

REPORT TO ASCH

December 2025

REPORT OF Director Adults Health and Wellbeing

ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH SCRUTINY INFORMATION ITEM

Care Quality Commission Assurance Report

Summary

Recommended that the Care Quality Commission (CQC) report and outcome be noted. That ASCH note the next steps on the Good to even better journey.

Detail

1. Stockton-on-Tees Adult Care Services were visited by CQC as part of the local authority assurance process which was introduced in 2023. This assesses how local authorities are performing in delivering adult social care responsibilities under Part 1 of the Care Act.
2. The final report was received in October 2025 and Stockton-on-Tees adult services were assessed as good.
3. The CQC report highlights areas of strength which confirm the dedication and commitment of staff, partners, vision and leadership within Adults, Health and Wellbeing as well as the wider Council. As well as areas for development and improvement which are welcomed and will inform the ongoing development programme within the Directorate.
4. ASCH Next Steps Good to Even Better is a further report that is included to provide the overview of Adult Social Care's response and next steps in implementing and embedding the changes and developments which we need to be even better.

Consultation and engagement

5. On publication day email sent to all Councillors with link to the report.
6. The findings of the CQC report have been shared with staff teams and a celebration event held thanking the staff for their hard work and commitment.
7. The outcome has also been sent to partners and people with lived experience thanking them for being part of the assessment and subsequent successful outcome.
8. Full Council have acknowledged the positive outcome of the assessment.

9. Outcomes have been shared at regional level with the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services of where we are strong and where we need to keep developing. This provides regional assurance and support as well as shared learning across the North East.

Next steps

10. The additional learning and areas for development will be used to inform a detailed action plan to ensure continuous improvement of the service, experience and outcomes for people.
11. Regular oversight and assurance reporting through governance channels will be provided as part of ongoing performance monitoring and scrutiny.

Background Papers

N/A

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