Shared Insights: The Future of Interaction Between Health and Social Care

In this Shared Insights session, we discussed the future of interaction between NHS Trusts and Local Government amidst a drive for better integrated care; the new Liberty Protection Safeguard legislation due to come into force in April 2022, and the challenges of collaborative working between organisations.

We were delighted to be joined by:

Adam Lent, Chief Executive of think tank New Local, which specialises in advising public services with a network of over 60 local councils.

Mark Barnett, Partner in our Advisory and Inquests team at Browne Jacobson. He advises health and social care providers on issues involving the Mental Capacity Act, deprivation of liberty and Court of Protection applications.

Naomi De Silva, Associate at Browne Jacobson. Naomi specialises in claims against Children's Services providers and claims under the HRA and DPA.

Adam Lent set out the increasing need for Local Government and NHS Trusts to work collaboratively in their communities, particularly moving into the postpandemic era. Budgetary pressures in combination with structure reforms will drive this need.

Historic challenges to collaborative working

What would make integrated care systems better?

Local Governments as an equal partner in the integrated care system. Where the NHS works in an egalitarian way rather than taking the lead, local councils have been more optimistic and ambitious in collaborative projects.

Integration is not just a high-level governance change. Front line staff must be involved in collaborative working to deliver better patient outcomes.

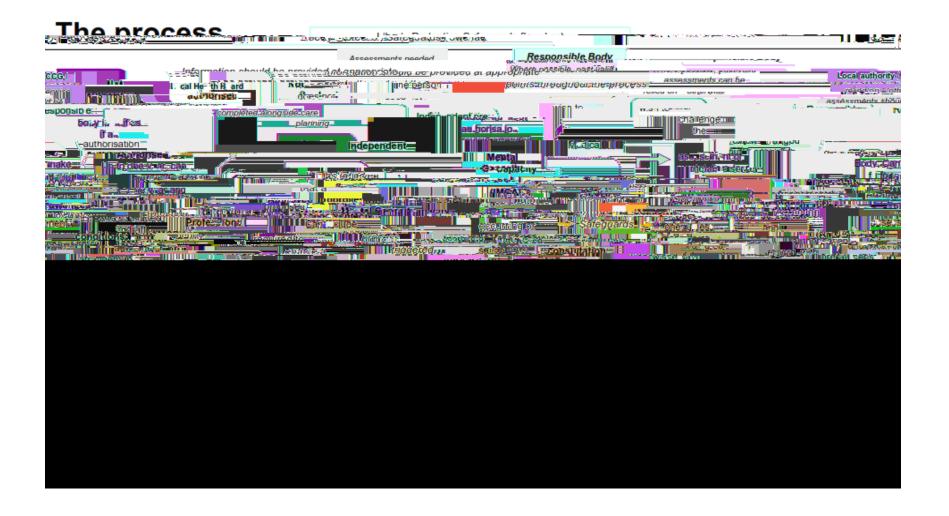
A cultural change requiring acceptance that the benefits of greater collaboration may not immediately accrue to both organisations equally.

Using the wider community. Drawing people into a community-led approach to generate more effective social impact.



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Expected Process for Liberty Protection Safeguards – DHSC flowchart:



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