acknowledge the situation.*

*Last month we mentioned **Digital Social Care** whose website is a dedicated space to provide advice and support to the sector on technology and data protection. They are currently offering **up to 100 grants of up to £2,000 now available** nationally to help you assess and manage your digital risks. For details see this link:*

<https://www.digitalsocialcare.co.uk/latest-guidance/small-grants-for-individual-care-providers/>

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Hot Topics



Following the death of a resident from Legionnaires disease, demonstrates the increased risk of substantial fines and emphasizes the need for organisations within the sector to ensure compliance with their health and safety obligations.

See More by [clicking here](#)

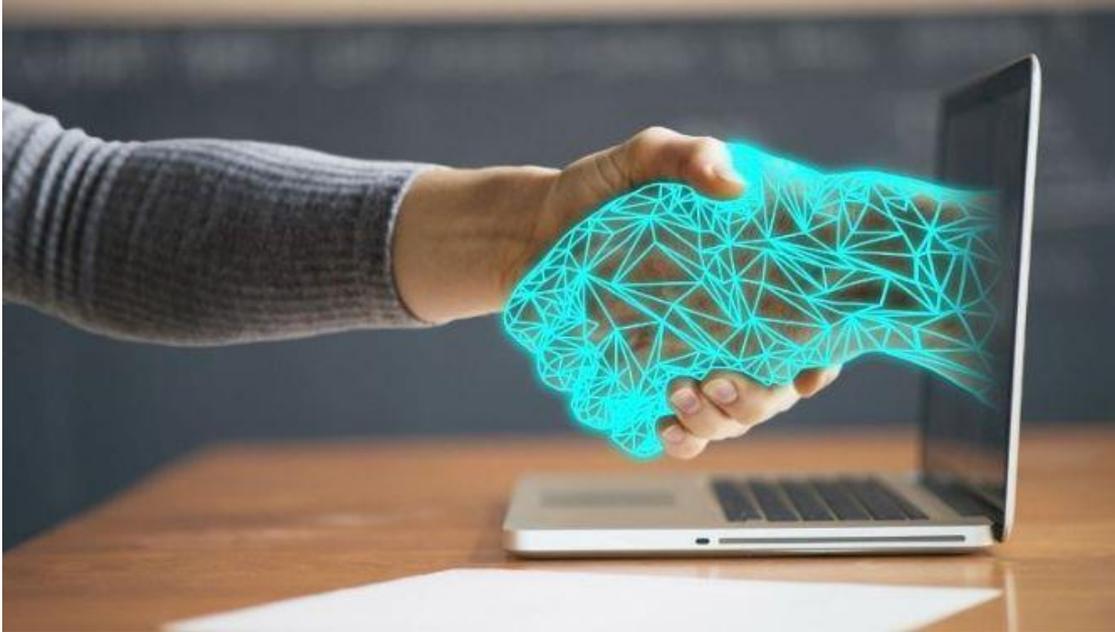
Care robots could revolutionise UK care system and provide staff extra support

The UK moves one step closer to developing robots capable of providing support for Britons and making caring responsibilities easier, thanks to £34 million government investment announced today (Saturday 26 October).

With one in seven people in the UK now expected to be over 75 years old by 2040, so-called “care robots” could help provide the UK’s dedicated adult social care sector with more assistance for those who need it most.

The government has launched the UK’s biggest research programme entirely dedicated to making autonomous systems safe and trustworthy for public use with investment that could help develop robots to one day fulfil tasks such as helping an elderly person up after a fall and raising the alarm, delivering food to an older person at mealtimes, and even ensuring they take crucial medication at the correct time.

Find out more now about these [revolutionary robots here](#)



Recruitment Campaign toolkit



Learn about the national recruitment campaign, how it can support your **local recruitment marketing**, and the free materials available to you.

Fantastic [resources here](#)

CQC News

State of Care 2018/19 Published

A better system of care is needed for people with a learning disability or autism who are, or are at risk of, being hospitalised, segregated and placed

in overly restrictive environments. We must all work together to make this happen.

More and better community services are needed to help people avoid crisis situations. In our report on segregation, we described a common picture where people with a learning disability or autism had not had access to the help they needed as children from health, care and education services. When they encountered a crisis in their lives, there was nothing available locally to avoid going into hospital.

See the [state of health care and adult social care in England 2018/19](#) now.

CQC and National Police Chiefs' Council sign agreement

The MoU will see an established framework for the sharing of information where incidents of avoidable harm have occurred to people using health and social care services.

The MoU between the CQC and NPCC will be applied across various health and social care settings, including prisons, youth offender institutions, secure hospitals, domiciliary care, GP and dental practices and mental health services.



The agreement will make sure that there is effective communication and liaison in the

regulation, investigation and enforcement of health and safety for people using health and social care services. The arrangement recognises the importance of investigations into incidents where avoidable harm has occurred – whether conducted by the police or CQC - are carried out effectively and consistently.

This MoU will help both parties meet their responsibilities for the safety of people using services and provide clarity on the statutory responsibilities of each. It will also act as a prompt for early decisions about the need for actions and investigations and provide an efficient and effective approach to the management of the incidents where avoidable harm has occurred.

View the [report here](#).

General Updates

NHS Digital have published three useful reports relating to Adult Social Care

Measures from the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework, England, 2018-19

The Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) measures how well care and support services achieve the outcomes that matter most to people.

This report focuses on the main findings for each measure in the ASCOF in 2018-19. Data are provided at council, regional and national level for each outcome.



The 2018-19 ASCOF report gives a summary of the measures in the framework. The report is complemented by an interactive Power BI report, which allows users to explore the data further. The raw data used in the report are available in the [accompanying csv file](#).

Advocacy: How can we improve outcomes from safeguarding?

Judith Davey, from [The Advocacy Project](#), comments on the importance of prevention in safeguarding.



How can the health, social care and advocacy sectors improve outcomes from safeguarding? Simple. By focusing more on prevention.

Prevention is better than cure, as is early intervention. The six principles of adult safeguarding and the five P's of child protection include prevention. So why is the current discourse just about things like whistleblowing, and action taken after a situation has occurred? Why are we not talking about prevention? I think we're in danger of locking the stable door after the horse has bolted. And not learning from the experience.

Adult Social Care Activity and Finance Report, England - 2018-19

This publication contains data taken from the Adult Social Care Finance Return (ASC-FR) and Short and Long Term (SALT) collection to provide information regarding adult social care activity and finance on local authorities in England for 2018-19.



This is the fifth year of the SALT and ASC-FR collections, and the third year in which the adult social care activity and finance data have been brought together in an official statistics report.

This report contains aggregate information submitted by 152 Councils with Adult Social Services Responsibilities (CASSRs) in England, to provide insight into adult social care activity and expenditure for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

Expenditure on long term support

The area of care which saw the largest increase in expenditure was long term support, which **increased by £674 million to £14.6 billion** in 2018-19, an increase in cash terms of 4.8%.

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How can we improve outcomes from safeguarding?

Find out how we can improve by [clicking here.](#)

Service Sector Updates



Older People

Postcards of Kindness is an initiative that asks people to write and send postcards to residents of care homes. And while it's a small gesture, the resulting deliveries bring a great deal of joy and spark lively conversations among the older people who receive them.

Join the Facebook Group ['Postcards of Kindness' here.](#)



Learning Disabilities

A call for good practice examples of learning disability awareness training

The National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi) has been commissioned by the South Regional Health Education England Intellectual Disabilities programme to find and share best practice in training people who work in NHS trusts to support people with learning disabilities.

We are working in partnership with people with lived experience (both self-advocates and family carers) to identify good practice examples of training tools and approaches and to explore what is needed to ensure learning is put into practice.

We would like people to share:

- Examples of learning disability awareness training that is provided
- Examples of how training has helped achieve better outcomes for people with learning disabilities
- Any evaluations of training programmes

If you have anything to share or would like a conversation about this project then please contact anna.marriott@ndti.org.uk

For people with learning disabilities finding love is often more than just chemistry – it can come down to getting the right support from your staff.

3% Of people with learning disabilities live as part of a couple compared to 70% of the general population.



Supported Loving is a human rights-based campaign, with associated network meetings, hosted by Choice Support. We believe people with learning disabilities and/or autism should be able to enjoy the same sexual and romantic freedoms as everyone else.

Supported Loving's goals are to ensure that:

- Sexuality and relationships are a mandatory focus in Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspections in the Key Lines of Enquiry
 - Training on sexuality and relationships is provided to all social care staff
- people with learning disabilities and/or autism are aware of their sexual rights.

Supported Loving is not a formal membership organisation. Anyone can take part, it is free. However, we expect 'members' to support Supported Loving's human rights-based approach and goals.

[View Supported Lovings' Toolkit Here!](#)



Domiciliary Care

Involved & informed: good community medicines support

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), in collaboration with several other partner organisations, has launched a [new initiative](#) to encourage better medicines support for people who are receiving social care services in their homes.



Mental Health

Growing pressures on access and staffing risk creating ‘perfect storm’ for people using mental health and learning disability services

- Difficulties in accessing the right care can mean that people with a learning disability or autism end up detained in unsuitable hospitals. CQC’s ongoing thematic review, which begun in 2018, highlighted the prolonged use of segregation for people with severe and complex problems who should instead be receiving specialist care from staff with highly specialised skills.

[New resource here](#)

[What it’s like to hear voices and how ‘democratic psychiatry’ can help](#) - "My strange religious beliefs were perhaps quite rightly classified as delusions and discounted by my psychiatrist, nurses, and also my family," writes mental health researcher Dr. Ben Gray.

"But this left me with the impression that my experiences, however negative and painful, were also being discounted. And that I was not being listened to in order to be more deeply and humanely understood."

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